



# NVN News

*incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn*

Navy Victoria Network

November 2015

Volume 5 Edition 11

## Editorial

*NVN current membership: 1005*

Most Australians are probably completely unaware of the key role Victoria played in the 20<sup>th</sup> century in bringing the Royal Australian Navy to where it is today.

Victoria was, essentially, the 'birthplace' of the Navy. It provided the bulk of the motley collection of ships which formed the Commonwealth Naval Force established at the time of Federation ; until the late 1950's Melbourne was the Navy's administrative and organisational Headquarters (ACNB), operating from Victoria Barracks in St Kilda Rd ; Westernport was initially selected as the major strategic Naval base for the East Coast; what we now know as 'HMAS Cerberus' was designated Flinders Naval Depot (FND) and was to be developed as an operational, maintenance and training base ; Port Melbourne was a recruiting and administration centre.

World War 1 brought home to Australians the reality that Port Jackson, NSW was a far better East Coast base for the Fleet than Westernport. Plans were altered accordingly and FND (which continued to be known by that name until the 1960's) was re-designated for Training only. Economic constraints of the 1920's and the Depression years which followed severely restricted the build-up of the Navy in terms of ships, infrastructure and personnel. At the end of the 1930's the outbreak of World War 2 saw the rapid expansion of FND in its training role and the construction of HMAS Lonsdale, at Rouse St, Port Melbourne in the early 1940's. 'Lonsdale' became an important staging post between Cerberus and the Fleet and also the headquarters of the Victorian Division of the Royal

## Calendar Events

*(see calendar for details of all events)*

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**28 Nov** - HMAS Cerberus Freedom of Entry into Hastings

**01 Dec** - 73 anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Armidale

**01 Dec** - Corvette Association/HMAS Armidale with Star of the Sea wreath laying

**10 Dec** - 105 years ago Yarra and Parramatta sails into Port Phillip

**15 Dec** - HMAS Westralia, Kanimbla, Manoora & Assault Association of Victoria wreath laying

**20 Dec** - Last troops evacuated from Gallipoli.

**25 Dec** - Santa Claus is coming to town - Merry Christmas.

**01 Jan** - Happy New Year

## Latest News

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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>

**Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience**  
The Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience travelling exhibition has officially opened in Bendigo, with the Bendigo Exhibition Centre hosting the

Australian Navy Reserve. As thousands came and went through training courses, Victorians saw a lot of the Navy and clearly developed a strong affection for our Service. This sentiment was strengthened in post WW2 years with frequent visits by Fleet units and the establishment and activity of numerous ex-Ship Associations and Organisations.

The second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century wrought monumental changes to the Navy as it did to almost every facet of life in Australia. Navy Office moved from Melbourne to Canberra and restructuring saw the Service lose some of

its autonomy and independence as it was incorporated into the modern-day Australian Defence Force (ADF). The world-wide technological explosion and societal changes, combined with rationalisation, commercialisation and civilianisation of existing military arrangements, have necessitated the closure of establishments and re-organisation of training patterns. In the course of these HMAS Lonsdale has ceased to exist, the RANR has been comprehensively re-structured and the demands on Navy for contribution to the requirements of maritime defence activity in home waters and overseas have combined to result in Navy being far less visible to Victorians than was formerly the case.

Victorians retain a great affection for the Navy nonetheless – an affection which has been very evident through this Anzac Centenary year when Cerberus, in response to requests, has sent contingents of sailors to numerous country centres as well as to major commemoration activities in Melbourne.

The installation of a bronze statue of a sailor 'Answering the



*Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Tim Barrett AO CSC RAN, unveiling the bronze statue of a sailor "Answering the Call". Photo courtesy Rex Williams*

*experience from Thursday 26 November – Wednesday 2 December 2015.*

#### ***Reconciliation in action***

*A plan to attract and retain more indigenous staff in Defence has been released to support reconciliation and contribute to the national efforts to close the gap in indigenous disadvantage.*

#### ***Naval Memorial in Queensland***

*The Naval Assoc. of Australia (Qld) in conjunction with the F.E.S.R Assoc. (Qld) have approval from the Brisbane City Council to erect a Naval Memorial on the site of an unused plinth at the southern end of the Southbank gardens and opposite the old entrance to the Qld. Maritime Museum.*

#### ***Unravelling a 100-year-old Submarine Mystery***

*The search for our missing sailors continues.*

*The ongoing mystery surrounding the loss of Australian submarine AE1 in the early stages of World War One is being carefully, scientifically, stripped bare. A successful search along the coastal fringe where AE1 was last seen is giving relatives and historians more clues about her fate.*

#### ***Navy Captain announced as Telstra Business Woman of the Year***

*Royal Australian Navy Weapons Electrical Engineering Officer, Captain Mona Shindy has been named the 2015 Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year.*

#### ***Minister for Defence – Speech to the Submarine Institute of Australia***

*The Submarine Institute of Australia is a specialist community of experts who know the business of warfare, the business of submarines, and the importance of maintaining the ability*

Call', on the foreshore adjoining the intersection of Dow Street and Beach Street, Port Melbourne, opposite the site of the former HMAS Lonsdale, unveiled by the Chief of Navy on the 27th November 2015, is a fitting and permanent reminder to residents and visitors to Melbourne of the contribution the Navy in Victoria has made to the defence of our proud country since we became the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. It is to be hoped that it will be treated and looked after with the respect it deserves.



Yours Aye!  
NVN Team

## VALE

- † LEUT J. McN. Hendry BEM RAN Ret'd, 23 November 2015.
- † AB S. Hale, 31862, 20 November 2015. Aged 91.
- † STOKER D.J.Pain, W2485, 20 November 2015. Aged 91.
- † WOMTPSM R. Bundy, R42810, 20 November 2015. Aged 67.
- † WOETS R. Dorward, R56795, 19 November 2015. Aged 74.
- † LRO W. Hedges, R53619, 14 November 2015.
- † CMDR R. Whitmore RAN Ret'd, 11 November 2015. Aged 90.
- † CPOMTH S. Hudson, R43403, 05 November 2015. Aged 64.
- † LCDR D.S. Evans MVO OAM RFD RD Rtd., 03 November 2015.
- † CPOCOX G.N. Lyon, R52621, 29 October 2015.
- † LCDR B. Hamill RAN, E483, 26 October 2015. Aged 91.
- † AB J.A. Banks, PM4867, 22 October 2015. 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. We would like to list their names in perpetuity on our special 'Vale' page on the website. If possible list their Rank, Name, Number, Age and their date of passing.

*to deliver strategic power where and when it is needed. So I have two key messages for your association, especially for those of you who are now working on the industry submissions that are to be considered within the context of the competitive evaluation of proposals for the next generation submarine.*

### **Health survey of recent veterans & ADF personnel closing soon**

*The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Stuart Robert, today encouraged current Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and eligible former members to complete a University of Adelaide survey about the impact of contemporary military service on their health and wellbeing.*

### **Inquiry into recognition for Far East Prisoners of War**

*The independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal will conduct an inquiry into recognition of Australian personnel who served during the Second World War, were Far East Prisoners of War, and were killed while escaping or following recapture, Assistant Minister for Defence, Darren Chester, announced today. In conducting this Inquiry the Tribunal has 28 names to initially review against the policy, adopted by Australia in 1944.*

### **CN Speech to Naval Warfare Officers Association**

*Every generation of Navy faces its own challenges. I know that was true when you were serving. It still is. Today I wish to talk to you about some of the challenges and opportunities which are uppermost in my thinking at the end of this eventful year, in this still young century.*

### **Proposed 1 January 2016 listing changes for over-the-counter products**



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*As part of the 2015-16 Budget savings measures, selected over-the-counter (OTC) medicines are proposed to be delisted from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) effective 1 January 2016 pending final Minister for Health determination.*

#### ***RAN exercise with the People's Liberation Army – Navy***

*The Royal Australian Navy conducted a port visit and naval exercise with the People's Liberation Army – Navy (PLA-N) in Zhanjiang, China during the period 31 October to 2 November.*

#### ***ADF uses creative arts to support members' recovery***

*The Australian Defence Force has commenced a second series of innovative arts workshops aimed at supporting the rehabilitation and recovery of Defence personnel facing service-related health and wellbeing issues.*

#### ***Perth I survivor honoured***

*A visit to Western Australia by Second World War veteran, and HMAS Perth(I) survivor, Mr. David Manning, provided a unique opportunity to unite a legacy with the current HMAS Perth and her namesake city. Mr. Manning, a longtime resident of Magpie near Ballarat, is one of only four survivors still alive from the Second World War light cruiser Perth I which was lost on 1 March 1942 during the Battle of Sunda Strait.*

***NLA(Vic) November newsletter – [download.....](#)***

***NHSA(Vic) President's October Musings – [download.....](#)***

***NAVY NEWS – [The latest edition.](#)***

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

***NCCV's "Rogues' Yarn" attached below***



# Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

## Rogues' Yarn



### HMAS Goorangai

#### KEY ENGAGEMENTS

**Services at the Shrine of Remembrance**  
[Everyone welcome]

**Corvettes**  
**HMAS Armadale**  
**Wreath Laying**  
**Sanctuary**  
**1DEC15@1000**

**AMC/LSI Association**  
**Westralia, Manoora,**  
**Kanimbla & Assault**  
**Wreath Laying**  
**Sanctuary**  
**15DEC15@1100**

**Next NCCV meeting**  
**8DEC15 @ 1030 to be**  
**followed by the AGM**  
**at Melb Naval Centre.**

**All Ship/Unit/Branch**  
**Associations are**  
**encouraged to be**  
**represented!**

In the January edition this year we published an article relating to the unkept grave of LCDR Hunter. Leanne Legg, Research Department, Naval Graves Project has advised that she wrote the original article. Now that we know, we acknowledge her important contribution.

The annual commemoration service in remembrance of HMAS *Goorangai* was held at the Ocean View Reserve, Queenscliff on Sunday 22NOV15. It has been 75 years since that fateful day on 20NOV40 when *Goorangai* (right) collided with the MV *Duntroon*. The entire ship's company of 24 individuals made the supreme sacrifice when *Goorangai* sunk in 15 metres of water as they were entering Port Phillip. Only six bodies were ever recovered, with one unidentified and buried in the Williamstown cemetery. Prior to the service, many of those attending marched



to the Reserve. Pictured above, CAPT Steve Bowater OAM RAN, Commanding Officer HMAS *Cerberus* leading the parade. The Geelong Memorial Brass Band provide musical support and Cadets from TS *Tingira* Unit were also great support by carrying the Ship Association banners and assisting the Remembrance Party as they placed their floral tributes at the 13 memorial cairns. Below, CAPT Bowater OAM



RAN delivering the address, with the AWE, Red Ensign and ANF at the top of the mast. The entry to Port Phillip and *Goorangai*'s resting place is in the background. Below, the Remembrance Party face the mast at the sound of the Last Post. Wreaths were placed at each of the 13 memorial cairns, each member of the Remembrance Party having a connection with



the Navy unit upon which the cairn is based. During the service a bosun's call sounded the 'Still' and 'Carry On'. The bosun's call was recovered from *Goorangai*, after it was sunk and was owned by AB Norm Farquharson who was aged 20 when he drowned. Many then went to the Queenscliff RSL Rooms afterwards for a festive board. *Colour photographs by Chris Banfield.*





### Disclaimer

Articles contributed are the Author's thoughts only. An article may be edited to meet the space available.

### Navy Victoria Network

The NavyVIC website is a service to the entire Navy Community.

The purpose is to share information and where possible avoid a clash with other activities scheduled by others in the Navy Community.

Log on to

<http://navyvic.net>

### Melbourne Naval Centre

MNC is an organization that has provided much needed funds to Ship Associations over many decades. In need of financial support, contact the MNC.

# President's Report

Thank you to all that participated in the events held throughout November. There are a host of activities on the ex-Service calendar designed to encourage the Navy fraternity to collaborate and demonstrate our collective support for Navy. That is not to say that everything we did whilst in the Navy was agreeable, but our time in uniform, along with the understanding of descendants should be such that the abounding legacy needs to be supported by all of us. How best to demonstrate this support is the question. The Navy legacy, a key aspect of our heritage can best be validated by sharing a moment at an appropriate commemorative service. The importance of these occasions is evident, particularly when we see our WWII Veterans front up time after time at most of the significant commemorative services. The number of Korean Veterans is also diminished, it is now our turn to make a concerted effort to share the remembrance experience along with the rest of us. Check out your diary, now is the time for you to make a difference! On a related matter,

we are very close, if not past the time for us to consolidate our interests. The interests in question are those that maintain a the large array of Associations. This spread effectively weakens our capacity to remain viable. Leaders within each of the different streams need to give serious thought to how we might work together to bring about the change so desperately needed. For some this call to arms may be seen as a takeover, however, this line of thinking limits our ability to survive. Some may be happy if their association disappears, but if we think back to what their legacy will be, then a tiny bit of progressive thinking may prove to do the trick. Keep in mind that the origin of our various associations was built around comradeship, welfare of members and commemoration. The purpose underpinning the riches of each association is focused on support for the Australian Defence Force, Royal Australian Navy in particular. I would welcome an email from those interested in looking at the future.

*Yours aye, Terry Makings*

## Lone Pine E News

NCCV pursues commemoration with some vigour, that brings us to activities organised at the Shrine of Remembrance. Whilst their output covers a wide range of interests, each is designed to support the legacy of past military events. It would be hard to argue against their purpose given the sentiment derived from the loss of so many Victorians through war and peace keeping activities. One way of keeping abreast of the services, exhibitions and presentations is to subscribe to the Lone Pine E News or be more progressive and become a Friend of the Shrine of Remembrance. E News is available by subscribing at <http://www.shrine.org.au/home> by going to the bottom right hand corner of the front page, or click on 'become a friend' on the same page. Visitations to the Shrine of Remembrance have escalated since the Galleries of Remembrance opened. The educational aspect of the Galleries is considerable and will enlighten anyone with any interest in what our ancestors were involved in. Our ancestors were directly or indirectly impacted by both World Wars, we should know how!



## Admiral Graf Spree



Pictured above, one of the most powerful and dangerous ships during WW2, *Admiral Graf Spree*, a German pocket battleship. There were limitations on what warships could be built by the Germans, under the Treaty of Versailles. It did little to restrict the construction of a warship armed with 6x11 inch guns in 2 triple gun turrets. With a top speed of 28 knots (52 km/h) it meant there were only a handful of ships able to catch her. *Admiral Graf Spree* and her sister ships were designed to

outgun any cruiser fast enough to catch them. Left is the ship today, after being damaged by the Brits, the Captain scuttled the ship off Port of Montevideo.





Photographs by Marty Grogan at HMAS *Goorangai* Service 22NOV15  
 1 Arriving at the Ocean View Reserve  
 2 CDRE Jim Dickson AM MBE Rtd.  
 3 CAPT David Garnock CSC Rtd  
 4 CAPT Steve Bowater OAM RAN  
 5 Flag Party with Terry Makings and Chaplain Steve Estherby RAN.

## Golf Tournament

Since Navy Week - Victoria in October, we received advice that ABET Corey Cook was the overall winner of the golf tournament. The tournament was held at the Waverley Golf Course on a typical sunny Melbourne day!



Pictured above is CDRE Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN Rtd Patron of the NCCV congratulating Corey with his well deserved trophy. Corey received the Navy Week trophy last presented 15 years ago. BZ!

The tournament was highlighted by the flag raising of the Australian White Ensign prior to the event commencing. Doran an RANR Musician delivered the appropriate bugle call to alert those present of the ceremony. WO Marty Grogan OAM acted as signalmen and proudly hoisted the AWE.



## Refresh your Sea Time

RANCBA Victoria wishes to advise any late comers that everyone is welcome to join over 100 individuals from the Navy fraternity on a sea journey to New Zealand. The cruise will be aboard the 'Explorer of the Seas', owned by the Royal Caribbean Shipping Company. The ship will depart Circular Quay on the 28JAN16, heading to the New Zealand Fiords. During the cruise the ship will go alongside at six ports and only on one occasion will be at anchor. Duration of the cruise is 14 nights, returning to Circular Quay, Sydney on 15FEB16. Group benefits have been negotiating so there are plenty of them. More information regarding onboard activities, such as cocktail party, formal dinners and other bonus activities are being made available to the group. If interested, you should visit a travel agency and obtain a current copy of the Royal Caribbean cruise guide 2014/2015/2016 to check out the ship and cruise information. If interested please contact the Group Co-ordinator Kath Williams at Helloworld Travel Rowville, Victoria by email [kath.rowville@helloworld.com.au](mailto:kath.rowville@helloworld.com.au) or phone on 03 9764 8487 to make arrangements. Kath will be able to answer any questions you may have regarding the cruise and benefits. No matter your background, you will be welcomed into the travel group, even Stokers are welcome, along with Army & Air Force.



## ANZAC Centenary

The Spirit of ANZAC has drawn out considerable interest from a wide range of individuals. Younger Australians are particularly evident as they attend the different occasions to reflect on the exploits of the Australian Defence Force during times of conflict. The activities being arranged by government and independent organisations are focused on remembrance and contemplation of the futile need for war. Finally, the 'Answering the Call' statue is to be unveiled on Friday, 27NOV15 by Chief of Navy. This project has been managed by the Naval Heritage Foundation of Australia inc. 'Answering the Call' was deemed to be the number one activity put forward by the various Navy organisations in Victoria. This important consolidation of views, went a long way to achieving the grants received from the State and Federal Governments. These organisations included: Naval Association of Australia, Navy League of Australia, Royal United Services Institute, Naval Officers Club and the NCCV. We look forward to future involvement of the entire ex-Navy fraternity.

**ONCE NAVY - ALWAYS NAVY!**



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## Items of special interest

**Navy League.** The Navy League of Australia in Victoria held a dinner to celebrate its centenary at the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch on Saturday, 14NOV15. Over 50 people participated with CAPT Steve Bowater OAM RAN, Commanding Officer HMAS *Cerberus* as the Guest of Honour. The Federal President, CMDR Graham Harris RANR Rtd provided an overview of submissions delivered by the Navy Leagues over recent years. LCDR Roger Blythman RANR, State President also outlined the support by NL Members of their work.

**Historical Society.** The Naval Historical Society, Victoria Chapter also held their annual dinner on Monday, 23NOV15 at the Waverley RSL Sub-Branch. 40 members and friends attended.

**HMAS Sydney.** HMAS *Sydney* I was lost on 19NOV41 with its entire crew of 645 men in a sudden and disastrous encounter with the German raider, Kormoran, off the Western Australian coast. The reason for this loss remains controversial to this day. The HMAS Sydney Association participated in a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne to commemorate the loss and reflect on the effort by so many Officers & Sailors.

**HMAS Parramatta.** On 27NOV41 *Parramatta* was sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean near Tobruk. The *Parramatta* was part of the navy's 'Tobruk ferry', whose destroyers and sloops kept the besieged port supplied for action.

**Freedom of Entry.** This edition of RY just precedes this event, HMAS *Cerberus* will exercise their right to march through Hasting township with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed. A great spectacle for 'Old Salts' and maybe the not so old will find it interesting as well. Be quick, this will happen 0930 Saturday, 28NOV15.

**Generous Support.** The NCCV is very grateful to HMAS *Cerberus* for their support during 2015. There have been many instances where *Cerberus* has provided Catafalque Parties, Colour Parties, Guards, Band (large and small) along with Bugler. RAN and RANR Chaplains have also been very helpful. As we seldom see the seagoing Navy in Victoria, the participation by *Cerberus* is crucial to providing a lively link between the ex-Navy fraternity and today's Defence Force, in particular the Navy. Each occasion reinforces the purpose of our work in supporting the Navy legacy!