



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

Navy Victoria Network

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Editorial

NVN current membership: 1075

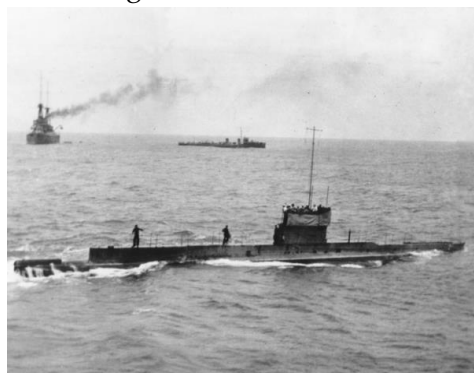
The History of Submarines in the RAN

Guest Editor: Keith Hatfield - President of the Victoria Branch of the Submarines Association Australia.

The History of Submarines in the RAN is a chequered one. After a period of uncertainty following Federation in 1901 the size of the Navy to be established was determined at 13 vessels including three submarines.

Subsequent decisions resulted in this being reduced to two British E Class – AE1 and AE2 - which were delivered in 1914.

Following the outbreak of WW1 both took part in the occupation



Last known image of AE1, 9 Sep 1914 with Yarra & Australia in the background.

of Rabaul in September that year; during that operation AE1 disappeared off New Britain and is yet to be found. AE2 went on to take part in the Gallipoli campaign in 1915 and penetrated the Dardanelles before being damaged by a Turkish gunboat and scuttled by her crew on 30 April. It is noteworthy that actions by AE1 and AE2 are the only occasions an Australian submarine has fired in anger.



The axe used to ceremoniously launch both AE1 and AE2

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

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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 Dec – HMAS ARMIDALE Commemoration Service, at 1000, in the Sanctuary at the Shrine

10 Dec – On this day in 1917 Commonwealth ships YARRA & PARRAMATTA sail into Port Phillip Bay

20 Dec – On this day in 1915 – the last Australian troops evacuated from Gallipoli.

25 Dec – Merry Christmas

01 Jan 2018 – Happy New Year

05 Jan – From the 5-9 January 1945 HMAS AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE & ARUNTA engaged in Battle of Lingayen Gulf.

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>

...

LATEST VIDEOS.....

* HMAS Adelaide Embarked Personnel visit Kokoda Trail

*NUSHIP Brisbane, first sea trials

In 1919, following the end of WW1 the Australian submarine service was re-formed when the British government transferred six J Class boats, J1,2,3,4 5, and 7 which were based at Geelong with their tender, HMAS Platypus in early 1920. The vessels were in poor condition and never effectively entered the Fleet. In a deteriorating economic situation all were decommissioned in 1922 and were scuttled later that decade.



HMAS Platypus in company with the J class submarines J1, J2, J4 and J5

A third attempt to establish a submarine service was made in 1927 when two British O Class, HMAS Oxley and Otway were



commissioned but they too proved unaffordable in the days of the Depression and transferred back to the Royal Navy in 1931. The RAN remained without

submarines throughout the 1930's and did not have any operational submarine capability during WW2. Nonetheless Fremantle and Brisbane became important submarine bases for Allied submarines during that conflict.

In the post-WW2 era the Royal Navy's 4th Submarine Flotilla was based in Sydney from 1949 to 1969. It was used to support the RAN and RNZN in anti-submarine warfare training. When Britain withdrew from East of Suez at the end of the 60's the 4th S/M Flotilla returned to UK, sparking the fourth attempt to establish an Australian submarine service. The end result of protracted negotiations and reviewed strategic assessments was the commissioning of six Oberon Class submarines



Oxley arrives in Sydney after her delivery voyage from the UK, 18 August 1967.

**U.S. Navy Three Carrier Formation in Western Pacific Ocean
Navy in Action

NEWS.....

The Argentine Navy confirmed that an explosion occurred near the position from which the missing submarine ARA San Juan last sent her position.

The search for three missing sailors following a C-2A Greyhound crash on November 22 was ended at 10:00 am Japan Standard Time on November 24, the US Navy announced.

The Turnbull Government today announces Australia's 12 Offshore Patrol Vessels will be designed and built under prime contractor Lürssen. The Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) project, which is worth up to \$4 billion, will be delivered by Australian workers, in Australian shipyards using Australian steel..

A new trace in the form of a "hydroacoustic anomaly" could help locate the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan which has been missing since November 15.

A US Navy aircraft with 11 crew and passengers has crashed into the Philippine Sea southeast of Okinawa, the US 7th Fleet said in a statement.

The Royal Australian Navy's recently-commissioned destroyer HMAS Hobart recently added an MH-60R Seahawk helicopter to the list of her capabilities, certifying its deck for helicopter handling.

A US Navy P-8A Poseidon involved in the search for the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan has reportedly detected a heat signal some 300 kilometers off the coast of Puerto Madryn.

Minister for Defence Senator the Hon

Oxley (1967), Otway (1968), Ovens (1969), Onslow (1970), Orion (1977) and Otama (1978). These up-to-date boats were much more capable than their predecessors and were fitted with extensive monitoring and surveillance equipment which proved its worth during the last decades of the Cold War. These Oberon Class vessels were gradually decommissioned and replaced by Collins Class submarines during the 1990's with the final Oberon, HMAS Otama de-commissioning in December 2000.

The six Collins Class are the first Australian-built submarines and the most expensive ships to have been built in this country.



HMAS Sheean conducting their Air Sea Safety Assessment off Garden Island in Western Australia with a Seahawk helicopter from HMAS Adelaide.

HMAS Collins commissioned in 1996 and early experience revealed serious shortcomings including excessive hull noise and an ineffective combat system. These problems were subsequently

rectified and the Collins Class, now including Farncomb (1998), Waller (1999), Dechaineux(2001), Sheean (2001) and Rankin(2003) rank among the most effective conventional submarines in the world today.

The stop-start nature of the submarine arm of the RAN during the 20th century is gone. The Federal government has committed to building eight state-of-the-art conventional boats, principally in South Australia, over the decades ahead and submarines may well become the centre-piece of our maritime defence force before the middle of the 21st century.

The Submarine Association has its national headquarters in Adelaide with smaller branches in other States. These can be expected to grow substantially as the submarine service grows in numbers and importance. With the establishment of a national ship-building industry it is '....an exciting time to be in the Navy' and a particularly exciting



Marise Payne and Minister for Defence Personnel Dan Tehan MP today announced almost \$1 million in grants to organisations providing community support to ADF families Australia-wide.

The Australian Defence Force's second AWD, NUSHIP Brisbane, has commenced its first phase of sea trials, which will test the ship's hull, propulsion and navigation systems.

The HMAS Sydney IV whisky retrieval story has added a new chapter, with an Australian Navy memento being presented to members of the ship's American build team.

A Royal Navy minehunter has destroyed a 500lb wartime bomb which was dredged up and then dropped – next to a major North Sea gas pipeline.

Sailors from across Royal Navy are preparing for the honour of guarding Her Majesty The Queen and other members of the Royal Family for the first time ever.

Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, today announced the names of the Royal Australian Navy's future support ships. The new fleet replenishment ships will be named Supply and Stalwart.

Royal Navy's new aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth is to be commissioned by the Queen in a ceremony on December 7, the UK defense ministry announced.

US Air Force faces millions of dollars in potential liability for the mass shooting at a small-town church in Texas earlier this month by a former service member, legal experts say.

Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, today said the

time to be a submariner, past, present or prospective.

If you wish further information on the Submarines Association Australia (Victoria Incorporated) please contact:

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President of the Victoria Branch – Keith J Hatfield

Phone: 0408 051 085;

email: keithhatfield@outlook.com



Yours Aye!

NVN Team

VALE

- † CPOME J.E. Lane OAM, R57966, 15 November 2017. Aged 74.
- † LCDR W.J. Cregan RAN, 10 November 2017. Aged 84.
- † CAPT W.C. Williams RAN, 24 October 2017. Aged 88.
- † PO C.A. Spence, 23 October 2017. Aged 85.
- † ME A. Moore, R93244, 13 October 2017. Aged 72.
- † WOWTR L.J. Dillon, 11 October 2017. Aged 82.
- † Stoker R. Ricardo, 10 October 2017. Aged 93.
- † CPOMTH R.R. Rodda, 01 October 2017. Aged 69.
- † AB A. Hinds, 11 September 2017. Aged 95.
- † AB R.M. Thomson R29911, 22 September 2017. Aged 89.
- † NAMET L. Burrige, R95085, 29 June 2017. Aged 67.
- † Ord K. Strahan, 23 June 2017. Aged 96.

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.**

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



government would provide \$500,000 to allow Find AE1 Limited to proceed in its attempt to find the submarine AE1 and its crew.

A 20-foot shipping container on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria, helps the Australian Navy run one of the world's few remaining shore-to-sea live firing training sites.

One hundred and three years ago, Australia's first submarine HMAS AE1 disappeared while patrolling the seas near present-day New Guinea. No trace of the vessel or its 35 hands has ever been found. This story is now being told in a new exhibition at the Queensland Maritime Museum, War at Sea – the Navy in World War I.

In the lead-up to Remembrance Day, Australia Post, with the assistance of five proud serving Australian Defence Force women, launched a 'Women in War' series of stamps on the steps of the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

AU\$200 million in funding for upgrades to the Australian-developed Nulka anti-ship missile decoy in use by the Australian and ally navies.

HMS Enterprise recently surveyed the wrecks of Royal Navy ships lost in the Falklands War to mark the 35th anniversary of the South Atlantic conflict.

Navy League of Australia(Vic-Tas Div) November newsletter is now available to [download.....](#)

Naval Historical Society of Australia (Vic) President's October 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

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

1. **HMAS Armidale**, wreath laying service at 1000, **Friday 1DEC17** in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.
2. **Armed Merchant Cruisers - Landing Ship Infantry** Commemoration Service, at 1100, **Saturday 9DEC17** in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.
3. **HMAS Voyager** commemoration service remembering the loss of **HMAS Voyager II** and the service of those that served in **HMAS Voyager I** will be conducted at 1030, **Saturday 10FEB18**, in the Sanctuary, 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

Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC has an agreement with the Mission to Seafarers that allows Navy groups to meet at the MtS at no cost. To book email **Ajith Jayasuriya** at 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.

HMAS Goorangai



A service remembering the sacrifice made by the HMAS Goorangai's crew was held at Queenscliff on Sunday, 19NOV17. Cadet Jaz Alison ANC → recited a poem written by Jodie Johnson, aged 11 years at the time. Jaz's delivery was emotional and demonstrated the values of the Australian Cadet Corp. ↓ Cr Tony

Francis, Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliff then spoke of the links between the town and the maritime fraternity. He recalled the skill of the Queenscliff life boat volunteers and their endeavours to save the lives of the crew. The back drop to his speech was the banner of the Minesweeper Association, long since disbanded. ↓ LCOL Alan Hunter President



Queenscliff RSL delivered a reading calling for peace of the world. The RSL is a worthy supporter of the Goorangai service and NCCV thanks the RSL for their very generous support. Particularly

Ian Fitzsimmons & friends who help out every year. Readings were delivered by WO Marty Grogan OAM RANR, VP NCCV &



LCDR Jan Gallagher RANR, Treasurer NCCV. The address, delivered by LCDR Murray McAuliffe OAM RAN referred to the research carried out by PO Andrew Campbell. This related to the tragic loss of Goorangai when the Troopship Duntroon collided with it 77 years ago. Only a few months before the tragedy, many of the Goorangai crew were fishermen before joining the fight for Australia. ←LCDR McAuliffe was most impressive, expressing reverence of the occasion. He outlined how their job was a dangerous one, sweeping for mines in Bass Strait



after a German Raider had effectively laid mines in the Strait with the subsequent sinking of a US merchant ship. Veterans and descendants laid wreaths at the 13 Memorial Cairns at the Ocean View Reserve. Managing the Australian National Flag, Australian white Ensign and Australian Red Ensign were Cadets from TS Tingira and TS Barwon. Cadets also carried banners for Minesweepers and DEMS. Cadets assisted Veterans with wreaths and their participation had a major impact on the day and highlighted the benefits of young Australian youths being Cadets.



HMAS Armidale



The name Teddy Sheean is intrinsically linked with bravery and courage. The legend derived from that fateful day on the first of December 1942 when HMAS *Armidale* was torpedoed by the Japanese off Betano Bay, East Timor. The ship's company in the water being strafed by enemy aircraft and a shipmate who remained on a sinking ship to defend his mates. The legend is simple, notwithstanding aspects of the story have been deemed to be unbelievable, such as the 20-mm Oerlikon guns will not fire when underwater. So let's try and understand the situation, that unfolded on 1DEC42. As we acknowledge the 75th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS *Armidale*, and the possible heroic effort of a young lone sailor and the ultimate supreme sacrifice of 98 sailors and soldiers. It has been reported

that the first air attack against the *Armidale* was around 1300, 1DEC42. Five enemy aircraft attacked and two were hit by the accurate firing by the gunnery crews. A second attack occurred an hour later and during this en-



agement the ship was hit by two torpedoes, one into a messdeck and the other into the Engine room. The aircraft then focused on the survivors in the water, strafing them. One sailor stayed aboard, already injured was seen to strap himself into one of the Oerlikon guns. He engaged the enemy, reportedly shot down two and forced another to crash into the sea. Dr Ray Leonard, an *Armidale* survivor has said that Teddy moved from one Oerlikon gun to another, presumably when it ran out of ammunition. Some say the gun was firing even as it went underwater, experts say this was impossible. This becomes one of many reasons why Teddy's efforts are considered speculative by the authorities. A pity, a young sailor showed no fear, goes down with this ship and is marginalised.



Sheean Brothers, serving in HMAS Derwent

AMC/LSI

Representatives of the AMC/LSI Team at one of two Memorial Cairns relevant to Armed Merchant Cruisers, this being *Kanimbla* the other *Manoora*. Pictured below from Ltr is: Grant Knox, Pres-HMAS *Australia* Assoc; Norm Tame-WW2 Vet trained at HMAS *Assault* then went on to serve in HMAS *Australia*; Hiram Ristrom WW2 Vet also trained at *Assault* and served in *Kanimbla*; and from AMC/LSI Chris Harvey, Pres; Max Tozer, VP; Mac Hay, Treas. A remarkable Association.



On Parade

Arriving at the Ocean View Reserve, SNOV's rep, LCDR Murray McAuliffe OAM RAN, Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliffe Cr Tony Francis with LCDR Jan Gallagher RANR. WO Marty Grogan OAM RANR as parade commander! They are followed by Veterans from WWII, Korea & later conflicts. Cadets from TS Tingira and TS Barwon provided significant uniformed exposure and looked the part. A respectful acknowledgement of the loss of the entire *Goorangai* Ship's company 77 years ago, 1.3 kms from this place.



Tribals

The Tribal group, comprise *Warramunga*, *Bataan* and *Arunta*. These names continue with inherited honours, demonstrated by the two Veterans pictured below: Wayne Niklas (Warramunga II) and Paul Callanan (Warramunga I), two stalwarts of tribals. Wayne is the Pres-HMAS Warramunga Association and with Paul attended the *Goorangai* service. Paul, representing Tribals laid the wreath at the Tribals memorial cairn, a fitting occasion given his experience through the Korean conflict, Wayne is a Veteran of the Middle East conflicts.



Submariners

The commemoration service for HMAS Goorangai involved Veterans from different vocations across the RAN. Gunnery, engineering, communicators and importantly Submariners. Submariners are a formidable part of Australia's war footing at sea and their lethal capability is undeniable. Most of us are seen as targets, notwithstanding our vulnerability it is appropriate that a Submariner of substance be involved in the service. Below is CAPT Ken Greig OAM RAN Rtd, Secretary of 'Find the AE1 Ltd' delivering a reading from the 'Book of Wisdom'.



Commemoration

Commemoration is the responsibilities of Veterans and the wider community. Maintaining the legacy of past service and sacrifice is not Navy's day job, so we should not be disappointed when limited support is available. The more significant services are appropriately resourced, a reminder that Navy will help out whenever it is able. Ideally there would be a schedule of activities where resourcing can be

matched against the relative importance. Apart from ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, the events where loss of life occurred warrant special consideration. Whilst some Warships were lost



Remembrance Day at the Shrine of Remembrance 2017



without loss of life, where sailors have made the supreme sacrifice, then they are highly regarded as warranting whatever support is available. Further, resourcing may need to be prioritised by supporting services at the Shrine of Remembrance first, as these services are central to the wider community. Other services, whilst notable tend to be arranged by local champions. That is not to diminish their importance, however, those services scheduled at the Shrine of Remembrance have been initiated as the foremost remembrance service across the Veteran community. These are milestone services, generally initiated by Veterans who were involved in the conflict or served in the named Warships.

President's Dit

Almost Christmas with important services of commemoration scheduled to encourage us to remember the service and sacrifice of all Veterans who have had exposure to conflict. There has been much information distributed from DVA relating to the wellbeing of our Service men and women. The presumption is that all of us are up to speed on each of these new initiatives. It seems that is not the case, So Veterans and their families need to take a moment to navigate the DVA website with the intention of seeing what is relevant to them. Start with <https://www.dva.gov.au/i-am/current-or-transitioning-adf-member#dva-support> as this will help start the conversation about support when moving out of the service. This may just be another example of how difficult it is to get information to those that need to read it. Maybe just the mass of documents, notwithstanding it is up to us to do our best to alert our shipmates and their families to the opportunities for support. Commemoration is an opportunity to meet like minded folk and from there other benefits might flow.

Yours aye, Terry Makings

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Special Notes



Grants for Navy Women. The deadline looms for Navy women that may wish to express their interest in a scholarship grant. The opportunity to undertake a range of leadership development programs is available. This opportunity closes on 15DEC17. Go to wla.edu.au/funding.html for more information.

Rogues Yarn. As most readers of RY would know, this newsletter is also distributed with the Navy Victoria Network monthly editorial. Most probably receive it twice, however, there are many of our ex-Navy fraternity that still don't know about important activities that bonds our Navy community. If you have access to a mailing list, could you let us know if this newsletter is useful in its current form.

Cadets. The game plan with Australian Naval Cadets has changed markedly over the past year. First up, Cadets are not allowed to be involved where alcohol is being served. There is also the requirement for those providing direct support to have a 'Working with Children' accreditation. Developing a working relationship with your local ANC Training Ship may be confined to requesting their assistance at every commemoration service. Another consideration is to take account of what awards might be created to encourage Cadets.

Care. There are many aspects of the Veteran community discussed by main stream media. Much is to sensationalise an issue, over the past year or two much has been said about the distress experienced by some of our Service men and women. We in the ex-Service community have an added responsibility to assist where we are able to help these Veterans when and as required. Primarily, you should be aware of what resources are available so you can, at the very least direct someone in need to an organisation that is willing and able to help out. Keep in mind that your membership may be the key to a better future.

Office Bearers. Have you noticed that many of office bearers stay in the role for a very long time, NCCV is no exception. The question you need to ask, do I wish to do a little more to support my respective ex-Navy fraternity. If there is a slight chance you can do more, offer your services - challenge the status quo. You might be surprised that your little more support may just make the difference everyone has been waiting for.

AGM. The NCCV general meeting is scheduled for 1030, Tuesday 12DEC17 at the Mission to Seafarers. The AGM will follow that meeting.