



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

<http://navyvic.net>

Navy Victoria Network

November 2018

Volume 8 Edition 11



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: 1097

LEST WE FORGET

Sunday 11 November Services at The Shrine and at Cenotaphs and Memorials around the nation commemorated the centenary of the signing of the Armistice in 1918 which brought to a merciful end more than 4 years of brutal, bloody, costly and horrendously wasteful carnage in Europe in WW1. For its participation in this conflict the fledgling Australian nation paid a terrible price but in doing so laid the foundation stones of character, reputation and military capability which have played an enormous part in making our nation what it is today. The four-year focus on reflection on WW1 initiated by our Federal and State governments has done much to improve our knowledge and education of this crucial period of our history and highlighted the debt we owe to our predecessors.

Many Australians living today have first-hand knowledge of WW2 and the consequences that had for the nation, for communities, for families and for individuals. The same is not true of WW1 when the population was in the vicinity of 4 million; of these, over 420 thousand enlisted, 62 thousand were killed in action and another 130 thousand wounded. Of those who came home another 60 thousand are estimated to have died within 10 years. The loss of so many young men and women -the flower of the nation's youth - in their early

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

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01 Dec – On this day in 1942 - HMAS ARMIDALE sunk by Japanese forces. Teddy Sheean died a hero.

01 Dec – Corvette Association / HMAS Armidale - wreath laying in the Sanctuary.

08 Dec – On this day in 1941 - HMAS NESTOR sinks German U-Boat U127.

08 Dec – AMC/LSI Association wreath laying in the Sanctuary.

10 Dec – On this day in 1910, Commonwealth ships Parramatta and Yarra, torpedo boat destroyers, first warships built for the RAN, arrived in Port Phillip.

20 Dec – On this day in 1915 - Last Australian troops evacuated from Gallipoli.

20 Dec – Friends of Gallipoli Inc. 2018 Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

25 Dec – Merry Christmas

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>

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LATEST VIDEOS.....

- HMAS Ballarat arrives in the

years of adulthood – deprived the nation of vital, productive citizens, left families bereft of husbands / fathers, exacerbated financial hardships and retarded the process of nation building. Adversity brings the reward of binding sufferers together however, and the sharing of the hardships endured through the economic downturn of the 1920's and 1930's fostered a sense of community and mateship which helped the nation through those decades and WW2.

Until the 2014 – 2018 government initiated focus on our participation in WW1 few Australians appreciated the extent of our involvement; most were aware of the Gallipoli campaign, the heroic deeds of the first Anzacs and the legends which grew therefrom. Less known and understood were the battles on the Western front, principally in France, where casualties were over three times greater and Australian-initiated strategies and tactics became influential in bringing to conclusion a battlefield stalemate of long-standing. The principal architect of these was the brilliant Sir John Monash who was, largely for political reasons, denied the extent of recognition he deserved at the time. Apart from the sinking of the German cruiser EMDEN in the Cocos Islands by HMAS SYDNEY in 1914 and the loss of our two submarines AE1 and AE2, the RAN (then only 3 years old) played little part in WW1 and it was somewhat ironic therefore that it was a hastily-assembled contingent of Navy personnel who represented Australia at an impressive march through the streets of Paris – at French President Charles de Gaulle's direction – to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice in 1968. The 48 RAN Officers and Sailors who comprised that contingent, mostly submariners undergoing training in UK, were made well aware of the regard and affection the French people feel towards Australia because of the outstanding, memorable contribution our soldiers played in bringing peace to their homeland in WW1.

To those whose forebears participated in war and were affected by the consequences - whether they made the

Middle East Region

- *Ship's Warrant Officer for HMAS Melbourne comments on early return*
- *Prime Minister visits ADF personnel during APEC*
- *On The Left - Sisters In Arms*
- *RADM Mark Hammond shares his thoughts on today's sailor*
- *Deputy Chief of Navy Workshops*
- *Operation APEC 18 Assist*
- *HMAS Brisbane Commissioning*
- *HMAS Ballarat departs for Middle East Region*

NEWS.....

When more than 50 autonomous technologies and over 500 scientists, technicians and support staff came together for AUTONOMOUS WARRIOR 2018 (AW18) in Jervis Bay, ACT, it marked the culmination of four years' collaboration between the militaries, defence scientists and defence industries of five nations.

The first of a new class of Royal Australian Navy's auxiliary oiler replenishment (AOR) ships, the future HMAS Supply, was launched by Spanish shipbuilder Navantia at its Ferrol shipyard on November 23.

UK defense company BAE Systems announced it is investing £20 million into the development of augmented reality and artificial intelligence which will improve the capability of future combat systems.

Vice Admiral Sir William Rooke Creswell, considered the 'Father' of the Royal Australian Navy, has been honoured with a small ceremony at Brighton Cemetery in Melbourne.

Current and former Navy personnel gathered at HMAS Harman's Bonshaw Mess this week for the launch of the second volume of Bravo Zulu.

HMAS Melbourne has returned to her home port at Garden Island Sydney,

ultimate sacrifice or were physically or mentally affected – the observance of commemoration is particularly, poignantly and personally important. It should be similarly important, even though a personal connection may not exist, to all of us lucky enough to be living in this magnificent country today. For it is in large measure due to the contribution and sacrifices made by those who have gone before, that we enjoy the freedoms, lifestyle and opportunities we have today.

We frequently say ‘**We will remember them**’; let us make sure we do so. May attendance at commemoration services at The Shrine continue to grow and may young 21st century Australians be encouraged to attend for it is only by being reminded of past that they will appreciate the wisdom of that adage ‘Si vis Pacem para Bellum’ – If you want peace prepare for war. As a former Governor of Victoria, Davis McCaughey put it “In remembering the past we must never jeopardise the future.”

Yours Aye!
NVN Team

VALE

† CEE T. Davies, 16 Nov 2018. Aged 68.

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 (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.**

Reunions

HMAS Duchess Reunion Registrations are now called for the 9th reunion of HMAS Duchess Crew, to be held at Hotel Grand Chancellor, Adelaide, over the weekend 29th to 31st March, 2019.

Full cost will be \$200.00, which includes:
Friday night light meal or cocktail service (yet to be decided,
Saturday night dinner and Sunday brunch, with a certain

after nearly six months of operations throughout the Pacific and North East Asian regions.

*Minister for Defence Personnel
Darren Chester MP, today announced six servicemen will be recognised for their actions as part of Sparrow Force in Timor during World War II.*

The Royal Australian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessels will be named the Arafura class, with the first ship entering service in 2022 being named HMAS Arafura.

A rare opportunity for Australians to go behind the scenes, see world-class technology and consider a career as a submariner is on offer.

Australia's future submarine capability isn't in a good place. We started the program at least five years too late.

The Commonwealth Government will invest \$7.6 million in the Kookaburra Kids Defence Program (Kookaburra Kids) to boost targeted support to children of ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who are experiencing mental health issues.

Latest photos of the stricken frigate HNoMS Helge Ingstad shared by the Royal Norwegian Navy on Tuesday reveal that the frigate is now almost completely underwater.

The name of the UK capital will return to the Royal Navy fleet with the eighth Type 26 frigate, Royal Navy's First Sea Lord has announced.

The chief of the Royal Australian Navy has confirmed that the first of the submarines being built by French contractor Naval Group may not become fully operational until 2035.

Virtual reality technology and stunning 360-degree drone footage

amount of dry till Friday and Saturday night.

Deposit of \$50.00/head for prospective attendees to be paid 31st December 2018, balance of payment by 15th February, 2019.

Phone or email for registration form and details to Bruce

Bowmaker Ph: 0403243795, or email: littlefish.in@bigpond.com.

Top End Navy Reunion

For personnel who were/are posted to the Top End Establishments, boats and outstations i.e.

*Naval shore Establishment, previously known as **HMAS Melville**, now **HMAS Coonawarra**; incorporating, et al: DNB; FIMA; Humpty Doo; NHQ; Shoalbay; 11 Mile and all Darwin based patrol boats*

23 April: Meet n Greet TBA 1600 start

24 April: Free Day N/A

25 April: Anzac Day March

Due to Darwin RSL recently being destroyed by a fire, no decision has yet been made regarding post march refreshments.

26 April: Reunion Dinner, Hilton DoubleTree

27 April: Recovery Brunch: 0900 start,

Full details on HMAS COONAWARRA Facebook site.

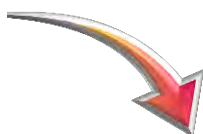
Contact: Allan Conway

0417 597557

email: allanconway@internode.on.net

For all those who have committed themselves to the Top End Navy Reunion over the ANZAC day week in 2019, please be advised that payment details are now available on the [HMAS Coonawarra FaceBook](#) site. There are still openings for those who are interested in attending and I encourage those who are interested to contact Allan Conway. A great time is expected and a broad spectrum of ex and serving members will be in attendance. Any questions can be asked via the Coonawarra FB site or Allan's email above.

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



are bringing the Australian Remembrance Trail along the Western Front to Australians across the world, through an Anzac 360 app featuring interactive videos.

BAE Systems Australia has shared a video of the installation of a new mast on board the Royal Australian Navy frigate HMAS Arunta.

Royal Norwegian Navy frigate HNoMS Helge Ingstad collided with an oil tanker in a fjord in Norway as it was returning from NATO exercise Trident Juncture.

The Australian public is being asked to participate in compiling an updated Roll of Honour listing the 300 Australian Navy personnel who gave their lives in the First World War.

Steel for the Royal Australian Navy's first offshore patrol vessel is being cut in Western Australia and trucked to Adelaide where construction is set to begin next week.

FlyBy – A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. [November issue.....](#)

Naval Historical Society of Australia (Vic) President's November musings – [download.....](#)

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

Visit our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page for more news articles not included in this newsletter.



Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

ROGUES' YARN

HMAS ARMIDALE Service, 1000 Saturday 1DEC18, Sanctuary-Shrine of Remembrance

Armed Merchant Cruisers Service, 1100 Saturday 8DEC18, Sanctuary-Shrine of Remembrance

HMAS Goorangai

A service to remember the loss of HMAS Goorangai was held at the Ocean View Reserve, Queenscliff on Sunday, 18th November. Over 60 people attended the service and most participated in the march beforehand. Led by the Geelong Memorial Brass Band, the marchers departed the Queenscliff/Port Lonsdale RSL Sub-branch. Leaders attending the service included: Councillor Susan Salter, Mayor –



CR Susan Salter

Borough of Queenscliffe; Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RANR, Senior Naval Officer Victoria; LTCOL Alan Hunter, President Queenscliff/Point Lonsdale RSL Sub-branch; CAPT Ken Greig OAM RAN Rtd, CAPT Peter Wickham RAN Rtd and all

NCCV Office Bearers. Five World War Two Veterans: Hiram Ristrom, Norm Tame, John Boyer, Ted Hollingsworth and Margret Hattersley participated with pride. Korean Veterans also attended, they were: George Coleman, Paul Callanan & Arthur Roach. All were received with respect and encouragement. Australian Naval Cadets from Training Ships *Tingira* and *Barwon* supported the service and provided important assistance. CR Salter welcomed those in attendance, citing the central connection between the constituents of Queenscliff and mariners.



LTCOL Alan Hunter

The Queenscliff Volunteer Life Boat crew that set about helping those in distress, doing their work, not knowing it was the *Goorangai* that had been involved. They searched for anyone in the water,



Cadet
Sarah Curtis

none of the Ship's Company were to survive that fateful incident. Maggie Stowers attended, daughter of Vin Murphy the Veteran of minesweepers who championed the *Goorangai* Service for many years. The service was held on a perfect day, difficult to appreciate the sacrifice that occurred close by some 78 years ago. Observing the 'rip' whilst listening to CDRE Yorke deliver the address, as he

described the circumstances surrounding the tragic incident between *Goorangai* and the Troopship *Duntroon*, with loss of the *Goorangai* crew put an edge to the presentation.

During the address a merchant ship negotiated the 'rip', the consequences of contact between two vessels approaching or leaving the narrow channel was discernible. After the address, a wreath was placed on each of the thirteen memorial cairns, laid simultaneously when CDRE Yorke commemorated the *Goorangai* Ship's Company by placing the wreath of freshly cut flowers on the *Goorangai* memorial cairn. The Remembrance party involved Veterans from WWII, Korea, Vietnam along with the Mayor, and a descendant from the Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships Association. The Flags were lowered and raised by the ANC Flag Party to signify the loss of our sailors and that the loss was not in vain. *Goorangai* was the first surface Warship lost by the RAN.



CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RANR



Jan Gallagher

BZ

On 12NOV18 Chief of Navy launched 'Bravo Zulu Volume 2', written by CAPT Dr Ian Pfennigwerth RAN Rtd, a former Commanding Officer of HMAS *Perth* (II). He is a well-known military historian and has written eight books. 'Bravo Zulu Volume 1', told the story of more than 3,600 Australian naval honours and awards recipients from 1900 to 1974, volume 2 is from 1975 to 2014. Reviews of these two books @ www.nautilus-history.com.au/ians-latest-books/ Below at the launch CAPT Dr Ian Pfennigwerth RAN Rtd with Elizabeth Pfennigwerth and Chief of Navy, VADM Michael Noonan, AO, RAN at HMAS Harman.



Navy Victoria Network

The NavyVIC website is there for Associations to provide information on their activities to the Navy Community. This opportunity is for Navy Associations to broaden their horizons & impact, go to navyvic.net

Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC provides funds to support welfare. MNV also provides a venue at Mission to Seafarers for like-minded groups at no cost. Email MtS sue.dight@missionto-seafarers.com.au to make a booking.

Bravery Trust

BT provides urgent financial support to Veterans and their families, suffering as a result of their military service. See braverytrust.org.au You can also telephone 1300 652 103 or email ask@braverytrust.org.au

BRavery TRUST Supporting those who serve

Corvettes

The courageous effort of 56 Corvettes built by Australia at the outset of WWII is well known. Two in particular stand out, they are HMASs *Yarra* and *Armidale*. They were no different to the other 54, except their commissions were cut short in the most horrific way. *Yarra* I has since been awarded a Ship Citation, some say an appropriate recognition for their heroic effort - turning towards the enemy when there was zero chance of survival. For *Armidale* the situation was different, still very hazardous as proved by it sinking, but the manner in which many of the crew made the supreme sacrifice was sickening. A service in memory of those lost will be commemorated on 1DEC18 at the Shrine.



HMAS Goorangai

The steam trawler MV *Goorangai*, built in 1919 for the NSW Government was sold to Cam & Sons Pty Ltd of Sydney in 1926. One of eight trawlers requisitioned for naval service on 8SEP39, immediately after WWII was declared. Commissioned as HMAS *Goorangai* at Melbourne on 9OCT39. She joined Minesweeping Group 54 at Melbourne and operated primarily in Bass Strait. During the evening of 20NOV40, while en route from Queenscliff to Portsea where she intended to anchor, she collided with the Troopship, MV *Duntroon*. *Duntroon*'s Captain believed *Goorangai* was on a parallel course with *Duntroon* overtaking her. By the time he realised *Goorangai*'s true course, with *Duntroon* travelling at 17 knots it was too late to avoid the collision. *Goorangai* was cut in two and sank in less than a minute with the loss of her entire crew of 24. Just six bodies were recovered in subsequent salvage operations. *Goorangai* was the first surface Warship lost by the RAN. The wreck of *Goorangai* lay inside the shipping transit zone in less than 15 meters of water and was considered a hazard to

navigation. She was demolished by explosive charges early in 1941. On 16NOV95, the wreck of *Goorangai* was declared a historic shipwreck as specified in the Historic Shipwrecks Act (1981). A memorial cairn acknowledging *Goorangai* is located at the Ocean view Reserve Queenscliff.



HMAS Sydney

A service was held on 19NOV18 to commemorate those that served in HMAS *Sydney*. The loss of 645 members of the Ship's Company when *Sydney* II was sunk by the German Auxiliary Cruiser *Kormoron* was the primary focus. Although there was no address, the purpose of the service was made clear to the 40 or so Veterans, family and friends in attendance. Lee Andrews, Vice President of the HMAS *Sydney* and Vietnam Logistical Support Veterans Association led the service. The service was supported by CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RANR, Senior Naval Officer VIC, CPO Paul Kelly as leader of the HMAS *Cerberus* Catafalque Party and ABMUS Rachael Byrnes, a Bugler from the RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment. They were very well turned out and provided a notable level of solemnity to the occasion. This assembly of Service and Ex-service men & women perpetuates the memory of past service by anyone who served in any of the four Warships *Sydney*. On conclusion of the service in the Sanctuary, the attendees

moved to the dedicated *Sydney* tree. The dedicated trees in the Shrine of Remembrance Reserve are settings were Veterans, with family and friends gather for quiet reflection. *Sydney* tree is identified by a *Sydney* I plaque. Many Serving and ex-Service men & women have a connection with Warships *Sydney*. This brings to mind just how many with a connection support these services. The battle honours for *Sydney* highlight the massive effort made by all four Warships *Sydney* since the Royal Australian Navy was formed after Federation, they are: Rabaul 1914, Emden 1914, North Sea 1915-18, Calabria 1940, Spada 1940, Mediterranean 1940-43, Kormoran 1941, Korea 1950-53, Malaysia 1964-66, Vietnam 1965-72, Kuwait 1991, East Timor 1999-00, Persian Gulf 2001-03 and Iraq 03. Best not to forget the courage demonstrated by so many men and women by channelling effort to one *Sydney*, all are important and should be equally commemorated for their faithful contribution to Australia's security and wellbeing for over a century.



Lee Andrews



Rachael Byrnes



Catafalque Party



Reflection at Tree

Naval Association

If we scan the horizon searching for Ship/Branch links to past service we may see a raft of Associations that are made up of some Serving and many ex-Navy men and women connected by the experience of past camaraderie in the Navy. This camaraderie may be highlighted by a deployment, commissioning of a Ship or working together for a year or two in a uniformed environment where the several simple rules were vigorously applied by superiors, but most importantly by peers. The sentiment felt today is no different to that which brought a few sailors together in 1920 to form what is now the Naval Association of Australia (NAA). Many Ship/Branch Associations are in some difficulty when you view membership and the longevity of individuals holding office. A creditable aspect of all these Associations is the tenacity of their long serving office bearers, however, many are in strife because numbers are dwindling and few other members wish to step up to the plate. Is a solution in sight, obviously there is! Quite a few of the folk that make up Associations may well be members of the NAA already, but most are not. Now is

the time to give some thought to how best to ensure the memory of your particular Ship/Branch Association can be prolonged. With over eighty Sub-sections spread nation wide there may well be a favourable network already established that have the same ideals and principles as your association. Obviously being a tad flexible helps, however, if the aim is to maintain the legacy of past service and sacrifice, if that is what is important then there could be a serious opportunity to secure a reasonable future. On the other hand, if your relationship with your Navy legacy is centred within yourself and not to be shared then obviously no one else can help your situation. Sometimes we just need to evaluate what is important, what was it all about for all those years that should be preserved. One basic fact that should not go unnoticed, that for 98 years the NAA has worked with the RSL, Air Force Association and other national Ex-service organisations (ESOs) to secure entitlements for those that need support, whether in the Service or out of the Service. The NAA will only remain at the head table to discuss such matters if membership is strong!

Special Notes

Leeuwin 1966-1967. Junior Recruits 16th intake of 1966-67 is planning a get together in Port Macquarie from 29-31MAR19. If you are eligible (JR 66-67 vintage), contact Colin Hardie by email at: colinandchrishardie@gmail.com

Vampire. The HMAS *Vampire* Association is organising a reunion for their 60th anniversary. The fun starts on Friday 21JUN19, so set aside three days. First up is a meet and greet, venue to be determined and at own expense. Lunch on Saturday at the Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney @ 1200-1600. This will be followed by a Seafood/Carvery Harbour Cruise from 1300 to 1700 on Sunday 23JUN19. A registration fee of \$50 per person is required by end January 2019, Lunch is \$90 members \$105 non-members and the Cruise is \$90p.p. Enquiries to Ken or Sandra Sherwell, telephone 0422812337 or email: ksherwel@bigpond.net.au

Armidale. Remembering HMAS *Armidale* Association is preparing activities on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the sinking of *Armidale*. If interested, contact Peter, MOB 0407387401 or email to peterjune@bigpond.com or Angus at: jcallander3@bigpond.com

Engineers. For Engineers that reside in Victoria, or just visiting Victoria you should know that a gaggle of Engineers meet on a regular basis at Y&J. Each occasion is well received and extends the hand of friendship to each and every colleague that served to ensure their Warship got there on time. If interested in coming along, email CAPT Peter Wickham at: pswickham@bigpond.com

White Card. Do you have your DVA White Card yet? If not, best to get things underway so that there is no drama when support is considered necessary. If you have a PMKeys number then go to MyService at <https://www.dva.gov.au/my-service/> Even if you do have a White Card, have a look at MyService to see the new method of making it known to DVA that you have a concern about your health. For complex matters, or if you have several points of interest, then it might be best to seek out an accredited advocate through your local RSL, or Open Arms Centre. Be aware if you have anything serious to discuss that you do so after you have spoken to an Advocate. If you wish to learn more about assisting Shipmates with their issues, then give some thought to engaging in the training - go to www.atdp.org.au



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President's dit

The November HMAS *Goorangai* service at Queenscliff, not far from where the actual tragedy occurred was a memorable occasion. A simple service that reminded us of the risk faced by mariners on a daily basis. Another important service scheduled for Saturday 1DEC will reflect on the contribution made by Corvettes, Warships that did an excellent job during and after WWII. Living conditions in Corvettes were very ordinary, but that didn't curtail their courageous war effort. One Corvette of significance was HMAS *Armidale*, the loss of which created a story of heroism somewhat distinct from other incidents, notwithstanding the fact that many sailors have acted with great courage. *Armidale* provides us with a piece of history that patently underscores the mettle of a single sailor, Teddy Sheean. This is not to say that others have not demonstrated extraordinary courage under extreme circumstances. However, to hear an eye witness account of what actually occurred on the day *Armidale* sunk, by a young man from Tasmania, makes you wonder what was in the minds of the decision makers who had such information at hand to dismiss it. What must a sailor do to be recognized?

Yours aye, Terry Makings