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THE SAILORS' PAPER

# Waller's big hit

Collins class submarine HMAS Waller's crew sank the hulk of a former United States Navy destroyer off Hawaii in the world's first successful firing of the new heavyweight torpedo jointly developed by Australia and the US during Exercise RIMPAC 08 last month.

The firing occurred on July 16 and the hulk sank at 23:01.2N 159:59.9W in 2670 fathoms (4883 metres) of water., according to a US website.

Wikipedia says the old destrover suffered a direct hit and sank within minutes, a statement born out by stills taken from a video shot of the sinkex

The Minister for Defence, Mr Joel Fitzgibbon, was delighted with the result: he congratulated Waller's crew whom he visited on board earlier in the exercise.

"This represents the first new heavyweight torpedo warshot to be fired by either Navy. Just as significant is the fact that the warshot torpedo was assembled in Australia," he said.

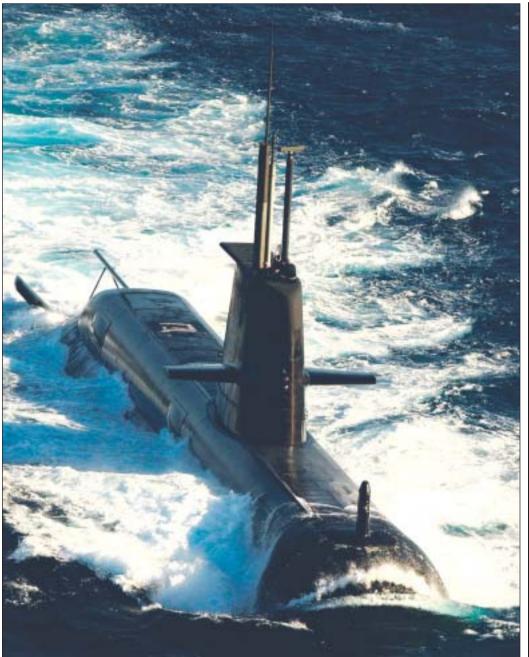
Australia was one of 10 countries that participated in Rimpac between June 27 and July 31, along with Canada, Chile, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, South Korea, Singapore, Britain and the United States.

Overall, there were some 35 warships, including a US carrier battle group, six nuclear and conventional submarines, over 100 aircraft and 20,000 personnel

The Australian contingent included HMA Ships Anzac, Success, Tobruk, and Waller; Australian Clearance Diving Team Four; and two RAAF AP3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft. Additionally, representatives from all three Services augmented various headquarter staff - amounting to nearly 800 personnel.

The aim of the exercise was to enhance the tactical proficiency of participating units' combined operations at sea as a basis to promote stability throughout the Pacific.

Continued on Page



HOW IT WENT DOWN: HMAS Waller (above) sank the decommissioned US ship in a Rimpac test – an event that was captured on video (screenshots right).

When HMAS *Waller* sank a destroyer hulk at RIMPAC, it became the first submarine to successfully fire the new heavyweight torpedo

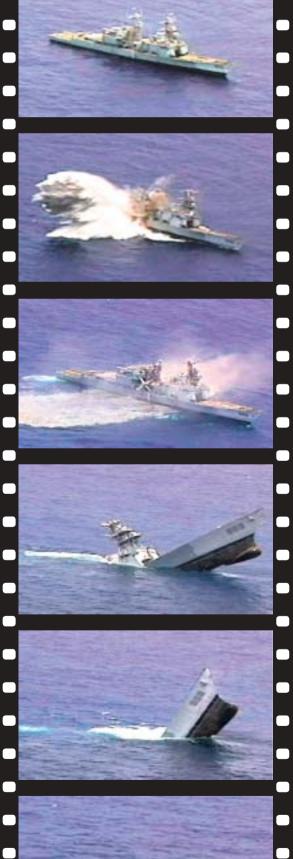




More pictures, Pages 14 and 15

Sporting life, Pages 24, 25 and **Back Page** 

> Yea-ha, Anzac lines up, Page 3



#### Waller wallops old destroyer with devastating demo of new heavyweight torpedo

#### From Page 1

02

The MK 48 Mod 7 common broadband advanced sonar system (CBASS) torpedo is the latest enhancement for the MK 48.

Considered the world's premier submarine-launched torpedo, the MK 48 Mod 7 represents a superior capability against both surface ships and submarines with sonar enhancements that make the torpedo an effective weapon in shallow water and in a countermeasure environment.

The development of the CBASS torpedo has been achieved under an armaments cooperative program between the United States Navy (USN) and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

This partnership has established common requirements, interfaces, con-

figurations and maintenance standards enabling any Australian or US submarine to load torpedoes prepared by any Australian or US torpedo maintenance facility.

This submarine partnership has also led to co-development of a new replacement combat system, which is being progressively integrated into USN nuclear submarines and RAN diesel-electric submarines.

This successful live fire exercise underscores the maturity of the joint torpedo and submarine combat system programs for the RAN and USN.

"For Australia in particular, this exercise has been a successful demonstration of the ongoing capability of the Collins class submarine," Mr Fitzgibbon said.

The development of the CBASS torpedo has been achieved under an armaments cooperative program between the United **States Navy and** the Royal Australian Navy



HMAS Waller Commanding Officer, CMDR Brett Sampson

#### **Stirling opens** new facility

#### By LEUT Gary McHugh

HMAS Stirling has marked the integration of the MU90 exercise torpedo into the RAN with the opening of the Torpedo Maintenance and Integration Facility (TMIF).

The event followed the successful firing of the weapon from HMAS Toowoomba in late June.

The opening of the TMIF was the culmination of the MU90's acceptance test and evaluation which will lead to the integration of the weapon into the Navy's surface fleet.

The MU90 was a result of Navy's requirement for a highly capable antisubmarine warfare torpedo system for use in both deep and shallow water.

The project that led to the introduction of the weapon was a collaboration between the Commonwealth and its industrial participants.

# Following in dad's footsteps

#### By Michael Brooke

Former Oberon submarine commander Bob Woolrych was all smiles when his son, LEUT Sam Woolrych, clinched a swag of awards at the PWO 42 graduation ceremony at HMAS Watson (CAPT Ray Leggatt).

LEUT Woolrych was crowned the Sydney-Emden Award winner as the dux of PWO 42, which with 12 graduates marked the largest graduation since 2003 when the training continuum was restructured into two separate phases to accommodate the increased emphasis on sub-specialist training and fundamentals.

LEUT Woolrych not only received the Sydney-Emden Award but the Naval Warfare Officers' Association Award. Earlier in the day he received a Commendation from CO Watson to record the "trifecta".

LEUT Woolrych's academic success marked yet another milestone for a Navy family.

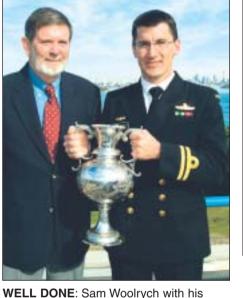
"I couldn't be more proud of my son because of the hard work he has put into his studies and his career," said Mr Woolrych, who commanded Oberon submarines including HMAS Orion.

LEUT Woolrych, who has joined HMAS Kanimbla, said that his father had a big influence of his career choice but not to the extent of becoming a submariner.

"I guess I was always going to join the Navy, but dad and I are opposites in respect to me being a surface warfare officer and him having been in subs," he said with a laugh.

LEUT Michael Newman received the Saint Barbara's Association Award for the graduate displaying the highest proficiency in practical gunnery.

The PWO graduation ceremony on July 17 was attended by the Chief of Navy, VADM Russ Crane AM, CSM, RAN, COMAUSFLT, RADM Nigel



father Rob Woolrych after being awarded the honour as dux of PWO 42.

Coates and CANSC, RADM Stephen Gilmore, as well as the President of the Naval Warfare Officers Association. and CDRE Brian Robertson (Rtd).

CAPT Leggatt said PWO 42 course marked the largest graduation for several years.

Before graduation, the 12 students completed PWO sea assessment week (SAW) onboard HMA Ships involved in Exercise Singaroo.

During PWO SAW the 12 were subjected to the intense pressure of making critical command decisions in the time it takes an anti-ship missile to penetrate a ship's layered defence.

The students dealt with numerous challenges and unrelenting mental fatigue during the exercise that served to underscore the huge responsibility and pressure shouldered by PWOs.



BRAVE NEW FUTURE: From left - Standing: RADM Stephen Gilmore, LEUTs James Lawless. Michael Newman, Geoffrey McGinley, Eric Radford, Cindy Jenkins, Brendan Ohara, Timothy Cox, Mile Madarac and Adrian Scott, CDRE Peter Lockwood Sitting: LEUT Tina Maguire, CAPT Ray Leggatt, Chief of Navy VADM Russ Crane, LEUT Sam Woolrych, Fleet Commander Australia RADM Nigel Coates and LEUT Nicholas Ellul.

During the exercise the students were confronted with many challenging scenarios that involved not only fighting the ship but also managing air assets including AP-3C Orions in an action against an enemy submarine played by HMAS Collins.

CAPT Leggatt said PWO SAW tested the students' ability to make command decisions in a time of crisis.

"Being a PWO is knowing all about the warfare situation and how to fight the ship in a range of pressure-cooker situations in a single or multi-threat environment," CAPT Leggatt said.

"A PWO has to be prepared to make a command decision in a split second, which is the time it takes for an anti-ship missile to penetrate the ship's multi-layered defence."

#### First public duty for CN

In his first public act as Chief of Navy, VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSM, welcomed 12 new principal warfare officers into the Fleet at the PWO 42 graduation ceremony at HMAS Watson.

VADM Crane told the graduates that in pinning on the PWO badge they had accepted a role of great responsibility and one that demanded nothing but their best

"An 'off day' in your new role could have the direst of consequences," he said. "Every time you take the watch you are the sharp end. You are fighting the ship. You are keeping the crew safe."

CN told the PWOs that the RAN had many skilled and motivated per-

sonnel including ops room staff, communicators and engineering technicians to help them get the job done to the highest degree of professionalism.

"Your unique skill set, and the experiences you will gain in the coming years, place you in a prime position to take the Navy forward into the future," he said.

CN urged the PWO graduates to "work hard and aim high", because "who knows what can happen."

VADM Crane said the state-of-theart platforms coming on-line during the next decade mark a quantum leap in capability and make for an exciting future for all RAN personnel including PWOs.

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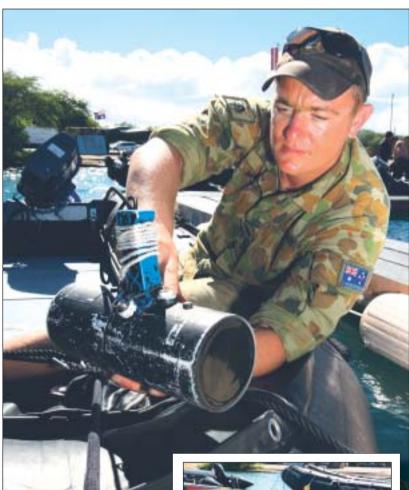
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# **Divers take lead at Rimpac**



READY TO GO: ABCD Nathan Moore tests the hand-held sonar equipment on one of the clearance dive team's Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats.

**RIGHT:** One of the four Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphins used to assist in mine counter measure operations **Photos: ABPH Lincoln** Commane





FIRE: HMAS Anzac fires its five inch Mk45 automatic rapid fire gun during the extensive combined operations at sea. Photo: CPL Ricky Fuller

#### Yea-ha, Anzac lines up too

HMAS Anzac (Captain Stuart Mayer) certainly wasn't wearing a cowboy hat during exercise RIMPAC) 2008, but they were involved in a rodeo involving the other participating nations in the exercise. Anzac participated in a live firing sce-

nario called the 'Naval Gunnery Rodeo' during RIMPAC 08 which allowed them to compete with other nations for the coveted RIMPAC Gunnery Trophy. A large number of ships took to the gun line to fire live rounds at a target simulating a fuel depot. The trophy, awarded to the unit with the most accurate gunnery per-

**NAVY NEWS** 

formance, was to be announced at the RIMPAC closing ceremony on July 31.

Anzac performed admirably, and after warming the barrel of her Mk45 five inch gun with 10 practice and targeting rounds, they opened fire on the Naval Gunnery Range off the coast of the Hawaiian island of Kauai, successfully destroying the simulated fuel depot.

The Naval Gunnery Rodeo was the highlight of a number of five inch gun live fire exercises which allowed the weapons and operations teams onboard Anzac to hone their skills in a variety of different scenarios.

#### By LEUT Darren Mallett

Australia took the lead in a combined task group of clearance divers from five nations during Exercise Rimpac 08 in Hawaii.

CMDR Dean Schopen was in charge of almost 150 personnel from Australia, the US, Canada, Britain and the Netherlands.

"This is the first time Australia has commanded such a diverse and skilled group of divers from these nations," CMDR Schopen said.

"Every country here has brought something to the table for this exercise that others do not have or at least do as well.

"My role is to integrate the effort to make sure we achieve our training and tactical objectives, while ensuring teams and individuals get something out of the experience.'

For the Australians, who are among world leaders in very shallow water mine countermeasures, that means showing other nations our techniques and sharing some methodology and training procedures.

CMDR Schopen said that the capabilities of his team complemented the amphibious role Australia is very much involved in during RIMPAC.

One of the most interesting systems on show was the United States



SHOWING THE WAY: Australian clearance divers from Australian Clearance Dive Team (AUSCDT) one and four.

San Diego, California, the program uses trained dolphins to perform a number of tasks beyond the scope of a human diver. The US Navy flew in four dolphins.

In the operation of this system, a dolphin receives a cue from its handler before beginning to search a specific area using its biological sonar called echolocation.

"When a dolphin echolocates, it emits a series of clicks that bounce off an object, allowing the mammal to construct a mental image of the target. The dolphin reports back to its handler, giving one response if an object of interest is detected and a different one if no target object is detected," CMDR Schopen said.

If a mine-like target is detected, the handler sends the dolphin back Marine Mammal Program. Based in to mark its location so the object can

be avoided by Navy vessels or dealt with by Navy divers.

03

CMDR Schopen said the use of dolphins offered reliable and effective mine detection and marking capabilities in areas that are highly cluttered or where rough seabed, high marine growth, and other complex acoustic conditions make it difficult to identify possible mines using normal sonar systems

Other pieces of technology used by nations attending RIMPAC include automated underwater vehicles (AUVs) which are programmed to search seabeds and return with sonar images.

"Those images are then analysed by experts for objects which may require further investigation," said CMDR Schopen.

"Australia has limited practical experience with AUVs but we have very good theoretical background in this technology. The RIMPAC experience is a great opportunity for us to see how other countries apply this technology."

From the experience gained in this forum, CMDR Schopen and his counterparts from the participating countries expected to draft a document on shallow water mine countermeasures mode of operations, for presentation to a NATO forum on the subject.



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#### SEA CHANGE

# **FSU success at Fleet Base West**

#### Enhanced fleet support to be available in Sydney

#### By LCDR Ian Lumsden

The improved Naval engineering capability at the Fleet Support Unit -Perth (FSU-Perth) due to the Enhanced Fleet Support (EFS) project is making a big impact at Fleet Base West.

The EFS Project is one of many Sea Change initiatives that are intended to provide a better work/life balance for crews in their home ports by implementing measures aimed at reducing dutywatch numbers.

The support for FSU-Perth was developed from a chief staff officer (engineering) proposal for contractor support enhanced by the EFS project to provide respite for ships' staff.

The EFS Project Manager CMDR Chris Wright, said that success and wide acceptance of the initial implementation has resulted in the FSU-Perth contract with David Miers and Associates Pty Ltd (DMAA) being extended for a further 12 months and EFS management board approval to tender for a similar capability that will soon be available at FSU-Sydney.

In addition to increasing the number of competency log completions among junior sailors, the contractors also supervise FSU junior sailors on planned maintenance tasks that would otherwise have been done by the crew.



This has also had the effect of providing respite to senior technical sailors.

The contractors have been so well received at FSU-Perth that DMAA contractor Kevin Douglas (Big Kev) was recently presented with a BZ for his efforts.

Big Kev has been employed since February 08 as the welding and fabrication instructor at FSU-Perth and during this time he enhanced and streamlined the progression of post initial technical training sailors through their competency journals.

To date 35 MTs have been assessed and trained in basic welding and fabrication skills. Outside the MT training regime, one ABET has also been assessed as competent in basic welding.

The award reads: You have a natural talent in regards to teaching, this coupled with your vast technical knowledge and experience and ability to establish a good rapport with the young SMNMTs has earned you their respect, and enables you to get the best out of them.

Your jovial banter helps break down barriers and lessens the tensions associated with the training environment.

You have a sharp, some would say wicked, sense of humour and are able to pass on many life skills to our junior members.

Your bottomless pit of patience has been tested by our young trainees on many occasions but as yet has remained intact.

Your Geordie accent has endeared you to our workforce and made sure that we all listen very carefully (we all thought he was Scottish). Well Done!

Big Kev is one five contractors who are employed as part of the EFS project at FSU-Perth.

In addition to Big Kev who is a boilermaker-welder there is a refrigeration specialist, a high-power electrician, a communications specialist and a diesel fitter who is also the team leader

The contractors are all experienced professionals in their area of expertise and supplement Navy's current shortage of senior technical sailors.

This concept is a great initiative for Navy as it has the potential to increase the amount of time that sailors have with their families when in homeport.

The current scope of the FSU contracts is limited to augmenting mainte-



'ENDEARED' GEORDIE: OIC Fleet Support Unit Perth, LCDR Cassandra Ryan, and staff at FSU-Perth present 'Big Kev' with his BZ. (L-R) SMNMT Shane Snell, LCDR Ryan, CPOMT David Turnbull, Kevin Douglas and SMNMT Warwick Hepenstall.

making routine maintenance easier for to ships duty watches in MFUs and ships alongside.

But the main focus of the EFS home port.

nance staff supervision with the aim of project is to deliver contractor support submarines when alongside at their



# **Opening gangways** for a good cause

More than \$3500 raised for Variety



JUMPING FOR JOY: Sixty people attended the tour, including families with young children, teenagers with an interest in the Navy and its history, and some old salts' who had long ago 'swallowed the anchor' but fancied a trip down memory lane.

#### **By Michael Brooke**

05

Sailors volunteered their precious time and RAN warships opened their gangways on Sunday, July 13 to treat 60 members of the public to a fascinating tour of Sydney's Garden Island naval base.

More than \$3500 was raised which will be given to Variety the children's charity by the Navy Team participating in the 2008 NSW Variety Bash.

Sixty people from all walks of life attended the tour, including families with young children, teenagers with an interest in the Navy and its history, and some 'old salts' who had long ago 'swallowed the anchor' but fancied a trip down memory lane.

The tour started with HMAS Manoora (CMDR P.K Mandziy) hosting a morning tea.

"Variety is a very good charity," the ship's XO LCDR Chris Gudgin said, "and even though we are in the middle of a very busy period, we were very happy to be able to assist in raising funds for this worthy cause.'

Not only did the tour include HMAS Manoora and the upgraded FFG, HMAS Sydney (CAPT Braddon Wheeler), but visitors also had a rare glimpse of the World War II tunnels under the main part of Garden Island and a look through the Captain Cook dry dock pumphouse.

Guided by Thales' history buff David Stockman, the walking tour covered some 4km.

Two of Mr Stockman's colleagues also took the participants to the RAN Heritage Centre and the site of colonial Sydney's first graffiti; some rock engravings by some crew members of the Royal Navy's HMS Sirius.

One of the visitors Mr Jim Ponting, who participated with his wife, said: "There was more to it than we thought and we both really loved our visit."

Mr Laurie Scutts, a former leading radio operator said that it was "great to meet new friends both 'civvy' and ex 'pussers' and it brought back a lot of old memories.'

The popularity of the tour highlights the success of Navy's community engagement strategy as well as the respect and admiration the public has for the RAN's important role in national defence.

The public will be offered another opportunity to inspect Garden Island and ships alongside at FBE on September 27 during Navy Week.

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# **Exercise Kakadu IX heats**

#### By LEUT Travis Crozier

The Royal Australian Navy's premier multinational maritime exercise for 2008, Exercise Kakadu IX, is underway in the northern Australia exercise area (NAXA) off Darwin.

The 19-day exercise has brought together around 2000 defence personnel from Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Japan, Thailand and the French Armed Forces – New Caledonia, with observers from India, the Philippines and Indonesia.

This biennual exercise is to improve the Australian Defence Force's ability to work with international naval forces in maritime contingency operations and evolutions.

Exercise Kakadu IX is the largest in the series and has an impressive line up: replenishment vessel HMAS *Sirius*, Anzac class frigate HMAS *Toowoomba*, Adelaide class frigate HMAS *Melbourne*, submarine HMAS *Collins*, Armidale patrol boats HMA Ships *Maryborough* and *Maitland* and two mine clearance vessels, HMA Ships *Diamantina* and *Gascoyne* are representing the RAN.

An RAAF Hornet and Hawk fighter strike aircraft and two AP-3C Orion maritime reconnaissance aircraft are also participating in the exercise.

"Exercise Kakadu IX is part of a long-running program of wider regional confidence building measures," said RAN Deputy Fleet Commander, CDRE Simon Cullen, at the opening ceremony. TOP END WELCOME: Pakistan Navy Ships *Nasr* (left) and *Babur* at sunset in Darwin Harbour during the harbour phase of Exercise Kakadu. Photo: LSPH Helen Frank

ARTITICA

"Kakadu IX is one of the most important regional maritime exercises the Royal Australian Navy conducts in its program of major service activities."

With a busy schedule of briefings and shore-based activities for the harbour phase, all personnel prepared thoroughly for what was in store over the coming weeks at sea. The foreign visitors enjoyed the great lifestyle and weather of Darwin, with a number of cultural tours on offer.

The highlight for most visitors was getting up close and personal with some of Darwin's finest locals - the crocodiles and some snakes.

The RAN was also active in the local community with HMAS

*Melbourne's* embarked Seahawk visiting local Palmerston High School as part of the Navy's ongoing recruiting activity.

The sports day wrapped up the harbour phase and the team spirit shone through as nations merged and mixed teams competed throughout the day in a number of sports, with everyone a winner at the end of the day. With the sea phase now underway the action will heat up as the task group takes to the seas and brings to the fore their mariner and war fighting skills.

 For ongoing updates and images, see the official Kakadu IX website at www.defence.gov.au/kakadu08

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# up off Top End



I SEE YOU: HMAS *Collins* launches a flare as it moves past Singaporean corvette, RSS *Vengeance,* during Exercise Kakadu IX. Photo: LSPH Helen Frank

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TOUR GUIDE: POMT David Ward showing observers from foreign Navies around the engine spaces of HMAS *Melbourne*. Photo: LSPH Nina Nikolin



CLOSE ENCOUNTER: A sailor from Papua New Guinea comes face to face with a python being kept by Lauren Mitchell from the Didgeridoo Hut. Photo: ABPH Bradley Darvil



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## **Changes to redress of grievance rules**

#### By CPL Andrew Hetherington

Changes to regulations governing redress of grievance (ROG) procedures will streamline the process for ADF personnel.

They encourage personnel to consider administrative resolution or alternative dispute resolution options before they enter into the ROG proc-

The changes implement the recommendations of the former Government's response to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References committee's 2003 inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's military justice system, as well as the

review of the ROG system.

Director General Fairness and Resolution (FR), People Strategies and Policy Group, Di Harris, said a significant example of the streamlined process was the removal of complaints about ratings on performance reports from the ROG system.

"When a member receives a performance report, there is a representation process which goes with it. If they are not happy with what the assessing officer has said they can raise it higher, with the reviewing officer, who can amend the report if appropriate," she said.

original ratings, submitting a complaint through the ROG process cannot achieve a different outcome. However, if a member believes there was bias in the assessment process, or that the process was flawed for some other reason, they can still submit a ROG on those grounds.

Similarly, ROGs cannot be submitted in relation to matters while they are the subject of notices to show cause or termination notices. Once a decision has been made in these matters, however, a member can submit a ROG if dissatisfied with the outcome or the way the process was conducted."

Other changes relate to timeframes "If, in the representation process to submit ROGs after an event and the

2004 CDF and Defence Ombudsman the assessing officer stands by the time it takes to resolve a complaint. FR legal officer Michael McCulloch said that previously there was no time restriction on submitting a ROG.

"Now ROGs must be submitted within six months of the member becoming aware of the matter about which the ROG is being lodged, unless they relate to decisions terminating a member's service, which are to be submitted within 14 days," he said.

"Unit COs now have the requirement to attempt to resolve ROGs within 90 days, or Service Chiefs can choose to intervene and take over the management of the ROG.'

This change will promote the efficient management of ROGs at unit level, will give Service Chiefs mo visibility of ROG handling and, in most cases, ROGs will not be left unresolved for more than three months.

Ms Harris said: "In the past few years we have been working to bring down the average handling time for ROGs at the unit level. With better advice and assistance now being provided to COs, most ROGs are now finalised within units in just under three months.'

> Full details of the changes to the ROG process can be found at http:// intranet.defence.gov.au/home/documents/data/DEFPUBS/DGM08/ dg234\_08.pdf or http://intranet. defence.gov.au/fr/CR/crhome.htm

#### Reunion at Kokoda

Six serving and former members of the RAN enjoyed an arduous nine-day reunion in June by walking the full length of the Kokoda Track.

Following the path taken by the Australians during their desperate fighting retreat in August-September 1942, they retraced the series of bloody jungle battles which delayed, then finally halted, the Japanese advance just outside Port Moresby

The six trekkers had all joined the RAN College at HMAS Creswell more than 30 years earlier and the expedition meant a lot of catching up needed to be done.

Time for reflection was also not ignored and memorial services at the battle sites of Isurava and Brigade Hill were particularly moving.

Picture shows from left: LCDR Graeme Lunn (Rtd) (now working with British Airways); LCDR Michael Galvin (Rtd) (Qantas); Cadet Midshipman Paul Konings (Rtd) (Australian Federal Police); CMDR Peter Kelly (Australian Command and Staff College); RADM Peter Jones (Chief Information Officer Group); and CMDR David Stevens, RANR (Sea Power Centre - Australia).

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Former Chief of Navy VADM Don Chalmers is one of 11 members of an independent Defence Honours and Awards tribunal named by the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, Dr Mike Kelly, on July 23.

Dr Kelly named Emeritus Professor Dennis Pearce as Chair of the tribunal. Others appointed as inaugural members of the Tribunal are:

- Mr Adam Bodzioch, former senior state public servant, South Australia;
- BRIG Gary Bornholt (Retd), former senior Army officer, ACT;
- Dr Jane Harte, psychologist, Queensland;
- Ms Christine Heazlewood, lawyer, Victoria;
- Ms Sigrid Higgins, barrister, NSW; Professor David Horner, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University, ACT;
- Mr John Jones, former HR manager, NSW:
- AIRCDRE Mark Lax (Retd), former senior Air Force officer, ACT; and WO1 Kevin Woods, former Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army, ACT.

"Professor Pearce is a distinguished Australian academic, lawyer and former Ombudsman and Defence Ombudsman, who will make an outstanding contribution to the role of Chair, and the ongoing establishment and integrity of the tribu-

nal," Dr Kelly said. "These appointments to the tribunal ensure a combination of military history, community and professional experience,



as well as a balance across the services, genders and states.'

ONE OF

11: Former

VADM Don

Chalmers

named as

Chairman.

Chief of Navy

who has been

Board of CEA

Technologies.

Dr Kelly said establishment of the tribunal fulfilled a Government election promise, and was an important step in ensuring that Defence Honours and Awards issues were considered independently of both Defence and Government."

Priority issues to be considered by the tribunal are the eligibility criteria for the Australian Defence Medal, and the claims of the Merchant Navy, including recognition for those who served with the United States Army Small Ships Fleet.

Dr Kelly said information on these reviews would be released shortly. VADM Chalmers is the Chairman, Board of CEA Technologies. He was

- Chief of Navy from 1997 to 1999. Further information on the tribunal chair and members is available at:
- www.defence.gov.au/medals

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# Suicide prevention training now available through Defence intranet

#### **Bv CPL Jane Ashbv-Cliffe**

ADF members are now able to complete mandatory suicide awareness training online through CAMPUS.

The Directorate of Mental Health (DMH) has designed the self-paced online training, which includes interactive case studies and website links to further develop every member's understanding of suicide awareness.

The new Defence intranet training came online on July 1.

"The training is an opening for people to gain a better understanding of the warning signs and symptoms of suicide, so they have a better idea of what to look out for and what to do about it," SO1 Mental Health, DMH LTCOL Andrew Cohn said.

"It is an awareness program them an interest to learn more." Before the establishment of of unit commanders.

the Mental Health Strategy in

#### **HELPING HAND**

#### **Provide AID**

A – ASK directly and don't be afraid to ask – 'Are you thinking of killing yourself?' I - INTERVENE - immediately

#### D - DON'T keep it a secret

#### Secure LIFE

L – LOCATE HELP I – INFORM – chain of command

F – FIND – someone to stay with the person

E – EXPEDITE – get help immediately

to teach ADF members what they had not been standardised across need to know, but also to instil in Defence and was not mandatory; it was delivered only on the request

"The suicide rate within the 2002, suicide awareness training ADF has declined considerably

since the Mental Health Strategy was introduced and the ADF suicide rate is just over half of that in Australian society," LTCOL Cohn said.

09

COs are encouraged to explore the subsequent levels of training offered by Defence including KYMS-Suicide (Keep Your Mates Safe - Suicide) and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training).

ADF members can obtain further information through DMH, their Regional Mental Health team, the Psychology Support Section, Medical Centres, Padres and DCO.

LTCOL Cohn said there were many mental health professionals in Defence "willing and able to help, and it is OK to talk about it".

For more information visit DMH on http://intranet. defence.gov.au/dsg/sites/dmh/ or www.defence.gov.au/health/ DMH/i-dmh.htm or email DMH.mentalhealth@defence. gov.au

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#### **Common tax questions and answers written specifically for Australian Defence Force personnel**

To assist ADF Members prepare their 2007/08 income tax returns, the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has provided a series of questions and answers relating to matters commonly affecting ADF Members. As tax affects ADF Members in different ways, the list is not exhaustive and should only be used as guide. Should you require specific taxation advice relating to your circumstances you should seek independent advice from your personal taxation advisor or directly from the ATO when completing your income tax return.

For further information, the ATO can be contacted on 13 28 61 or online at: www.ato.gov.au

#### 1. Question

If I deploy on foreign service to a non-warlike operation for an expected period of four months, and then have to return to Australia for compassionate reasons for nine days, will I incur a break in foreign service for the purposes of qualifying for a foreign employment income exemption ('section 23AG exemption')?

#### Answer

No. When compassionate leave is granted for reason of an accident, illness or death of another person there will be no break in foreign service. That means you still qualify for a foreign employment income exemption.

#### 2. Question

If I'm posted overseas to perform diplomatic duties, why might I be excluded from claiming a foreign employment income exemption ('section 23AG exemption')?

#### Answer

Personnel posted overseas to perform diplomatic duties may attain diplomatic status, and the privileges and immunities that go with that status. This can include exemption of a person's diplomatic service remuneration from the income tax of the country where they are posted.

You would be excluded from claiming a foreign employment income exemption if you did not have to pay tax in the country where you earned that income only for any of the following reasons:

- a law of another country
- the operation of a tax treaty, or

• an international agreement to which Australia is a party dealing with the privileges and immunities of diplomats, consuls, or persons connected with international organisations.

#### **3.** Question

While deployed to a United Nations (UN) operation that is classified as warlike, I was paid Mission Subsistence Allowance. It is paid directly to the member by the UN. What are the tax implications for members in receipt of this allowance?

#### Answer

The allowance is included in your assessable income as foreign employment income.

If your salary qualifies for an exemption, the allowance will be part of that exempt income.

An allowance earned by a person serving as a member of the Defence Force is exempt from tax if conditions relating to operations in warlike areas are satisfied. You should check with the Department of Defence to determine if your service meets these requirements.

The allowance may also qualify for foreign

employment income exemption ('section 23AG exemption').

Where a resident taxpayer is engaged in foreign service for a continuous period of not less than 91 days, any foreign earnings they derive from that service will be exempt from tax in Australia. If the allowance paid is directly attributable to the foreign service, the allowance will be considered to be foreign earnings and exempt from income tax.

Your foreign employment income is not exempt from Australian tax if you did not have to pay tax in the country where you earned that income only because of:

- a law of another country
- the operation of a tax treaty, or
- an international agreement to which Australia is a party dealing with the privileges and immunities of diplomats, consuls, or persons connected with international organisations.

(For more information see Exempt foreign employment income on the Tax Office website.) However, if this income is not exempt from tax, you may be eligible for an overseas forces tax offset. (For more information see What is the overseas forces tax offset? on the Tax Office website.)

Note: To determine whether any foreign income amounts are assessable, you may need to consider any double tax agreement Australia has with the foreign country.

#### 4. Question

My wife and I are both Squadron Leaders in the Royal Australian Air Force. We have three school aged children. Do we have to pay the Medicare levy?

#### Answer

A Defence Force member is fully exempt from the Medicare levy for any period where the member, and their dependants, are entitled to receive full free medical treatment under Defence Force arrangements.

Where a Defence Force member is entitled to free medical treatment, but the member's dependants are not entitled to receive free medical treatment, the member is generally liable to pay half the Medicare levy.

Where both the taxpayer and his/her spouse are Defence Force members, a child of theirs may be treated as a dependant of only one spouse. Only that spouse will be liable to pay one half of the levy and the other spouse will be exempt. You will both need to complete a family agreement. (The family agreement, and more information about the Medicare levy exemption, are available on the Tax Office website.)

#### 5. Question

I am a Sergeant in the Army and have no other income. I am married with three school-aged

children and my wife does not work outside the home. I also have two school-aged children from my previous marriage who live with their mother in Canberra.

I have just been advised that I have been posted to Darwin where, as it is a remote location, I will be entitled to two Remote Locality Leave Travel entitlements a year. These are designed to give me and my family relief from the harsh climate and to allow us to access medical and other services. I only get this entitlement if I use it—it cannot be cashed out. The total value of the entitlement is \$7,000 per year.

If I take this entitlement how will it affect my family support benefit and my child support payments?

#### Answer

While your employer considers Darwin remote, and therefore provides the Remote Locality Leave Travel entitlement to you for living there, it is not considered a remote location under the Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) legislation. Therefore, the entitlement will be a fringe benefit for FBT purposes (for more information on remote locations and FBT, see ATO Practice Statement Law Administration PS LA 2000/6 on the Tax Office website).

If the value of certain fringe benefits provided to you or your associate exceeds \$2,000 in an FBT year (1 April to 31 March), your employer must record the 'grossed-up' taxable value of those benefits on your payment summary for the corresponding income year (1 July to 30 June). The grossed-up amount reflects the gross salary that you would have to earn to purchase the benefit from after-tax dollars. (For more information see Reportable fringe benefits - facts for employees on the Tax Office website.)

The reportable fringe benefits amounts are also taken into account in the income tests for the family tax benefit and for your child support obligations.



www.ato.gov.au 13 28 61

#### **FEATURES**

# \$750,000 for medal from **First Fleet**

#### **By Bill Richards**

First Fleet convict is credited with production of the Charlotte Medal, said to have been engraved from a surgeon's kidney dish, bought at auction by the National Maritime Museum for \$750,000.

The convict artisan, Thomas Barrett, appeared twice before the Old Bailey before being transported to NSW where he was later hanged for theft.

The museum described the silver Charlotte Medal as "one of the acknowledged treasures of Australia's maritime heritage"

The disc, 74mm in diameter, was engraved by Barrett on the transport ship Charlotte in January 1788 at the end of the First Fleet's long, gruelling voyage from Britain to NSW

It's believed he created the medal while Charlotte and the fleet's other ships were anchored in Botany Bay awaiting Governor Phillip's decision to move north to strike the continent's first European settlement at Port Jackson.

On one side of the medal Barrett engraved a fullyrigged ship secured to a buoy with the sun down near the horizon line on the lower left and a crescent moon and stars on the upper right. On the reverse side of the disc is a short description of Charlotte's voyage from Spithead, England to Botany Bay in the "island of New Holland".

Barrett engraved the medal for the First Fleet's Principal Surgeon John White who travelled with him on Charlotte, and it's believed he used a surgeon's kidney dish to make it.

The director of the Australian National Maritime Museum, Mary-Louise Williams, said the Charlotte Medal would be a cornerstone in the Australian National Maritime Museum collection.

"This one small object is a direct link with that pivotal event in Australia's history – the arrival of the First Fleet at Botany Bay and the subsequent European occupation of the continent," she said.

The museum bought the medal at a Noble Numismatics auction in Melbourne with assistance from the Commonwealth Government's National Cultural Heritage account. The vendor is a private collector.

Barrett, an engraver, appeared before Mr Justice Ashhurst at the Old Bailey, London, on September 11, 1782 charged with stealing a silver watch, valued at three pounds, a steel chain, a watch key, a hook, two shirts and one shift from Ann Milton on July 20 that

He was found guilty and sentenced to death, but was granted a King's Pardon on condition of transportation.

The following year he appeared again at the Old Bailey on a charge of being criminally at large in England. This time he was held on a prison hulk before being sent on board Charlotte.

The ship's 250-day voyage included 68 days at Tenerife, Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town where the 11 ships of the First Fleet were re-supplied and the crews rested.

Barrett was the first European executed for a criminal act on the east coast of Australia.





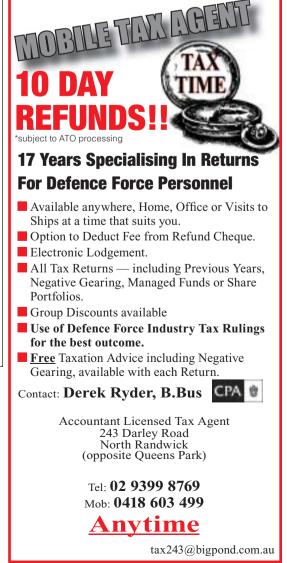
HERITAGE: First Fleet convict Thomas Barrett engraved the medal on board Charlotte using the surgeon's kidney dish.

CONVICT

On February 27, 1788, only one month after arriving at Port Jackson, he was convicted along with Henry Lovell, Joseph Hall and Ryan Clark of stealing food from the common store.

Three of these convicts, including Barrett, were sentenced to death. Two subsequently had their death sentences changed to public floggings, but Barrett was hanged.

The National Maritime Museum has only one other First Fleet item in its collection, a wooden sea chest believed to be the property of convict Henry Kable and brought to the colony by him on board the convict transport Friendship.





NINE STARS TOGETHER: VADM Ian Knox, VADM Mike Hudson and VADM Alan Beaumont pictured in September 1989.

#### Seeing stars again

An email from retired senior officer, VADM Ian Knox, has discredited the one broad and two medium bars of an assertion made with a recent pic of VADMs Tripovich, Shalders and Crane, that "briefly, for the first time in RAN history, we had three, three-star officers".

VADM Knox begs to differ. He says: "I am attaching a photo of myself (on the left, with Mike Hudson seated and Alan Beaumont on the right) taken in September 1989 when Alan was relieving me as Vice Chief of Defence Force.'

REMEMBER THIS FROM OUR LAST EDITION? VADM Matt Tripovich, VADM Russ Shalders and VADM Russ Crane.

As you can see, they are all wearing three-star rank on their sleeves.

Our apologies, it may have occurred earlier in the history of the RAN too. Let us know at navynews@defencenews. gov.au if you know of there being any other instances of the RAN having three, three-star officers at the same time.

 LCDR Antony Underwood, Acting Editor, Navy News



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# Remembering arrival of

#### **By Bill Richards**

he National Maritime Museum in collaboration with Navy's Sea Power Centre - Australia will stage a special sympoium this month to mark the centenary of the American Great White Fleet's cousing visit to Australia in 1908.

With distinguished speakers from the US and Australia, the symposium will be held at the museum, on Sydney's Darling Harbour, on Saturday August 23 – exactly 100 years after the fleet was in Sydney. Admission will be open to everyone.

US President Teddy Roosevelt sent the so-called Great White Fleet, 16 great battleships with smaller escort vessels, around the world to demonstrate America's naval strength.

He wanted to show his countrynen and the world that the US Navy was capable of operating globally, particularly in the Pacific, at a time when America's relations with Japan were becoming uneasy.

The voyage took 14 months, from December 1907 to February 1909, visiting 32 ports in 26 countries including Sydney (August 20-27, 1908), Melbourne (August 29 - Sept 5) and Albany, WA (September 11-17).

Painted in their peace-time livery of white with gold scrollwork and banners of red, white and blue on their bows, the ships made a magnificent sight.

The senior curator of the Australian National Maritime Museum's USA Gallery, Paul Hundley, said the visit had profound social, political and strategic implications for this country.

"Public holidays were declared and more than a million people, a quarter of the country's population, flocked to see the ships and the American sailors on parade," he said.

PAINTED FOR POSTERITY: The Great White Fleet in Sydney Harbour 1908, by Julian Ashton. Collection, Australian National Maritime Museum

The visit released a popular surge for an independent Australian navy, and this eventuated with King George

V granting title to the Royal Australian and celebrate the significance of the Navy in 1911.

"In the bigger picture, Australia started to assert a greater degree of independence from Britain and build a new alliance with the United States."

The symposium, titled Great White Fleet 1908-2008, will explore

A TOAST: Postcard celebrating the visit of America's

Great White Fleet to Australia and advertising Resch's beers. The fleet is shown entering Sydney Harbour, with a bottle of dinner ale and a bottle of lager standing sentinel at either side of Sydney

Heads.

Great White Fleet and its impact on the Australian people, the development of the Royal Australian Navy and Australia's long-term security relationships with the US.

**Continued, Page 13** 



# **RSL Legal Aid**

#### What is RSL Legal Aid?

The RSL Legal Aid Scheme is an initiative of the RSL in cooperation with National Legal Aid (NLA). It is a scheme designed to facilitate the provision of free legal information and preliminary legal advice to Australian Defence Force personnel wherever they may be serving.

Information about civilian law is available from a number of sources, including legal aid commissions and law societies in each state and territory of Australia. Sometimes an understanding of the law relating to your problem will enable you to decide how best to handle it. Sometimes you may also need legal advice. The RSL Legal Aid Scheme is designed to help you obtain information about the law and preliminary advice about your problem.

For information about how to access the scheme, visit the **RSL** website at:

http://www.rsl.org.au

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#### **FEATURES**

# mighty Americans

#### From Page 12

Keynote speakers will include: Dr Jonathan D. Pollack, Professor of Asian and Pacific Studies and Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Studies Group at the US Naval War College, Newport RI, USA; Judith Harley, grand-daughter of Alfred Deakin, Australia's Prime Minister 1903-04, 1905-08, 1909-10; Dr David Stevens, Director of Strategic and Historical Studies within Sea Power Centre -Australia, a unit of the Royal Australian Navy that promotes the study, discussion and awareness of maritime issues and strategy; Dr James Reckner, Executive Director of the Institute of Modern Conflict, Diplomacy and Reconciliation at Texas Tech University, USA. Dr Reckner's publications include a book Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet; Paul Hundley, Senior Curator of the USA Gallery at the Australian National Maritime Museum; and Penelope Grist, honours graduate and researcher at the University of Sydney who has made a special study of ephemera associated with the Great White Fleet.

The symposium will start at 9am and ontinue until 5pm. Registration, at \$25 a person, includes light morning and afternoon refreshments and an invitation to a

museum Great White Fleet cocktail party. For further information about the ypmosium and to register, please phone Paul Hundley at the Australian National Maritime Museum on (02) 9298 3709 or register online – www.

*anmm.gov.au* and follow the links. The National Maritime Museum will also mount two new exhibitions on the Great White Fleet – one to be shown in Sydney and the other to tour Melbourne, Albany and Fremantle.



The visit of the American ships had profound implications for Australia. according to Paul Hundley, who will be one of the speakers at the symposium. 'Public holidays were declared and more than a million people, a quarter of the country's population, flocked to see the ships and the American sailors on parade.'

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA: This illustration symbolising the Great White Fleet centenary, adapted from a contemporary 1908 postcard, portrays the US battleship Louisiana and Australian-American

friendship.



The Australian National Maritime Museum welcomed its 1000th visitor last month under a special program designed to give RAN officer trainees insight into navy history and heritage. The buzzer sounded as MIDN

Bernard Hollis, of Cairns, was recognised as the 1000th initial entry officer through the turnstiles on July 21, and he received a commemorative package of museum publications and souvenirs from the museum .



Hollis.

Officer trainees from the Royal

Australian Naval College at Jervis Bay have been visiting the museum annually since 1991 to board and inspect the museum's Daring class destroyer HMAS Vampire (served 1959 to 1986), its Oberon class submarine HMAS Onslow (1969 to 1999) and take a close look at the museum's Navy exhibition.

On the same visit to Sydney they inspect the RAN Heritage Centre at Garden Island, the Navy's historical collection on Spectacle Island and other Navy heritage sites.

After the presentation to MIDN Hollis, LEUT Brandon Ikimau, a divisional officer at the college, presented a college plaque to the museum



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What does this

mean for me?

What if I need

Where can I find

the new SITCF

FY08/09?

help?

**BIRD AWAY:** HMAS *Anzac* launches a Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile (ESSM) during RIMPAC 2008. **Photo:** CPL Ricky Fuller

**INBOUND:** Australian clearance divers from AUSCDT one and four conduct a practical insertion for Exercise RIMPAC 2008. **Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane** 

SHIP EXCHANGE: CPOCSM Damon Young writes up the schedule of events board in the combat information centre on board the USS *Pinckney*. Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane



**FUEL STOP:** LSBM Rebecca Fealy from HMAS *Success* chats with a crew member as she waits for a replenishment at sea task with USS *Port Royal* during RIMPAC. **Photo:** CPL Ricky Fuller

BOAT MAN: LSBM Ashley Darvill at the helm HMAS *Anzac's* RHIB during exercise RIMPAC. Photo: CPL Ricky Fuller

#### **CENTRESPREAD PAGES 14-15**

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#### RESERVES

# **Reservist seariding welcomed**

high quality personnel is a key priority for the ADF. Here, POMT Andrew Campbell, a member of the **RAN Reserve, shares his** recent experience seariding down the Western Australian coast.

It had been six years since I last set foot on a Fremantle Class patrol boat so, after a recent conversation with a fellow Reservist about seagoing work, I was eager to contact the Patrol Boat Force Element Group (PB FEG).

On offer was the chance to go to sea again and, once the FEG said they were happy for Reservists to do operational relief work on the new Armidale Class boats, I was happy to meet the challenge. I accepted the offer of seariding for a few weeks and, if happy to do the work, return to Darwin to complete the prejoining course.

I arrived on the ship in time to see the handover of HMAS *Albany* to Attack Crew 4. It was reminiscent of the handovers from rocky weekends when we shared attached craft with the seamanship school

Albany's mission was to sail from Darwin to attend a Freedom of Entry march in the WA town of Albany.

My first impressions of the boat were of the modern technology installed and the comfortable accommodation.

From the outset I thought I would try to get the most out of the seariding and, even before we sailed, I began tracing out systems and completing the obligatory questionnaire. After sailing I continued to trace out systems until the weather got

Evansyeend

**Retaining the skills of Navy's** rougher as we moved further south along the coast.

As the weather got worse, I doubled up watch keeping with the technical department. This was very 'civilised' as the watchkeeping was carried out from the Marine Link console on the bridge, with the occasional excursion into the machinery spaces to keep the fuel supplied to the engines.

Our first port of call was Fleet Base West to refuel, but the need for repair of some critical equipment saw us at the Fremantle shipyard of Austal.

Because of the unsched-uled stop at Fremantle we were then required to sail for Albany at higher speed. This was achieved with a couple of hours to spare before the civic reception.

The next day, the crew turned out resplendent and executed a perfect Freedom of Entry march. I didn't have quite enough rig for the occasion so I assumed the role of photographer.

With the march complete, the ship sailed for the Austal shipyard in Fremantle and I departed for Melbourne.

The trip was a great way to whet my appetite for seagoing postings again. In particular, the work offered some rewarding challenges for technical sailors.

Thank you to CO LCDR Viktor Pilicic; the Charge, CPO Andrew Copeland and his technical sailors; and the rest of Attack Crew 4 for their patience in showing me their ship. I intend to complete the follow up course and go OP Relief at the earliest possible time.

BACK ON THE SEA: RAN Reservist POMT Andrew Campbell recently sailed from Darwin to Albany aboard HMAS Albany after contacting the PB FEG and registering his interest in seagoing work.

PHOTO: LSPH Helen Frank



# Service life equips students well for study



ADF Mobile, Ph: 1300787915 or ext. 6157 a CReST 'onboard service' HMAS Cerberus

STUDY WELL: L-R Professor Peter Lee, Deputy Vice Chancellor and Vice President Academic UniSA; His Excellency **RADM Kevin Scarce** Governor of SA; Mr Peter Summers, Chairperson Defence Reserves Support SA; and Professor Peter Hoj, Vice Chancellor and President of UniSA. **PHOTO: Vince Ciccarello** 

#### By CMDR Steve Dunning

The University of South Australia (UniSA) has acknowledged the values, skills and experience that ADF personnel bring with them when they undertake study with the recent launch of its innovative course, Service Learning in the Australian Defence Force.

"This is a fairly novel approach to the idea of experiential learning because we want to use what is being experienced in the working lives of Defence personnel," said UniSA Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Lee.

"By examining and reflecting on their experiences students will be able to research and report against a range of criteria including social responsibility, ethical practice and international perspectives.

"Their studies will help them form lels for best practice in the future and help them to assess their personal and build personal confidence and breadth for professional development through the lens of their practical ADF service.'

Australia, the initiative focused on Reservists but has now been extended to include all serving Defence person- et.unisa.edu.au/courses/course. nel studying a higher degree at UniSA.

It is also open to ADF students at other universities. Chairperson of Defence Reserves

Support - South Australia, Mr Peter Summers, said UniSA has been a strong supporter of Defence projects and was the first university to establish leave policies for both staff and students.

"Staff and students involved in ADF Reserve service have been acknowledged and supported by the university for many years through flexible work and study arrangements," he said.

"The new course is another innovative and practical example of how a tertiary institution has opened up a new pathway to university study, while also acknowledging the values and competencies of Defence training.

Mr Summers said the new subject would be an invaluable addition to egular degree studies because it would the ADF students.

Further information about Service Developed in partnership with *Learning in the Australian Defence* Defence Reserve Support – South *Force* (EDUC 1070) can be found at UniSA: 1300 UNINOW (local call cost) or their website: www.unisanasap?Course=101770

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CReST

#### RESERVES

# **Reservists help at Avalon Festival**

#### By LCDR Mick Gallagher

Reservists made the day when they participated in the recent 2008 Avalon Festival on Sydney's northern beaches.

Hosted by Avalon Beach RSL in cooperation with Pittwater Council, the festival also acted a window for the many visitors to witness the activities of Reservists in the RAN.

The ANR Dive Team Five was there under the supervision of LEUT Joe Clark, CPO Steve Mauger, and CPO Lindsay Brack who joined the ANR in 1965 and has been awarded the Federation Star.

"This is my first time at a Navy display and it's been a great day with the public," said Reservist SMNDVR Ross Pulido.

The Dive Team entertained the crowds by performing underwater tasks, including nought and crosses, in the display tank. They were assisted by three sailors from AUSCDT1.

The RAN Band NSW Detachment was there with Bandmaster CPOMUSN Andrew Stapleton supported by nine Reservists musicians including bugler ABMUSN Terry McCleary.

The band gave a 'big band' concert performance before joining in a Beat Retreat and Ceremonial Sunset that evening, with Reservists from HMAS *Waterhen* forming a guard with cadets from 201 Army Cadets Unit.

An official reception was held at the RSL with many naval and public dignitaries there including the Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Bronwyn Bishop. A/Director Mobilisation HQ ADF LTCOL Eric Stevenson also highlighted the importance of Reservists in the ADF.

Head of Cadet Policy RADM Karel de Laat emphasised the importance of our cadet units and the training they provide for future enlistment into the ADF. "The Festival was a great success and I would like to thank LSCIS Mark Bradbury from HMAS *Waterhen* for coordinating the ANR contribution to the event," said President of the Avalon Beach RSL, CDRE Graham Sloper Rtd, who served in the RAN from 1958-2007.

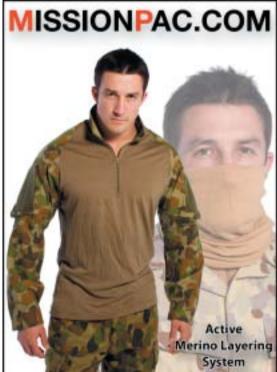






**LEFT:** LSMUSN Tracy Burke, RAN Band Sydney detachment, sings to a large crowd at the Avalon RSL Expo.

**ABOVE:** The RAN Band Sydney detachment prepares for the Beat the Retreat during the Avalon RSL Expo.

PHOTOS: ABPH Andrew Dakin 

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# Chip off the old block of Silver

#### **By LCDR Colin Fiford**

ndrew Silver is a 24-yearold lieutenant who has clear goals, both generally in life, and within his chosen specialisation in the PREL branch.

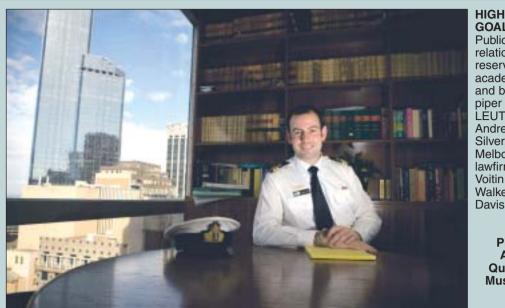
His father is CMDR John Silver and his son is particularly proud to be following in his father's footsteps as a naval officer. They marched together this year in Melbourne on Anzac Day in the HMAS Cerberus contingent, having marched in separate units in recent years. CMDR Silver is a medico who has been closely involved in underwater medicine with the clearance divers.

Andrew was a soldier in Melbourne's Infantry Battalion, 5/6

RVR, during his undergraduate years. Before that he marched with his high school, Scotch College. He recently graduated from Melbourne University with degrees in commerce (specialising in finance) and law.

He remains in academia, undertaking graduate studies in public affairs while doing his articles with law firm Voitin Walker Davis, which is, said Andrew "very supportive of my military service"

LEUT Silver completed his reserve entry officers' course (REOC) in only



six weeks. This has never been done before. Andrew was posted to HMAS

Creswell for Phases 1 and 3 (with

durations of two weeks and one

completed Phase 2.

week respectively). He stayed on at

Creswell for an additional week and

He was then posted to HMAS

Perth for three weeks at sea during an ASWEX (anti-submarine warfare exercise) and the PWO (principal warfare officer) sea training week The first two weeks of that period accounted for Phase 4 of REOC.

On completion, LEUT Silver joined the PREL Management Team. Those clear goals mentioned earlier

GOALS: Public relations reservist academic and bagpiper LÉUT Andrew Silver, at Melbourne lawfirm Voitin Walker Davis.

> Photo: **ABPH** Quentin Mushins

include making a contribution on seagoing exercises, other deployments where available, and in the day-to-day running of the branch.

At 193cm, LEUT Silver would not be out of place on the basketball court. However, he has an unusual hobby that involves chanters and wailing – he's an avid bagpiper.

Anxious to pursue the trigger for this musical specialty, I asked him why. Was it the skirl of the massed bands of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo? Was it some single defining moment? It was neither – just simple curiosity, and the making of a personal vow some years ago that he would master this complicated instrument. And he has There's not even a strong Scottish ancestry, though his great-grandmother on his father's side was a Scot.

He worked at Defence Force School of Music (DFSM ) when he was an undergraduate, both teaching bagpipe playing and performing. He has travelled to Scotland, each of the past two years, to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships.

It's clear, in conversation with Andrew, that he has a real passion for naval ceremony and tradition. This is good news, because, regrettably, most of us would agree that this aspect of our military involvement has been reducing in importance over recent years.

It is particularly pleasing to this writer, an aged warhorse, that there is a young person on the scene with this passion and zeal with respect to tradition, ceremony and history.

Having

your say

By LCDR Priya

Chandra

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The 2008 ADF Reserve

#### TS Tyalgum salutes the new Chief of Navy, a favourite son

#### COTS Tyalgum

Staff, cadets and supporters of TS Tvalgum beamed with pride as a former cadet from their unit, VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSM, RAN took up duties as Chief of Navy this month.

VADM Crane began with the Sea Cadets in 1966-67 at TS Tyalgum at Main Beach on Queensland's Gold Coast before beginning his naval career as a junior recruit at HMAS Leeuwin in 1970.

The unit's Executive Officer, LEUT Rod Sheppard ANC, who met VADM Crane as a junior sea cadet in 1968, said his good friend was still the same levelheaded and humble person he was when he was running around his backyard as a teenager playing cricket.

"He was never a larrikin or outspoken and he was always friendly," he said. "He as CN, your navy cadet unit salutes you.

By LCDR Christine Sheppard ANC, was a keen backyard cricketer, a footy lover and loved the Gold Coast beaches. "We - his group of friends - always

looked up to him; he was a great role model. In all the 40 years I have known him he hasn't changed a bit."

LEUT Sheppard said VADM Crane had told all present when he visited TS Tyalgum in recent years: "This unit is where my Navy career began."

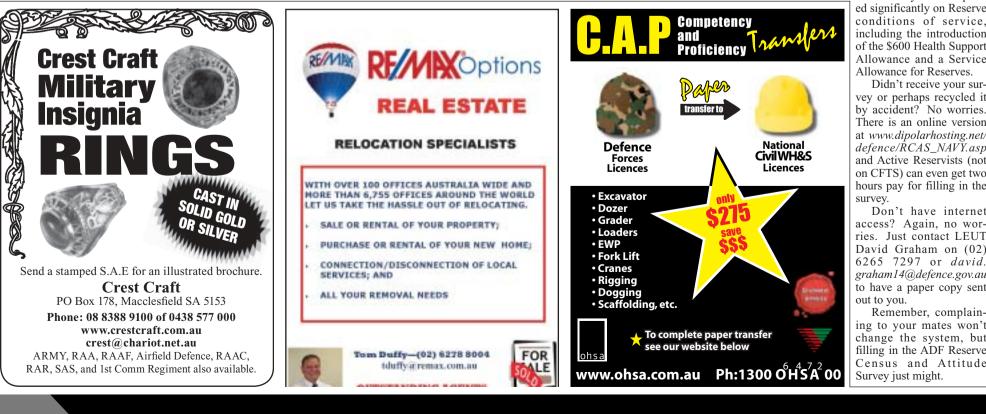
VADM Crane is said also to have made history by being the first person to have begun an RAN career at the lowest rank of a junior recruit and worked his way through to flag rank.

Our unit has followed the career of VADM Crane with continued interest and is very, very proud of his achievements.

Congratulations on your new position



FOLLOWING IN BETTER-KNOWN FOOTSTEPS: The TS Tvalgum cadets.



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#### **RESERVES**

# Hobart cadets put on a show



EXCELLENT JOB: The TS Hobart band performs a criss cross during their full parade demonstration.

#### By AB Carolyn Docking

TS Hobart cadets competed for the title of best cadet unit in Australia on July 20.

The parade was reviewed by the National Commander Australian Naval Cadets, CMDR John Goss, accompanied by CO NHQ-Tas CMDR Tony Vine and Senior Officer ANC-Tasmania CMDR Michael Mann ANC.

The band performed a march and display as a full parade band with a drum russle as part of the marchpast.

TS Hobart CO LEUT Robert Hillhouse, ANC said the cadets had only started performing as a parade band this year

"Anzac Day was the first time we marched as a parade band," he said. "Prior to that we performed as a drum corps."

Guests were given the opportunity to tour the unit followed by observation of two classes that cadets participate in.

Cadets demonstrated a musical theory class and a practice pad drum class where they are taught to play drum solos.

A 40 minute concert followed the classes with many favourites played including an ABBA medley.

LEUT Hillhouse said I am Australian was arranged by LSCDT Kimberley Heap.

"It is a difficult piece, so she arranged the music to give the younger musicians an opportunity to play it," he said.

"Another highlight of the concert was ABCDT Brandon Fletcher playing the didgeridoo.

"I thought they (cadets) did an excellent job.



L to R: RCT Maddy Hollick, LS Kimberley Heap, SMN Chris Hillhouse, AB Victoria Cameron-Tucker, SMN Jonathan Bellinger and AB Olivia Cameron-Tucker.

seamanship based unit so it will be a very difficult decision to choose a winner.

"If we are ever going to win the title, I would hope it is this year as we are at our best and we will lose some key members next year so it will take a few years to build up again."

NHQ-Tas CO CMDR Tony Vine also praised the efforts of TS *Hobart* cadets. "The cadets were very enthusiastic

and well turned out," he said. "They recently worked with the RAN Band at Cerberus and the benefits of that

were quite clear." The inspection was also an opportunity for CMDR Vine to present TS Mersey with the inaugural HMAS Tasmania award for safety management system excellence.

The award has been instituted to recognise the Tasmanian ANC unit which has demonstrated the best safety management system and a proactive safety culture and is named in honour of the destroyer HMAS Tasmania which served "It is hard to compare a band unit to a in the RAN between 1920 and 1928.



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#### GANGWAY



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**NAVY NEWS** 

20

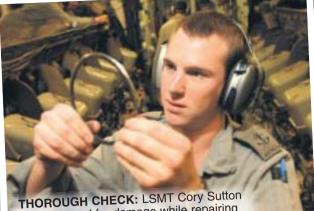
#### GANGWAY



**VOLUNTEER:** ABWTR Renee Thorpe helping out during the Australian reception onboard HMAS *Success* during RIMPAC 2008. Photo: ABPH Craig Owen



**RIDING ON AIR:** ABSTD Michael Kotiw from HMAS *Tobruk* taking a ride in one of USS *Bonhomme Richard's* air cushioned amphibious craft during RIMPAC 08. **Photo: ABPH Craig Owen** 



THOROUGH CHECK: LSMT Cory Suiter checks a seal for damage while repairing a cylinder head onboard HMAS *Manoora*'s engine. Photo: ABPH Andrew Black





HOT WORK: SMNMT Steed Wilson works up a sweat in the engine room of HMAS *Success*. Photo: ABPH Lincoln





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#### PERSONNEL

# **Reserve MOs help out in Timor**

Naval Reserve health personnel joined colleagues from the Army and Air Force on board the 70,000 tonne hospital ship, USNS *Mercy*, to participate in US-sponsored Pacific Partnership 08 humanitarian aid mission in the Philippines, Vietnam and Timor Leste last month.

22

Senior RANR medical officer, CAPT Mike O'Connor – normally a Sydney-based gynaecologist – said the US hospital ship was undertaking two voyages of roughly three weeks duration.

About 25 ADF health personnel had joined each voyage.

The first voyage began in Singapore and included Natrang in Vietnam and Dili.

The ship, with a total patient capacity of about 1000 beds, has 12 operating rooms and beds for recovery, intensive care, intermediate care, light care and limited care, as well as casualty reception, radiological services, a main laboratory and satellite lab, pharmacy, burns care, dental services, optometry, a morgue, laundry and two oxygen producing plants.

Some Australian Reservists worked with USNS *Mercy* in 2005 in the tsunami-devastated regions of South East Asia.

CAPT O'Connor said Reserve surgeons had handled a variety of cases including hysterectomies and corrective surgery on about 100 cleft palates and lips in Vietnam.

He said *Mercy* had undergone a \$38 million refurbishment before Pacific Partnership.

"It was very pleasing to see the number of Naval Reservists who applied to join ship," he said. "In fact, more volunteered than we had places for."

The ship arrived in Darwin on July 27 and has since departed for the next phase of Pacific Partnership with visits to Papua New Guinea and the federated States of Micronesia.



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**RIGHT:** LCDR Bruce Lister takes the wheel under the watchful eye of *Mercy's* Third Officer, Civilian Service Mariner, Benjamin Christian.

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#### LIFESTYLE

# Don't ignore the symptoms

Sub-arachnoid haemorrhage, aneurysm, vasospasms; frightening words that **SQNLDR Steve Laredo** has become intimate with this year. He felt pain and took immediate action.

he medicos referred to it as a 'thunderclap headache' – a rapid and instantaneous onset of the most severe pain you could ever experience.

An aneurysm (a dilatation of one of the arteries in my brain) had burst, flooding the sub-arachnoid area of my skull with blood. In my case, although I was experiencing the worst headache I've ever had, I was fortunate to still be conscious and capable enough to do something about it.

I had experienced a few severe headaches before, but this pain was nothing like that – there was no gradual onset of symptoms, just the 'thunderclap' from the bursting blood vessel. A few years ago a friend of mine suffered a ruptured aneurysm, as had a very close friend of my wife's. This little bit of familiarity with this condition led me to a very rapid self-diagnosis – basically I believed that if anything was going to feel like an aneurysm it would be this – a massive and debilitating pain behind my eyes and across my neck.

Posted to the United States, I was at home only with my nine year old son; I dialled 911 (the US equivalent of 000) within three minutes of the attack. They stayed on the line with me as the symptoms progressed to numbness of

the extremities and nausea, until the fire services arrived, closely followed by the paramedics. The paramedics continued the initial aid started by the fire crew first responders, administering an IV drip and discussed my condition with the local hospital.

Within about 40 minutes of the attack my son and I were in the Reston hospital (about 20 miles west of Washington DC). The initial thoughts were that I was suffering a severe flu reaction, but fortunately the symptoms I presented with mandated a CT Scan which revealed bleeding within the brain. The Inova Fairfax Hospital has one of the best neurological intensive care units in the country, so my son and I were soon in another ambulance for a quick transfer across town.

I had maintained consciousness throughout all this, and distinctly remember the sandpaper like feel of the small drill piecing my skull to insert a tube to relieve pressure around the brain. This drain and accompanying bag was going to be the most significant barometer as to the status of my condition over the next few weeks. The small clear bag drained off cerebrospinal fluid, which under normal conditions should be a clear straw colour, but at this time it contained far more red than it should have.



NOT A GOOD LOOK: SQNLDR Steve Laredo in ICU after surgery.

The neuro ICU contained 20 beds, filled with patients suffering from various neurological conditions. I was one of the fortunate ones, in that I was lucid and able to communicate many alongside me were not. The next 10 days consisted of pain mitigation and methods to reduce cerebral vasospasm (spasm of the blood vessels in the brain to protect it against the increased pressure - however these spasms also increase the risk of permanent brain damage) including drips, a central line, medication and just riding the pain out. On the second and third days an MRI and an angiogram (an x-ray with contrast injected directly into the blood vessels around the brain through a catheter inserted in the femoral artery in the groin) could not reveal the

source of the bleed due to the amount of blood in the area. Now it was a waiting game, hoping that the vasospasms would lower in intensity before they caused any brain damage and that there wouldn't be any further complications.

The pain over the next few days was the most intense I have ever experienced, particularly as the blood in the cerebrospinal fluid flowing around my spinal cord caused excruciating back spasms as well as headaches. Over the next fortnight the fluid from the drain slowly cleared, and the pain subsided enough to enable me to rest almost normally. Another angiogram on the 10th day showed no sign of the rupture that caused the initial bleed, but did reveal another aneurysm that required surgery (some aneurysms can be repaired during the angiogram, unfortunately not in my case).

The operation was 'routine', as it was carried out on a daily basis at the hospital. However I couldn't agree that nearly eight hours on the operating table was routine, particularly for me. The surgery consisted of an incision from the base of my left ear to over my right eye, the scalp was peeled back and several small holes were drilled in my skull. These were then joined via the use of a circular saw, and a piece of skull approximately two inches round was removed from my forehead. The aneurysm was wrapped with cotton to stimulate scar tissue build up, and strengthen the wall of the artery. The piece of skull was replaced and fixed in place with titanium plates, and then the scalp was returned to its original position with the aid of 29 staples. A CT scan showed that everything had gone according to plan. The surgery was a complete success, and I have since made a full recovery.

The purpose of this article is to raise the general awareness of the possibility of this serious illness occurring without warning. If you, or anyone around you, suffers an instantaneous headache and/or neck ache such that has never been felt before, act immediately and call emergency services. Risk factors can be hereditary but treatable lifestyle factors such as high cholesterol and high blood pressure are also important. Unfortunately the only guaranteed way of identifying aneurysms pre-rupture is an invasive procedure such as an angiogram, but new processes are being developed, so the future looks good.



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NAVY NEWS

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#### **SPORT**

# This sporting life at RIMPAC: what



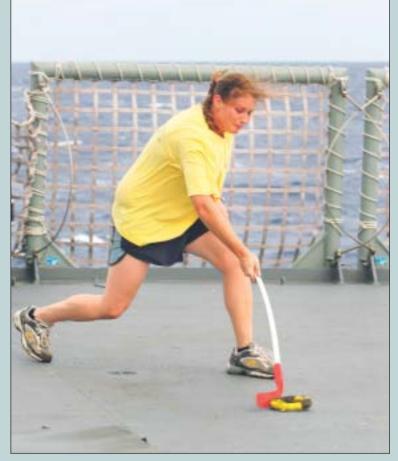


24

SURF'S UP: ABBM Matthew Finigan from HMAS Success surfs it up Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane

SAVING GRACE: The goalkeeper from HMAS Success dives to save the ball against Chilean rivals Riveros #2. RIGHT: Doing battle downfield. Photos: ABPH Lincoln Commane





**PUCK PLUCK:** ABMED Erin Matterson hits the puck out from goals. Sailors from HMAS *Tobruk* pariticipated in a game of flight deck hockey enroute to Exercise RIMPAC 2008. **Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane** 



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#### SPORT

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**TAKE THAT:** The Australian team from HMAS *Success* played the US team from the USS O'Kane in a game of volleyball at the naval station gym on Pearl Harbor. Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane



JUST

SWELL:

prepares himself to surf the waves at Barber's Point.

ABSN Dylan

Skipsey, of HMAS *Anzac*,

Photo ABPH

Lincoln

Commane

GO GIRL, GO: ABSTD Katherine Deacon dives in during the swimming relay. Photo: ABPH Lincoln Commane

25



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from HMAS Tobruk and HMAS

canoe race.

Success competed in the outrigger

Photo: ABPH Craig Owen

REASON TO BE HAPPY: The team from HMAS Success was dominant in the kayak competition in an impressive display of control and good paddling technique. The day's booty included both men's and women's Photo: ABPH Craig Owen



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**NAVY NEWS** 

ESA

#### 26



WINNER: Organiser LSPT Nathan Adamson with Black Thunder captain LEUT Cliff Kyle.

# Big day out for Albatross

#### By Michael Brooke

The prospect of a three-hour bus ride home while lamenting the agony of defeat has again lifted the sailors and airmen from HMAS *Albatross* to victory on the sports field.

*Albatross*'s sporting warriors played with tremendous pride and passion to dominate the Adelaide Cup/Benny Hill touch football tournament which was contested by 15 teams in Sydney on July 21.

In an all-Albatross final, Black Thunder pipped Blue Haven 2-0 to clinch the Adelaide Cup, which was donated by HMAS *Adelaide* in 1989. As first runner-up Blue Haven claimed the Benny Hill plate, which was donated not by the corny British comedian but WOPT Benny Hill more than a decade ago.

Remarkably all three *Albatross* teams marched into the semi-finals undefeated, with HMAS *Waterhen* flying the flag for Sydney-based ships and establishments as the fourth contender.

In the semis, Black Thunder beat plenty of inspiration to excel.



White Knights 4-0 and Blue Haven edged *Waterhen* 2-1 in extra time to book their berths in the final.

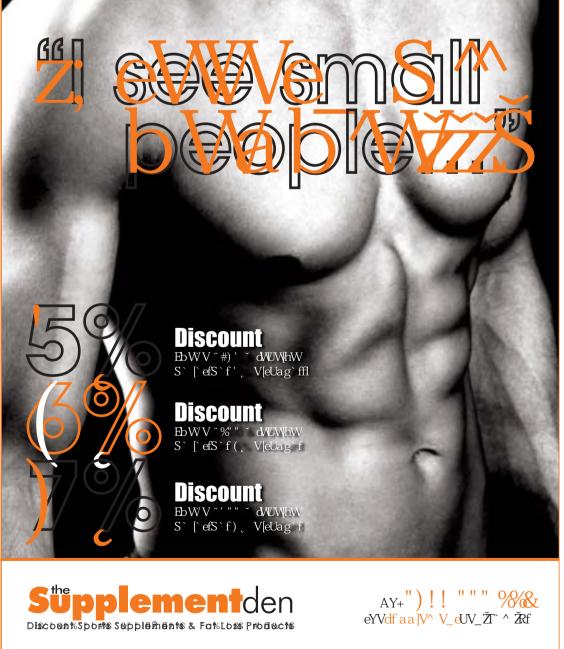
The captain of the triumphant Black Thunder team, LEUT Cliff Kyle, said the prospect of going home empty handed coupled with a three-hour bus ride from Sydney to Nowra provided *Albatross* with plenty of inspiration to excel. CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: ABCSO Lyle Smith carries the ball forward.

> AWAY: ABCSOMW Shane McCabe tries to evade POPT Shane Murphy and POPT Brian Garrety.

> Photos: ABPH James Whittle

"We all play in a mid-week touch comp, so to come here to Sydney and dominate the tournament speaks volumes of every player's dedication and determination," he said.

*Albatross* players also claimed the individual prizes, with LSPT Luke Bradbury voted the most valuable player and PO Benny Seaman winning the 50m sprint.



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**NAVY NEWS** 





SPORT

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August 7, 2008

1

#### SPORT

# Marathon record buster

Navy's LEUT Rowan Walker smashed the Defence marathon record by more than five minutes when he finished in 2hr 19min and 36sec on July 6

To put this into perspective, the speed at which LEUT Walker ran the 42.2 km marathon was equivalent to running at 7min 59sec basic fitness assessment pace.

He was fifth overall and the fastest Australian over the line.

Australian Defence Marathon Championships were run in conjunction with the 30th annual Gold Coast Marathon. This also won him the Oceania Marathon Championship.

In a standout performance in only her third marathon, PLTOFF Lisa Flint, of RAAF Base Amberley, won the women's championship convincingly

PLTOFF Flint finished fifth female overall in 2hr 49min and 22sec, slashing 17 minutes off her previous best time.

WO2 Alisa Wickham ARMY was the second female, crossing in 3:19.40, with Navy's LSPT Tricia Muller a respectable third in 3:38:24.

In the men's event, SQNLDR Richard Gardiner, of RAAF Base Williamtown, achieved an impressive personal best, won his age category and finished second overall in the Defence championship.

Male Defence athletes also featured and over) in 3:09.39 and 3:12:44).



HARD YAKKA: PO Michael Turner in the Gold Coast run.

well on the podium in other championships that were held in conjunction with the Gold Coast event. A record number of Defence runners turned up, with the male runners producing some of the fastest times of recent years.

Navy's CAPT Andrew Whittaker (Campbell Park) and CMDR Andrew Clowes finished second and third respectively in the men's masters (45

Army won the inter-Service championship with 44 points from Navy on 19 and Air Force on 12.

The Defence organiser of the event, SGT Mat Skate said that a total of 75 Defence members entered the event, more than double the numbers of previous years. "I decided to advertise the event at least three months out to give people enough time to prepare themselves for the event," he said. "For

many marathoners, it's about running the distance with as little walking as possible (if any). For others it's about setting goals pre-race and then pushing your body to the limit both physically and mentally to achieve those goals".

► For more information and to view the race calendar for the Australian Defence Running and Athletics Associations (ADRAA) visit www. adf.coolrunning.com.au

#### Not finished with the Kalahari yet

Emboldened by his experience last year, LSBM Ronan Gallagher will contest the gruelling 250km Kalahari/Augrabies Extreme Marathon again in South Africa in October.

"I am looking for a few likeminded individuals to join me," LSBM Gallagher said. "With a little more preparation and a better idea of what to expect this year, hopes are not to just survive the race but also bring a Navy team and some healthy competition."

The extreme marathon is a selfsupported foot race, consisting of six stages over seven days, ranging from 22km to 75km.

All participants must carry their own food, clothing / sleeping and safety equipment for the entire race, with limited water being supplied at stage check points and finishes.

The course route covers various terrain including dry river beds, rocky mountain outcrops, long dirt roads and scenic vineyards.

Anyone seeking information on participation in the race should contact LSBM Ronan Gallagher via email: Ronan.Gallagher@defence. gov.au

> For more information on the event visit: www.extrememarathons.com

#### Brrr, cold comfort for Canberra runner

swapped the Canberra winter for the Northern Hemisphere to participate in the world triathlon championship in June – but if he was expecting summer weather he was mistaken.

The event was held in Vancouver, in the province of British Columbia on the west coast of Canada, which is further north than Hobart is south.

Reservist CMDR Rod Harrod So cold conditions were expected, CMDR Harrod finished fifth in the but in the end it was much colder than most people had even anticipated.

CMDR Harrod, representing Australia in the men's age group 55-59 category, was taking part in his second world triathlon championship.

To gain selection this year, as I could do on the day."

Canberra qualifying races of the

national series in January and second

CMDR Harrod crossed the line in a

was hoping, he said "it was as good

In a field of 75 in Vancouver,

While this was not as good as he

in the Mooloolaba race in March.

time of 2.12.45 for 46th place.

STILL GOING STRONG: CMDR Harrod 2km from the end.

#### Call for golf volunteers

The call has gone out for Navy volunteers to again act as marshals at the Australian open golf championship which will be held this year at the Royal Sydney Golf Club from December 11 to 14.

Volunteers must commit to a minimum of two days and will receive lunch vouchers on the days they work, a four-day pass for themselves and another, a spray jacket, a cap/hat and a polo shirt; limited parking will be available. Additionally, they will be invited to participate in a Marshals' Tournament at Royal Sydney early next year. Contact WO Mark Dolan on 0416 265 185 or mark. donlan@defence.gov.au The deadline is August 27.

#### **Eight Navy women** make All Stars

Navy has had eight women selected for the Australian Services Australian Football Association's All Stars to play in Melbourne on August 9.

The All Stars will meet a Victorian women's development team at the Melbourne Cricket Ground as a curtain-raiser to Collingwood – St Kilda Australian Football League match that day.

The team is: Navy, LEUT Elisabeth Quinn (ADFA Fed Guard, Nav Div), SBLT Sara Mooney (HMAS *Cerberus*), ABMT Jennifer North (Ardent 5, Cairns), LSPT Tricia Muller (HMAS Watson) ABWTR Kathleen Reid (HMAS Cerberus), AB Nikki Furlong (HMAS Cerberus), LSBM Katie Vanhooydonk (HMAS Cerberus), LSNPC Belinda Goldsack (HMAS Cerberus); Army Sgt Davina Pye (UNSWR), Sgt Amy Hall (8CSSB), Sgt Paula Bunting (APA Melbourne), Cpl Margarita Obien (1HSB), Cpl Fiona Ròse (3BDE), Cpl Juana Sargeant (1RTÈ Kapóoka), Cfn Sandii Rixon (1CER), Pte Allison Smith (4CSSB), OCDT Alexandria Smith (ADFA); Air Force, CPL Debbie Grylls (Defence Recruiting, Vic), FLGOFF Debbie Herberz (RAAF Williams, Pt Cook), FLTLT Trinette Bagnall (RAAF Glenbrook), LACW Sharon Purdon (Dir Pers, Canberra), SGT Katie Staines (Russell Offices, Canberra); officials, Maj James Weaver (HQ2DIV), ASAFA; WO2 John Saunders (QUR) Weaver (HQ2DIV), ASAFA; WO2 John Saunders (QUR) coach; CPO Rohan Jennings (HMAS Cerberus), assistant Jason Jennings (1RTR Kanooka) s anner IS Candice Freeman (HMAS Cerberus), LS Renae Fritzell-Flint (HMAS Cerberus), runners.

#### Basketball fightback fails

The South Australian Defence Basketball men's team fought back from a 33-51 half-time deficit only to lose 74-81 to the South Australian Country under-18 men's team at at Minlaton on the Yorke Peninsula recently.

The match was organised in preparation for the 2008 ADF Combined Services Basketball competition.

John Spooner again has taken the role as SA Defence men's coach and did an excellent job guiding the team up to and through their first match of the year. A rematch is planned for later this year in Murray Bridge.



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#### INSIDE



Not done with the Kalahari yet – Page 27



Albatross dominates the Adelaide Cup/ Benny Hill touch football tournament

- Page 26

Runner trims five minutes from Defence marathon record

- Page 27

# RIMPAC's parade of champions

#### By LEUT Darren Mallett

As 20,000 personnel from 10 participating nations descended on Pearl Harbor Naval Station in Hawaii, the first phase of Exercise RIMPAC 08 included a competition over a myriad of international sports.

With planners from all nations locked in conferences for the first week, sailors were able to sample the local lifestyle and engage in spirited sporting competition with their compatriots from other nations.

HMA Ships Anzac (CAPT Stuart Mayer), Tobruk (CMDR Brett Wolski), Success (CMDR Simon Brown) and Waller (CMDR Brett Sampson) provided teams across a number of events, with several notable wins for the Aussies.

Sweeping the places in the individual kayak event, *Success* sailors POPT Michael Hutchesson, SMNMT Steed Wilson and ABET Alexander Mills posted one, two and three in the final. AB Medic Amanda Gray won the women's event.

*Anzac*'s sporting teams also did particularly well, beating an impressive field of competitors to come an overall second in the beach volleyball competition. *Anzac*'s crew also performed well individually with ABCSO Neale Merrick taking out second place in the indoor triathlon event.

*Tobruk*'s soccer team performed admirably, making the final eight in the

#### Photo special of RAN's achievers



Pages 24-25

knockout competition. LEUT Chastelle Griffiths, Deputy Supply Officer from *Tobruk*, placed second overall in the women's swim meet. ABATA Craig Pollock came third in the men's boogie board event. The Australians also fared well in surfing.

Golf was a popular event as multiple teams from the Australian ships enjoyed the chance to play a round in one of the world's most picturesque settings. Predictably the Americans were strong in basketball and volleyball but the spirit of competition was the most important aspect of RIMPAC's opening week. PADDLE POWER: POPT Michael Hutchesson, of HMAS Success, on the way to winnning the individual kayak event at RIMPAC. Photo: ABPH Craig Owen

Photo: ABPH Craig Owen



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## NAVY NEWS 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL









#### Contents

ALL FEATURES GREAT AND SMALL: LCDR Antony Underwood provides a rundown of the past 50 years of reporting in <i>Navy News</i> .	S.4
PICTURE PERFECT: Photographers have played an integral part in the evolution of <i>Navy News</i> . We take a look at some of their special moments.	S.10
THE CHANGING PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN IN <i>NAVY NEWS:</i> We take a look at the way women were featured in the pages of <i>Navy News</i> over the past 50 years.	S.12
THE PRICE IS RIGHT: The art of advertising. The advertisements in <i>Navy News</i> provide a rich social history from which to draw.	<b>S.1</b> 4
MASCOT MANIA: Cats, dogs and even monkeys have made it onboard RAN ships as mascots over the years. This pro- vides a colourful look into the past.	S.15
KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY: The Navy, diving and being featured in <i>Navy</i> <i>News</i> is part and parcel of being in the Foord family.	S.16
FROM ONE HEADLINE TO THE NEXT: Some of the more interesting front pages that have kept our readers informed and entertained over the last five decades.	S.18
LOYAL READER: At the age of 97, Danny Bowden would rank as one of <i>Navy News</i> ' most loyal readers.	S.20
ON THE COVER: HMAS <i>Warramunga</i> encounters rough weather in the Great Southern Ocean.	



**Photo: LSPH Yuri Ramsey** 

A perfect fit, if I may say so, Sir!

## **Message from the Chief of Navy**

**Vice Admiral Russ Crane** 

his year marks an important milestone for our Navy News and it is with great pleasure I welcome the 50th anniversary

edition of the Navy's official newspaper. As I look back through the archives of the past 50 years I am struck by the vast array of events, news and issues which have shaped the Navy we know today. Ships have been commissioned and decommissioned, the Navy has deployed

have joined the ranks of our officers and sailors at sea and ships continue to sail from home ports with farewells and best wishes from our families and loved ones. Through the decades the men and

The Navy News team and many people who have worked to support the coverage of events in the Navy can be proud of the journalistic tradition established and evident in the news summary presented

Whilst there is not enough room to print every single major event, this news summary has attempted to capture a broad cross section of news items printed in Navy News during the past five

women of the Navy have consist-

home and abroad.

within these pages.

decades.

Chief of Navy







THE TEAM: The Navy News team outside R8 at Canberra's Russell Offices. From left: Assistant Kirkpatrick, photographer LS Yuri Ramsey and **Reserve News Editor LCDR Tony Underwood.** Inset is Sydney Reporter Michael Brooke, who recently completed a stint in Iraq as an Army

**DECEMBER 1961** 

Editor John Martin, former Editor David Reservist.

**S.2** 



Mr. H. Kerr, a civilian instructor, shows the new apprentices one of the many machines in the huge hangar work-shops at H.M.A.S. the huge hanger work-shops at H.M.A.S. NIHIMBA. The appren-tices from left to right are Dan Spurrier, Gor-dan Vale, Q'kl; Daryl Williams. Panania, N.S.W.; Peter Hanzen, Cygnet, Taz.; Peter Lamb, Nth. Innaloo, W.A.; Brian Warren, Hobart, Taz.; Rodney Hals, Bulatta, Q'kl; Byron Glover, Henley Beach, S.A. and Russel Hopton, Nunawading, Vic.

## **RECORD ENTRY OF** PPRENTICES IN R.A.N.

Amongst a record number of 56 young men who entered the Australian Navy's Apprentice Training Establishment (H.M.A.S. MBA) at Quaker's Hill Sydney, on January 14 were four apprentices have brothers in the Service. Include DAM

**JANUARY 1962** 

# Those were the days...





All eyes are on the groom, Able Seaman Richard Woods of Villawood, Sydney, and his bride All eyes are on the groom, Able beaman hishard woods of vincewood, Sydney, and his brace formerly Lois Keen of Melbourne on the occasion of their wedding at Garden Island Chapel on January 27, Pictured above (left to right) are the bridesmaid Miss Judy Malone of Ipswich. Queensland, the groom and bride, and the best man, Able Seaman Ron Payne of Newcastle. Both the groom and the best man are serving in H.M.A.S. VOYAGER and the marriage was officiated by Chaplain L. W. Long. R.A.N.

#### **DECEMBER 1962**

#### Navy wife's dreams

"Oh, to be down South How often have you heard that perpetual cry by a Navy wife living out of a Capital city?

Can you imagine her annoyance as she frets, trustrated, longing for the bright lights of the big city?

Then her joy as the news filters through that "Dad" is to be transferred—south. Then follows the frensled packing, attending to

the innumerable details associated with . home monorment

Finally, the farewells, that last handshake, the happy, carefree look back over the shoulder as the homeward journey begins,

Yes, many a Navy wife has gone through those experiences, returned to her home State happily looking forward to a complete change in living conditions a life of ease.

Navy News has, on occasions, heard from wives who have left their homes in the South for the warm climates up north, and judging from their remarks

they have settled in and loved the life. This has applied in particular to those who have been in the Wrans before their marriage, or been the daughters of families with a Service background. They understood the sailor's outlook on life, appreciated that being married to a man in the Royal Australian Navy is "different." It surely is different, and wives, wherever they find themselves hold different

find themselves, hold different opinions about their

life, the change from the city to the . . , and back to their home State. Some feel the urge to take to the pen and express

their views and because they speak with a first-hand knowledge of life they usually present an interesting stor Navy News not long back published a letter from

a young wife who left the pleasures of city life for the North.

She described her apprehension when told that she was to live away from Sydney; found after six months that she loved the life. This week Navy News received a letter from a

Navy wife who has returned to the South from Darwin.

Writing under the pen name of S.A.G., she said she felt constrained to say to those who longed for the life of the southern cities, to "cheer up, it really .had Fasi

"I know. I've left and am in dear old Sydney," she wrote.

"Oh, it hasn't been all fun, a life of ease. Forget that. Instead of washing summer frocks, children's shorts and shirts, baby's napples, and hubby's 10A's, I've been madly washing woollens, winter clothes,

winter woollies, and nightdresses and hubby's No. 8's. "Of course I have skirts, slacks and coats and 1's to have dry-cleaned constantly. But no matter, I'm home.

"Yes, home. Ah, how I thought about that homecoming.

"I had heard all the new homes were being accommodated, that it would be wonderful baving new furniture.

"Of course I realised you pay rent, but what's that compared to me struggling to pay mine off on time payment?

"Now about food! Yes, it's good if you compare family victualling and the canteen. You come out square.

"Meat is almost twice as much here, and not as mice as my civvy butcher supplied. "Prickly heat! What about it?

"I am frantic these days chasing children with dry shoes, warm cardigans and raincoats. I get up in the middle of the night to see if the baby is covered and never is-and the paper says this summer in Sydney is going to be terrible; so what's the bet we

get prickly heat down here, too? "Then, of course, you miss TV. So do I. We just can't afford to buy a set. But the neighbours are very kind and offer to have us in 'any night.' But that means having our kids over, too, or running the risk that they won't suspect we are going out and will go to sleep like good little children and not wake up later!

"Of course, we can go to the Drive In, but it isn't the Army movies, you know, and 5/6 for adults puts us about 7/- behind before considering the family. You lucky people. "Gee, I miss those parties and all the fun.

"Don't misunderstand me. I don't dream of being back in Darwin. I dream of the Navy setting up a Depot in Queensland, where they tell me the sun shines all year round-no wet season-no winter, just one long, pleasant summer.

"Wouldn't that be nice?

"Oh! well, as I said, "Cheer up, girls, it's only for two years'!"

Editor's Note: Come on, Navy wives, how about starting a wives' discussion column? We'll guarantee -S. A. G. to air your views. ......

# **ALL FEATURES GREAT**

A newspaper's job is to cover both ends of the scale. From Vietnam to RIMPAC; from page three girls and multi-million dollar equipment acquisitions to Cyclone Tracy and the 1976 Bali earthquake, LCDR Antony Underwood gives us a rundown of the past 50 years of reporting in Navy News, with the benefit of his 32 years in Defence and Navy Public Affairs.

The views expressed are his own.

JANUARY 1960: New pay rates for Navy personnel.

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ust about everything has changed since the first edition of Navy News hit the streets in 1958. Over the years we've seen parallel transitions in the world of Australian media and the RAN.

The press was the main means of people finding out what was occurring in their society and elsewhere when Navy News was born. Radio news was in its infancy and most Australian services took their lead from what was published in black and white. TV was talked about but the first programs didn't go to air until the following year.

The RAN was 13 years past World War II and, in that time, the carrier HMAS Sydney, equipped with Hawker Sea Fury and Fairey Firefly piston-powered aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm had seen action in Korea and later with other RAN vessels in the Malayan Emergency.

The first edition of Navy News went to press three years into the service life of Sydney's successor, HMAS Melbourne, which heralded the arrival of the first of the turbine-powered aircraft - Sea Venoms and Gannets to be replaced with progressively more potent carrier-launched aircraft.

The early editions of the fortnightly newspaper were produced at Yorkshire House, 14 Spring Street, Sydney and suggestions were that, rather than being publicly funded with some help from advertising revenue, it was a private venture.

My first real contact with the Navy was during Exercise RIMPAC 78 when I was based at Barbers Point Naval Air Station in Hawaii working with the RAAF Orion maritime reconnaissance contingent. I also worked with photographers from

Melbourne's photographic section, obtaining photos and writing stories about sailors ashore in Hawaii. Some of the better shots made their way to Australia and Navy News.

But it was a very different Navy then. Apart from the carrier, with a ship's company of more than 1350, there was HMAS Supply and other vessels with, perhaps, 2500 Australian sailors ashore in Hawaii... and significantly, all of them were male.

Sailor entry to the Navy to learn a trade in those days meant a commitment of 91/2 years...and, of course, it was only available to

men Women could join the WRANS but it was a separate Service, also with strict, but different, rules and somewhat less pay.

Speaking of pay, the January 29, 1960 edition of Navy News shows that an AB artisan was paid 41 shillings and 7 pence per fortnight - that's the equivalent of a little over \$4 at the time we went decimal.

Not too many people owned cars certainly it was a far cry from today when, in some families, each member has his or her own vehicle.

And there'll be a few around who can remember joining the throng outside the electrical shop window to watch the flickering black and white television screen to view shows such as The Untouchables and Peter Gunn. This was usually because our parents could not afford a new TV costing more than £200 at a time when, ads in Navy News show, £100 was sufficient for a deposit on a house.

The latter part of the '50s was, of course, the era when the possibilities of air travel – as a means of international transport – were just beginning to be realised. It was more usual, for young people who had means, to travel on a line voyage to the United Kingdom or other more adventurous destinations.

Those who were well-heeled could go on P&O or one of many other commercial shipping lines, but, for those with an appetite for travel but lacked the means, joining the 'grey funnel line' joining the Navy - was a convenient way of learning a trade, seeing the world, and getting paid for it

Of course, the Navy got it's pound of flesh older ships were nothing if not 'handraulic' and manpower intensive - with chipping, painting and polishing going hand-in-hand with the arduous work of lifting and lowering, maintaining engines and other heavy equipment.

Some ships had steel plates for floors between the triple-tiered racks...others had linoleum on the floor. Crew comforts were generally what you got when you went ashore.

But those who learned a trade when they joined the Navy - such as at HMAS Nirimba, the apprentice training establishment which abutted Schofields



MAY 1959: HMAS Watson's CO and Chaplain inspect the site of the Chapel on the edge of the cliffs of South Head in Sydney.



MAY 1959: Sailors only needed a 10 pound deposit to build a house in Campbelltown, in south-west Sydney.

# and small



As HMAS SYDNEY steamed southwards recently from war iden Vietnam, an official announcement, issued in Canberra, desed that Australia's hard worked carrier had again comed a hazardous operational assignment.

uncement stated that MEY (Captain G.J.B. Crabb) had arked Australian reinforcefor military units in Vietnam.

ever area required. There was no delay. Not all troop personnel went by air. sections designated for

ABOVE: In October 1965 HMAS Sydney was photographed off Vung Tau, Vietnam.

#### BELOW: In May 1964, the troopship HMAS Sydney departed for Malaysia.

BEFS TODR -- Capitoin of H.M.A.S. Sydney, Capitain J. P. Stevenson (left) conducts Chief a Neval Statt Vace-Admirel Sir Hestings Hatrington and Chief of the General Statt Lieut-General Str John William (with hat) on a ship's tour before H.M.A.S. SYDNEY sailed with man In: Malaysin Partly obscured is Rear-Admiral O. R. Becher, Flag Officer In Charge Installen livet, and an the right, the Commander of 1st Pentropic Division, Major-General J. S. (Hans) Anderson

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE troopship H.M.A.S. Sydney DEPARTS FOR MALAYSIA

The Minister for Defence, Senator Shane Paltridge, announced on May If that Australian Forces offered to the Malaysian Government for tasks in neo and Malaya had sailed in the troop carrier, H.M.A.S. SYDNEY.

Dails abound the proopship and webstore troth 5 Squadros

76 Field Squadron an exercitation and a sound and bridges in the Bornso

The 111th Light Anti - Airit luttery will be located Batterworth, Moloryst.

where Boyal Australian Air the Th Pield Squadron Force squadrons serve as and supporting demohiments, Diffi Light Ann Alroratt and the R.A.F. belicopters buy mut tous R.A.A.F. will be made available in support of operations on the The Melaye border.

Senator Paltridge said that in the best interests of notional security and of the Austrolion servicemen concerned, it had been necessary to place some restrictions on the release of information.

As was to be expected, the Services took normal mili-tary security precautions. He realised that there was

ARRIVAL

VIETNAM

a strong public interest in the welfare and activities of

the man going abr The public would be kept informed as fully as was

possible. Security restrictions were under constant review and would be lifted progressively as circumstances warranted.

aerodrome to the west of Sydney - generally received the most thorough training available. A Navytrained 'tiffy (artificer) could generally be relied upon to know what he was doing...be it in a ship, ashore or outside the Navy.

Skills for life were not neglected. A trip 'up top' to sample the exotic delights of Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia or other Asian destinations introduced young Australian sailors to very different cultures.

In step with popular demand, Navy News took to publishing page three girls - girls in bikinis, frequently with the sea as background. The paper usually obtained these from the Sydney tabloid, The Daily Mirror.

Navy News was co-located with the Service's main photographic section in an old National Trust building, Jenner House, in Macleay Street, Potts Point - a stone's throw from HMAS Kuttabul and Fleet Base East.

And a prized job, in an era when the Navy sent its photographers to News Ltd for on-thejob training, was to be attached for a day to the Mirror's top page three girl photographer, Neville 'Nifty' Whitmarsh, as he went about his onerous duties photographing girls in garden or beach settings around Sydney.

The publication kept up with Navy involvement in the war in Vietnam – the former carrier, HMAS Sydney underwent conversion from being a light fleet aircraft carrier to a fast strategic transport to become known as the 'Vung Tau Ferry', moving troops and equipment to and from South East Asia. The paper covered the activities of Navy's Helicopter Flight Vietnam, the RAN clearance diving team and the 'friendly fire' strike that killed two and injured seven on board HMAS Hobart.

The tragedy of the collision between the Daring class destroyer, HMAS Voyager and the aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne 20 miles south-east of Jervis Bay on February 10, 1964, stunned readers of Navy News. Voyager was cut in two by the impact and sank with the loss of 81 of her crew and one civilian dockyard employee and successive editions of Navy News updated the tragedy and its aftermath.

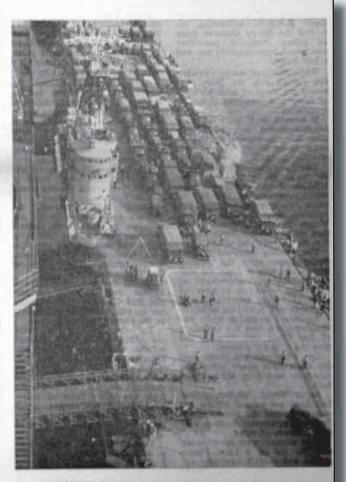
There were anniversaries, weddings, exercises and natural disasters.

RIMPAC – the world's largest maritime exercise, usually hosted by the US Navy out of Hawaii – has

become a biennial commitment for our Navy since the first was held in 1971. And the Service's newspaper has shown the excitement and commitment for RAN units with sports, manoeuvers, weapons firings and runs ashore...and the honour frequently accorded senior Australian officers in allocation of key positions for the exercise.

As Navy News has shown, the RAN has frequently been a mainstay in the offer of help by the Australian Government to communities distressed by natural disasters. The Service mourned the loss of two of its

**CONTINUES PAGE 6** 



H.M.A.S. SYDNEY photographed from the air hefore leaving Garden Island on her mission to Borneo and Malaya. Army transport vehicles line her flight deck.

# **RAN** launches its greatest peacetime operation "NAVY HELP DARW

On the afternoon of Christmas Day, the ord had finally got through to a stunned straka: DARWIN HAD BEEN DEVASTATED A CYCLONE.

the true extent of th station - like some second before in Ann table to Linem. - enly really Navy PRO in Darwin 11.0 any apparent over the tew days as relief

pentrel is and evaca passered out of the sken city. Their tales crut were chilling. cyclone had ever

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JOHN HERBERT.

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The sent day - January 1-the stain body of the First was due to arrive. This consisted of the Firstwith, MELHOUNNE, with the First Commander Boar-Admiral D. C. Wells, on board, and HMAS STUART Administry of the board series art, and their network that morning at seven o their that morning e all waited contrade Neva leadquarters — originally the 154

manding Officer's new - as the two We aptors havered over to cleared hillcopter its supposite Bradquarts

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the Destruyer Tenner carry STALWART arrived. She carry STALWART arrived. She carry Nava

**LEFT: In January** 1975, Navy News reported on Navy's 'greatest peacetime operation' after Cyclone Tracy hit Darwin.



# ALL FEATURES GREAT and small

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5** own when Cyclone Tracy jammed HMAS Arrow

under Darwin's Stokes Hill wharf but rallied in Operation Navy Help with the carrier HMAS Melbourne, five more major fleet units and two landing craft, in an all-out effort to bring relief to the citizens of our northern gateway.

There have been many relief efforts with cyclones, earthquakes and tsunamis since then, where Australian sailors have brought their skills to bear on relieving distress in communities in the island groups near Australia.

Navy News has covered the good times:

- successful exercises and steel beach
- barbecues in exotic locations;
- commissioning of new units and decommissioning of the old;
- the gradual build-up of Fleet Base West to a point where virtually half of our Navy is now based there;
- successful fund-raisers for worthy causes, cake-cuttings and cheque handovers; and
- at least three major anniversaries the Service's 60th anniversary, 75th anniversary, and the Bicentennial Navy Salute to our country's 200th anniversary in 1988.

And Navy News has chronicled the painful times:

- the collision between carrier Melbourne and the USS Frank E. Evans in 1969 which killed 74 young Americans;
- the fire that destroyed 10 Tracker aircraft in a hangar at HMAS Albatross late in 1976; the loss of HMS Invincible as the RAN
- aircraft carrier replacement after the RN participation in the Falklands war;
- the disappearance of two young sailors when the submarine HMAS Otama dived when they were on the casing in August 1987:
- the HMAS Westralia fire that claimed the lives of four in 1998; and
- the Shark 02 Sea King accident which killed nine ADF people on the island of Nias just over three years ago.

Navy News has striven to keep the Navy audience abreast of all that was important on the equipment front, foreshadowing the arrival of the Charles F. Adams class of guided missile destroyers we came to know as DDGs; the arrival of Oberon class submarines; the first missiles delivered to the RAN; guided missile frigates;

TTA'S 'HUMANISTIC DEEDS A STIMULUS' ERNOR OF EARTHQUAKE-RAVAGED BALI

HMAS PARRA

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AUSTRALIAN AIL







the amphibious ship, HMAS *Tobruk*; the Bay class minehunters, the new replenishment ship, HMAS *Success*, Collins class submarines, the amphibious ships HMA Ships *Kanimbla* and *Manoora*; the River class minehunters; the fleet oiler HMAS *Westralia*; Seahawk helicopters; ANZAC frigates; the Armidale class patrol boats; the fleet oiler replacement HMAS *Sirius* and hydrographic survey ships, HMA Ships *Leeuwin* and *Melville*.

Not all of the equipment purchases were attended by good news or good luck. The first of the Adelaide class frigates (as we tend to call the FFGs), HMAS *Adelaide*, encountered a bit of the United States early in her life and was temporarily disabled.

And numerous other major equipment purchases – because they represented such large sums of taxpayers' money – were frequently the focus of an increasingly critical daily media.

Earlier projects were bedevilled by industrial action in shipyards, the helicopter capable amphibious ships, *Kanimbla* and *Manoora*, were dubbed the 'rusty ships' by the Murdoch media and spent a very long time being modified at Newcastle's Forgacs shipyard before going on to lead useful operational lives.

The Collins class submarines, acknowledged by all to be one of the country's most ambitious projects, spent many years in the doldrums before weapons system woes were gradually ironed out and the boats declared the success they are today.

As the projects progressed, so did the public notion of women's place: shouldn't they have the right, and perhaps the duty, to participate side-by-side with men in defence of their country?

DDGs had all-male crews – a large (by today's standard) ship's company of 333 – and largely remained that way until the last was decommissioned.

From 1983 all WRANS were absorbed into the RAN when they were allowed to serve aboard classes of ships where suitable accommodation could be arranged. The WRANS was disbanded in 1985 by an Act of Parliament.

But incidents aboard DE 50 HMAS *Swan* in 1992 led to claims of sexual harassment of female crew members. The claims had far-reaching consequences with studies being commissioned and the establishment of a Senate committee to investigate the claims.

A hotline was established to record any complaints of harassment, a documentary demonstrating how harassment occurred in a mining camp was commissioned, and the then-Deputy Fleet Commander CDRE Chris Barrie undertook a Navy-wide roadshow to personally address every ship and establishment on the topic.

The issue of women in uniform and the type of work women might undertake spread beyond the Navy to both the Army and Air Force.

The Navy arrived at a certainty that women would serve in all fleet units that had proper accommodation, including submarines; and, while there were delays while the submarine service identified sufficient suitable female trainees, because Collins boats have six bunks per cabin, training of the first female submariners got underway in June 1998.

And the progress of women through the commissioned and non-commissioned ranks has continued – Navy has a number of female commodores and two major fleet units have female COs.

Over the past 50 years, the people and method of production of *Navy News* have changed drastically.

By my count, there have been seven editors and the paper has been produced at four sites – Spring Street, Sydney, at Jenner House, at the Navy's old REVY stores building at Pyrmont, and now in Canberra where the publication is co-located with companion publications, *Army* and *Air Force News*.

One of the many changes to *Navy News* has been via the desktop publishing revolution that has swept the printing industry.

Today, *Navy News* is produced in four colours using editorial material and electronic images transmitted from all parts of the world and, like mainstream daily newspapers, the publication is also available online and can carry buttons, in electronic format, which can lead the reader to voice 'grabs' or vision of people or events in the news.

The paper, along with the Navy, has undergone a 'road to Damascus' voyage of discovery – moving out of the forest of a chauvinistic, male-oriented publication to one that represents all in the Service.



MAY 1995: Three Oberon class submarines enter Sydney Harbour for the last time as a squadron.

### NAVY'S NEW SHIP

The strength of the Royal Australian Navy was increased on July 4 when the Minister for the Navy, Senator Gorton, accepted H.M.A.S. PARRAMATTA from the Cockatoo Docks and Engineering Company Pty. Ltd.

This picture shows the handing over ceremony aboard the new ontisubmorine frigote H.M.A.S. PARRA MATTA at sea of Sydney Heads.

'HMAS Wort joins the Fleet' in April 1981.

TOWAS MUKI JUNAS THE FLEET

Parramatta was formally sammissiumed at a cure many at the dockyard, Gar-den Island, in the presence of the Captain, Commander G. R. Griffiths, D.S.C., B.A.N., and the ship's company.

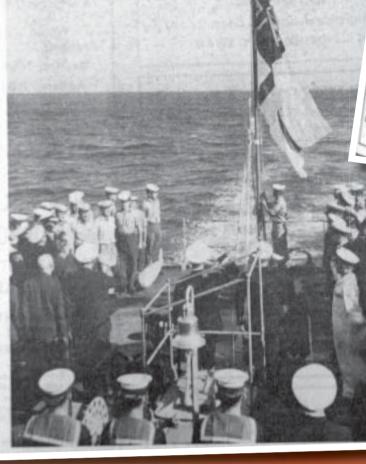
Cummander G. R. Griffiths recently served as Deputy Director of Man-14.5 ning in Navy Office. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cruss whilst serv-ing in H.M.A.S. Shropshire at Lingsyen Gulf in 1945. H.M.A.S. Yarra will be commissioned in Melboarne on July 21.

The frigate incorporates the misst advanced devices for detecting and destroy-

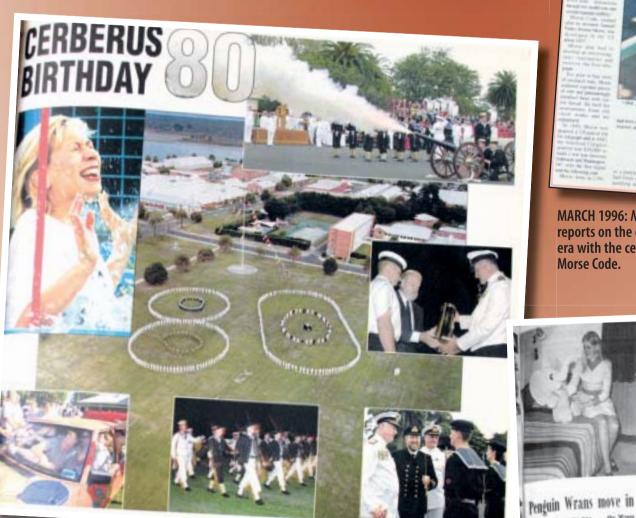
ing submarines. The ships represent a sig-mificant addition to Auxmilicant solution to Aus-tralia's anti-submarine de-lemons. They will give the Royal Australian Navy a total of five fast anti-sub-marine frigates and increase to minuteen the miniber of ables as commission.

ships in commission. The speed, manoeuvra-bility, armament, and air, surface and anti-submarine detection equipment fitted will enable these ships to perform the many roles re-guired of a modern warship. Based on a British design the frigates have been spe-cially modified for Austra-lian conditions and provide

tain constitution and provide a new standard of comfort for the 250-man crews. Of 2,500 tons, the frigsles have the latest electronic devices for seeking an energy and are atmed with security of d furth stress and utile 4.5-inch guns and submarine mortars



HMAS Parramatta was commissioned in July 1961.



In April 2001, HMAS Cerberus turned 80, as featured in Navy News.



reports on the end of an era with the cessation of Morse Code.



News about



In July 1969 WRANS 'moved in' to HMAS Penguin.



ENTERTAINMENT on the high seas ... King Neptune (PO Chris Slattery) passes judgement on the victim, YARRA's "CO" CMDR Jessuren. The Queen (ABFC Steve Kenneally), Doc (POMED Mallen), the Barber (SBLT Mal Parsons) and the Bears (LSPT Ross Fisher, at right), carry out the King's judgement.

'Entertainment on the high seas' is how this crossing of the line ceremony was described in October 1982.



'Sailors see the world via the Grey Funnel Line' in October 1977.

#### Aerial photograph by POPH Damian Pawlenko of HMAS Anzac steaming past the Rock of

## Picture perfect

Throughout the 50 years that Navy News has been published, Navy Photographers have provided high quality professional imagery on a consistent basis.

Without them we could never have a Navy News.

**One of the Navy's** more experienced photographers, POPH Damian Pawlenko, reminisces on some of his more memorable experiences.

hether it be on ships, in aircraft or walking alongside Army soldiers in difficult terrain, I have always considered any photographic task a challenge and have strived and will continue to complete it to the best of my ability.

Achieving the best in what you do is one thing, but what makes any trip I go on rewarding is the wide range of people who you meet and work with, not to mention the amazing stories that you hear.

There have been many memorable deployments I have been on in the past as a photographer, ranging from serving in Afghanistan, twice in East Timor, on ships in the Gulf and the opportunity of being involved in many various trips within Australia and abroad. But the one that stands out the most is the Northern Trident world trip deployment on HMAS Anzac in 2005.



The trip was a great opportunity for me to see a wide range of countries and sites I could only dream of.

Being involved in the 90th anniversary of Gallipoli in Turkey, the International Fleet Review and 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar in Portsmouth England, 60th anniversary celebrations of the victory in Europe in Paris, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Marmaris International Maritime Festival in Turkey were oncein-a-lifetime opportunities.

The fact I got to experience countries such as Germany, Ireland, Egypt, South Africa, Scotland, Crete and Malta, to name a few, was fantastic.

Even though being a photographer can be highly stressful and work commitments are usually high. I never take for granted the fact that I am a photographer in the Navy and look back on my career from time to time and think of how fortunate I have been.

**Despite only becoming a Navy** photographer a few years ago, ABPH Jo Dilorenzo has experienced more than her fair share.

he sleek grey hull of HMAS Anzac was bathed in the gentle glow of the rising sun as I stood waiting on her upper decks in eager yet stoic anticipation for what I was about to be a part of.

As Anzac drifted eerily over the site of HMAS Sydney II, I felt proud to capture the first memorial service in honour of those souls once thought lost forever. And in this digital age, I knew that my work would reach the rest of the world faster than ever fore with the aid of the world wide w

I felt the speed in which I was able to deliver my product was a fitting tribute for those who have waited silently beneath the vaves for more than 60 vears

Aside from the amazing technology I have at my disposal, I ove the diversity of this job.

Since becoming a photographer I have sailed on almost every latform the RAN has, and no two photographic tasks have been like. I have slept in cramped messes and dined in opulence with



ABPH Jo Dilorenzo (left) and ABPH Nadia Montieth

high-ranking officials. I've flown more hours than some aircrew and travelled almost everywhere in Australia.

Yet the most memorable moment for me was serving on HMAS *Kanimbla* when the tragedy of the Blackhawk crash demanded all my skills as a photographer I was required to play no small part in the follow up investigations, and in the subsequent memorial services on

I really felt my work contributed to the morale of the crew in what was a dark moment for them, and helped in their grieving for lost mates

I don't believe I'm here to serve myself, as much as I am to serve others and to put pictures to the amazing stories they have

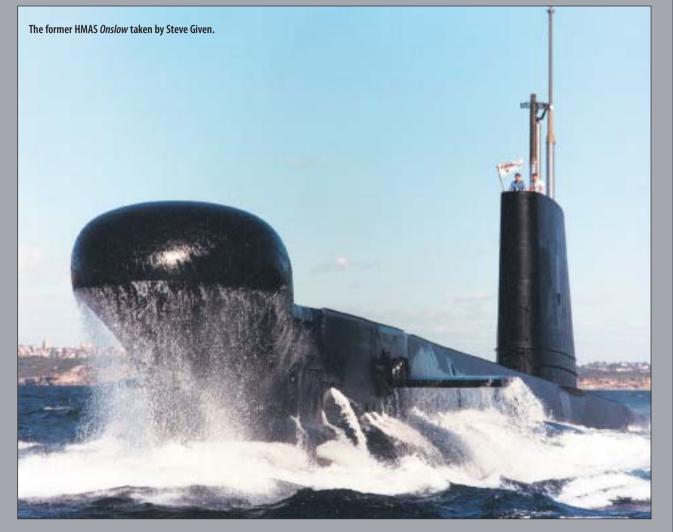






### A master of two eras

From sleeping in a rope locker to not seeing the sun for two months... Ex Chief Phot Steve 'Stokes' Given recalls a few memorable moments from his career...



grew up in a world of traditional photography, film, chemicals, darkrooms and long hours at a hot enlarger. I knew no better then, but still look upon those days as some of the most enlightening and exciting.

These days, of course, the digital revolution has taken over and my new darkroom is now electronic and my imagination can achieve wonders in minutes that might have taken hours or days or was near impossible a few years ago.

As a Navy photographer I got to go to sea on all manner of vessels for postings beginning as short as one day. This posting was to the minesweeper HMAS Curlew that was involved in retrieving a ditched and sunken Sea King helicopter off Jervis Bay. My billet that night, as *Curlew* controlled a tenuous tether to the submerged helo, was a rope locker on the upper deck, my camera case as a pillow. Shortly after that event, I was given my shortest notice for posting – one hour to get on a train at Nowra and join the survey ship HMAS Moresby that was sailing the next morning. In 1987 I didn't see the sun for nearly two months while I did service on a patrolling submarine. At that time the boat carried out, in one go, a record of 53 days submerged.

The weirdest request for photographs was by the captain of HMAS Perth when on patrol in the North West Indian Ocean in 1981. He had me dropped off on a buoy in the Indian Ocean about 12 miles off the coast of an unidentified island. I was to photograph any passing shipping for a few hours. The Perth then proceeded to sail off over the horizon leaving me to wonder if they'd remember me later that day.

During my time as a Navy photographer I was tasked with photographing all manner of subject matter that not only included the mundane, but also the exciting. On one occasion I spent every daylight hour for a week pacing the upper deck of HMAS *Jervis Bay* while she was monitoring the progress of a large force of Chinese warships in the Pacific Ocean off Queensland. While perched right in the middle of this force, Jervis Bay witnessed, and I photographed, the re-entry of an early Chinese Intercontinental ballistic missile.

I suppose if I had to sum up my time as a Navy photographer, it would be that, given the chance, I would do almost anything and say almost anything to get a shot that I wanted. For example, one of my favourite shots was taken just prior to 1986 and the Navy's 75th anniversary. The submarine HMAS Onslow was leaving Sydney Harbour and, as the submarine squadron photographer, I was always after a great shot of the boats as they went about their lawful occasions

I borrowed a 33-footer and driver from HMAS *Platvpus* to chase the Onslow through the harbour and see if I could get a good shot. This was not going to happen; I was not happy with what I was getting. As close as I could get, the background was still too distracting, and the submarine was much too inanimate

I convinced the boat driver to stretch the rules a bit by going outside the straight line between the two Sydney Heads. He didn't want to do it at first as it was forbidden, but I convinced him that as the earth was curved then surely the line between the two heads would also be curved and we could venture out at least a little. He graciously turned a 'Nelson's Blind Eye' and we ventured out to sea into a strengthening swell, leading the very large submarine in our little open boat. I had spoken to the Commanding Officer of Onslow before she sailed, asking permission to duck under his bows every now and again to see if I could get a 'special' shot. His reply has stuck with me to this day "Sure, what do we care, all we'll feel is a bump"

The series of photographs I took that day of HMAS Onslow shipping some greenies as she departed Sydney Harbour are my favourite shots of an Australian warship, one of which was published on the front cover of Pacific Defence Reporter, the front cover of Navy News, and also used as the centrepiece of a major Navy display that travelled Australia-wide during and after the Navy's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It has been my pleasure and honour to have belonged to one of the smallest branches in the Australian Navy – the photographers.

These days I teach at the School of Photography at RAAF Base East Sale where modern Navy photographers pass through on their way to what is a very exciting and diverse career. The 'warries' these photographers spin after deployments to the likes of Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan make my eyes boggle.

'If I had to sum up my time as a Navy photographer, it would be that, given the chance, I would do almost anything and say almost anything to get a shot that I wanted.'

BIRTHDAY CAKE

MAY 1962: The WRANS 21st birthday is celebrated in style at a ball held in **Flinders Naval** Depot.

**CHANGING TIMES:** In 1965 Navy News' first ever Page 3 girl was published for the paper's male-dominated readership.

NOI SHE'S NOT ON THE STAFF OF "NAVY NEWS" NOR IS SHE ATTA CHED TO THE NAVY, BUT SHE DOES LOVE THE SEA. FOR THIS REASON "NAVY NEWS" THOUGHT THIS VERY ATTRACTIVE MODEL WOULD BE AN IDEAL CHOICE TO BEGIN "OUR CHOICE OF THE WEEK" SERIES. (Photo by courtesy of Sydney "Doily Mirror").

UR CHOICE OF THE WEEK



Director W.R.A.N.S. Chief Officer J. Streeter, who travelled from Camberra, and Mrs. Frank Kenworthy, O.B.S. (Miss Shielah McClemanks shared the honour of cutting the cake at the ball held in Filmders Naval Depot to celebrate the W.R.A.N.S. 21st birthday. Mrs. Kenworthy who flew from Perth was the first Director W.R.A.N.S. She retired on february 27, 1947, when the wartime W.R.A.N.S. crossed to exist as an organisation. The W.R.A.N.S. wars re-constituted in 1951, the first rating entering the Service on January 5 of that year. of that year. Today 370 W.R.A.N.S. are in the Service.

# The changing portrayal of women in Navy News....





APRIL 1999: *Navy News* runs an article on then-AB Rachel Irving – one of the first females to serve on subs.



### **VELCOME ABOARD**

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JANUARY 1962: Younger enlistment age for females proves a great success during its first year of operation.

Career for Younger Girls



A younger entry age for girls into the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service has proved a great success during its first year of operation.

The Minister for the Navy, Senator Gorton, announced that during the past year, more than one-third of all girls joining the W.R.A.N.S. had entered under the new scheme for seventeen-year-olds.

The younger girls had quickly adjusted to life in the Service, and the careful selection of seventeen-year-olds had resulted in a negligible wastage rate.

During the past twelve months, the overall strength of the W.R.A.N.S. rose by eighty to a total of 270.

to a total of 270. These eighty additional Wrans are filling shore jobs previously carried out by Naval ratings.

They have released for other service enough male ratings to make approximately half the crew of a frigate.

crew of a trigate. Of the total of 38 Wrans who entered the Service during the past twelve months, 72 were in the seventeen age group. The younger entry age was introduced at the end of 1960 specially to increase the average "life" of Wrans. The Women's Boyal Austra

lian Naval Service "comes of age" this year, and will be celebrating the twenty-first anniversary of its formation.

There are many opportunities for advancement and Wran Writer (GD) Lynne Dickson, pic tured, is a typical example of what can be achieved by any girl entering the Service.

Wran Dickson is now a Flinders Navat Depot under going a W.R.A.N.S. Officer's Training Course,

Wran Dickson who is 20 years of age is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Dickson, of Baltimore Street, Belliald, New South Wales and has been in the Service for only 20 months She is a keen sportswoman

and enjoys playing hockey, tennis, swimming and squash. Her hobbies include photography and reading.

JULY 2008: CMDR Allison Norris is handed command of HMAS *Melbourne* by CMDR Stephen Hughes.

## PRICE IS RIGHT The art of advertising

Taking a flick through the back pages of *Navy News*, Michael Brooke found it interesting to discover what sailors spent their money on in days gone by and how much things cost.

look through the back issues of *Navy News* over the 50 past years reveals a variety of advertisements offering cashed-up sailors everything from the finest accommodation at Kings Cross with a sweetheart to flash cars and suit hire.

The advertisements not only played a role in helping Navy to subsidise the print costs of *Navy News* and distribute it free to loyal subscribers, but today bear testimony to the rise in the cost of living.

The ads in the 1970s, when *Navy News* regularly featured a strikingly beautiful Page 3 Girl as the 'Choice of the Week', perhaps reflected the lifestyle and courtship practices of some of the sailors at the time.

The KB Beer advertisement campaign throughout 1972 urged thirsty sailors to "open a bottle of KB Lager...and find out who your friends are".

The advertisements in the February 18, 1972, issue also contained offers of cheap hotel rooms in Kings Cross for sailors and their sweethearts. The Macleay Hotel offered sailors accommodation with 'fantastic water beds' from only \$5 per night.

Our pages devoted to Navy weddings were littered with suit hire ads, such as American Hire Service, which offered "suits for all occasions" and a 10 per cent discount for sailors.

On the opposite page were adverts offering engagement rings and wedding rings "discounted for sailors".

Car manufacturers also offered "a very special deal for Navy men".

An advertisement by a city Datsun car dealer showed a Japanese geisha girl peering through a tea-house window, under the headline "you've been up there – be in it now!" Foreign restaurants and hotels also advertised in *Navy News* in the hope of snaring sailors when their ships made port calls in Asia.

For example, La Seine Restaurant in Hong Kong, which was run by Mr Yue-Tung, a retired CPO, RN, invited RAN officers and sailors to visit his establishment for "fine French cuisine in a romantic setting".

Navy News also listed personal adds of sailors, such as LWTR Clark, of Fleet HQ, ext 633, who in September 1972 was poised to "go overseas" and was seeking to sell his 1964 EH Holden Sedan 149, "no rust, good engine" for \$650 or the nearest offer. But perhaps the most revealing of how times have changed was the bank home loan

offers at 4.5 per cent and building society offers of 6.5 per cent interest on deposits!

The KB Beer advertisement campaign throughout 1972 urged thirsty sailors to 'open a bottle of KB Lager...and find out who your friends are'.



CHEAP AS CHIPS: Becoming a first home owner used to be a lot cheaper judging by this ad that ran in *Navy News*, but perhaps it was all relative to income.

## MASCOT MANIA

Dogs, birds, cats and monkeys have all been used as mascots throughout the history of the RAN. Michael Brooke takes a look at some of the more colourful characters.

t seems that RAN warships and shore establishments have been a home for an interesting array of animal mascots.

The RAN mascots ranged from dogs to birds, cats and monkeys, and they had a profound effect on the morale of the sailors – particularly when at sea and in action with the enemy.

While contemporary quarantine regulations have compelled ships' companies to trade their live mascots for stuffed animals or the like, old copies of *Navy News* well document the popularity of pets that would drink beer with the sailors and share the hardships with their masters.

The front page of the first issue of *Navy News* featured a photo story about HMAS *Melbourne's* port visit to Pearl Harbor, where Leading Airman Dunn met 'Sarg', the bulldog mascot of the US Marines 'Hawaii Brigade'.

Over the past 50 years *Navy News* has put the spotlight on some of the RAN's mascots, such as Jazza, the beer-drinking cross-breed at HMAS *Albatross*, the bulldog Mister Soames of HMAS *Barbette*, Bofors the emu at HMAS *Cerberus*, Joe Bulldog of HMAS *Creswell*, and Spike and Alfie, the monkeys of HMAS *Quiberon* – just to name a few.

Mr Soames belonged to *Barbette's* commissioning skipper, LCDR Bernie Hamill, and rose through the ranks during the 1960-70s to become the official mascot of the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Patrol Boat Squadron.

Mr Soames went everywhere with his master, including several coastal voyages aboard *Barbette*, where he dossed in LCDR Hamill's cabin. 'Bullymania' spread throughout the ship and the ships' company fashioned a chrome-finished bulldog's head that was proudly attached to the masthead.

Mr Soames received perhaps more media attention than any other mascot in the RAN. In addition to *Navy News*, Mr Soames, in full Navy rig, also appeared in *The Courier Mail* newspaper when he posted to HMAS *Moreton* in the mid 1970s.

'Nigger', the black Labrador, was the unofficial mascot of HMAS *Penguin* in the early 1960s, who loved submariners and beer.

'Nigger', AKA 'Bloody Idiot', would wait on the wharf for submariners to return from deployments, when she would follow them to the wet mess and join them for a drink.

According to *Navy News* folklore, when 'Nigger' was run over and killed in 1964, her adorers had her stuffed and mailed in a crate marked 'T' Class Engine Liners to the UK, where she was proudly exhibited at the RN Submarine Museum at Dolphin as 'mascot of the 4<sup>th</sup> Submarine Division – Australia, until she decayed like an ancient Egyptian mummy over two decades.

The story of HMAS *Sydney* II's lucky cat, 'Middy', would certainly have made the pages of *Navy News* had we been publishing in WWII.

'Middy' was onboard *Sydney* during her highly successful Mediterranean deployment and was adored by the crew because of her ability to sense approaching German aircraft long before the alarm was raised.

But in 1941 'Middy' was left behind in Perth after calling in for a bit of shore leave and so distraught were the crew that *Sydney* II radioed Fremantle Port Authority with an effort to get their lucky cat back.

'Middy' was so revered by the ship's company that when she was found dead in a holding shed on the wharf, after having eaten rat poison, some of the crew told their loved ones that the loss of their lucky cat was a bad omen.

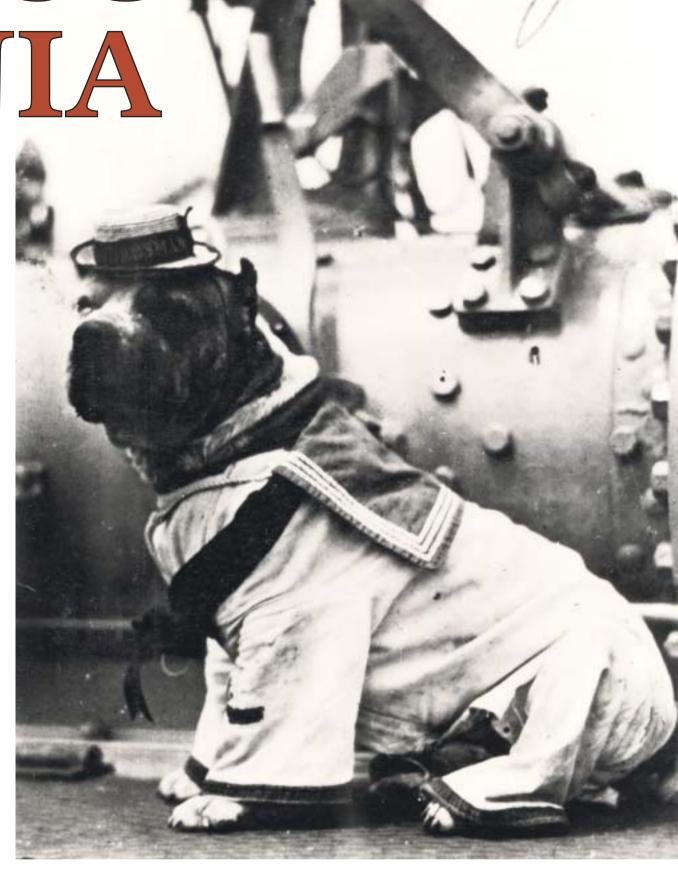
➤ For further reading on ships' mascots please consult *Shipmates* by Vic Cassells. 'The black labrador would wait on the wharf for submariners to return from deployments

when she would follow them to the wet mess and join them for a drink...'

#### **BULLY FOR JACK**

- From all evidence to date, it appears HMAS Swordsman's decks (ex-HMS Swordsman) were trodden by 'Old Jack'.
- The 'S' class torpedo boat destroyer, HMS *Swordsman,* transferred to the RAN shortly after completion. She commissioned on January 27, 1920.
- Since the ship only arrived in Australia in April, 1920, perhaps 'Old Jack' was inherited with the ship.
- Jack is complete with full naval uniform, including his straw sennet hat. These were worn by ratings in the RAN until 1921.





IT'S A DOG'S LIFE: Onboard HMAS *Swordsman* 'Old Jack' ruled the waves. It's thought the dog may have been handed over when the torpedo boat destroyer transferred to the RAN in 1920. Photo courtesy of the Sea Power Centre.

## Keeping it in the family

The Navy, diving and being featured in Navy *News* is part and parcel of being in the Foord family...

#### L BOARD'S ΕΤΟ (CD) 'Dixie' Foord pays-off

Chief Petty Officer Clearance Diver "Dixie" Foord took his the before moving out into "civvy" street at RUSHCUTTER on

Dixie's swanso

and press people were ing depot in droves and their re rewarded as his payingiven a great cover, particu-

"telly" a fitting climax for Raymond I Fourd, E.E.M., after twenty service in the R.A.N.

resence of his colleagues at TTER and others "Disie"

was presented by the Commanding Officer, Commander Lancaster, with a letter conveying the Naval Board's appreciation of his services - the first such gesture that can be recalled by those present at his paying-off

From the members of the Chiefs and Petty Officers mess at RUSH-CUITER, "Dixie" received a parting gift of a fine leather briefcase which was handcuffed to his wrist by the new President of the Mess, GPO C. D. "Spike" Jones, to ensure that he wouldn't lose it on the "run" home.

#### HAZARDOUS WORK

Born in Perth, W.A., In 1927, "Dixie" joined the Navy in 1945 at the age of 18.

He started his naval career as a Seaman, serving in H.M.A.S. BATAAN between 1946 and 1948.

He began his diving career in 1948, as an Able Seaman, when he qualified as a Diver 3 ("hard hat" diving). In 1949, whilst serving in LEEU-WIN, he was involved in an extremely hazardous diving operation in Fremantle harbour.

A ship entering harbour had struck two concrete dolphins, re

NAVY NEWS

CPO (CD) "DIXIE" FOORD, before paying off, hosk his final plunge with members of the new course of Clearance Divers under instruction at RUSHCUTTER.

they could have collapsed on the diver The dolphin heads, which weighed 110 tons each, were also destroyed

by demolitions.

After qualifying as a Diver 2nd Class in 1951, he served at RUSH-CUTTER, working in the Port Diving Party.

During this time (now a Petty Officer), "Disie" was involved in another "ticklish" diving operation. Bunnerong power station could not operate, due to a 16-foot by 9-foot baulk of timber which was blocking one of the two quarter-mile, horseshoe-shaped tunnels which are 56-feet underground.

No civilian diving firm would tackle the task of finding and removing the timber and the Navy was called in. Under conditions of total darkness

(remote from their attendants), the two divers (PO Foord and Leading Seaman Purdy, successfully carried out the job of finding, cutting up and removing the blockage.

#### AWARDED B.E.M.

Whilst serving in VENGEANCE, again distinguished himself cous action. In 1954, he was nd by the Naval Board for at nes,

the VENGEANCE in 1955, greed with the Royal Navy

for two years. There, he changed from "hard hat" diver to Clearance Diving

**NOVEMBER 1965** 

("frogman")

Most of his time with the Royal Navy he spent in a Bomb and Mine Disposal team operating from Portsmouth.

In 1956, whilst in the United Kingdom, two significant things occurred, Firstly, "Dixle" was promoted to Chief Petty Officer, thus becoming the first Chief Petty Officer in the R.A.N. Clearance Diving Branch.

Secondly, in recognition of his gallantry and devotion to duty in 1949, 1952 and 1954, he was awarded the British Empire Medal.

Since returning to Australia in 1957 (apart from two years in the flagship, MELEOURNE), Chief Foord's knowledge and experience have largely been utilized with instructional and operational work in the Bomb and Mine Disposal Section of RUSH-CUTTER - which is the home of Clearance Diving in the R.A.N. Now, after 20 varied and colour-

ful years, the second eldest Clear-ance Diver in the Royal Australian ance Diver in the Inks up with Navy has retired. In "civvy" street, he links up with In "civvy" street, he links up with

Family like a eri As duck to water Working underwater rams in the Foord family.

First 71-year-old Raymond Foord, now living in Western Australia, wore the "brows befreet" purch of an accredited RAN diver. Then his son Raymond ("Diric"), now aged 49,

parted the RAN and attained the badge. And since she joined the Navy in 1995, Ray junior's daughter Victoria, 21, has qualified as a ship's diver and will

It was a provid dad who put his arm around his daughter's shoulders at HMAS PENGUIN this month-Victoria had just graduated from the Underwater Medicine Medical Clinicians Course

Along with four other young medics she had studied hard in both the classroom and the field to qualify

Victoria has been pound to the staff of the underwater school at PENGUIN.



1998

WO Found gives his daughter Victoria a hug after s graduated from the Underwater Medicine Medic

**OCTOBER** 

Lou's 40 year commitment to Navy

**SEPTEMBER** 1999

Graham Davis Boath The BAN's oblast and term elipereneral Man Black WOCD Bay-net "Dros" Frend, has been util his fern and matterg appearance for the or black. Nery ruled a dorie shed curver spanning of 13 years. Hat his new challerings in fe may wait see here util rabling classe in the water.

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DECEMBER 1997: RAN ships together in the Gulf for Operation DAMASK.

NOWRA FIRE REPORT



**AUGUST 1977** 

"A coad million"" Even with the "war" raging the transps must be paid WOWTE Max Gillis and LSWTR Wayne Spaiding give the money an "atring" before " making up the pay onbeard MELBOURNE NAVY NEWS, November 16, 1979 (259) 7 **NOVEMBER 1979** 

**OCTOBER 1999** 











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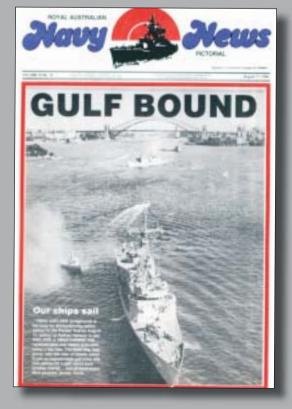
### From one headline to the next...





#### 50 years of front page stories...







# READER

Danny Bowden would rank as one of *Navy News*' most loyal readers and at the age of 97 is still going strong, according to Michael Brooke

ormer HMAS *Tingara* boy Danny Bowden, aged 97, ranks as one of the Navy's oldest veterans as well as one of *Navy News'* most loyal readers. Although Mr Bowden retired in the year

*Navy News* was first published in 1958, he has never missed an issue.

"Reading *Navy News* makes me feel like I'm still a young man in the RAN," he said. *Navy News* caught up with Mr Bowden at the

Battle of the Coral Sea commemoration service at Tuggerah Lakes RSL on May 4. Although copies of the first edition of *Navv* 

News are as scarce as 'hen's teeth', Mr Bowden browsed through the January 1965 issue, which belongs to Terry Bendall, the secretary of the local RSL.

"Like many sailors I have kept every issue of *Navy News* that records my promotions," said Mr Bendall, who served on HMAS *Vendetta* during 'confrontation'.

Mr Bowden said he enjoys reading *Navy News* because of the interesting stories about RAN personnel and current operations.

Mr Bowden briefly told his fascinating life story to CDRE Bruce Kafer, Chief Fleet Combat Support Group, who was the special guest at the Battle of the Coral Sea commemoration service.

Mr Bowden told his story with great clarity as he had just returned from a nine-week battlefield tour of the Mediterranean and the Pacific, where he served as a Navy wireless operator and gunner on Walrus aircraft embarked on RAN warships.

Mr Bowden joined the RAN on Anzac Day 1925 at age 14 and was posted to HMAS

*Tingara*, but later served in HMAS *Platypus* and *Australia II*, before joining *Sydney II*. "Like all the other *Tingara* boys I'm a mixed

up kid," he joked. When WWII broke out Mr Bowden was serving on HMAS *Perth* and was shot down in his flimsy Walrus by a German ME109 fighter

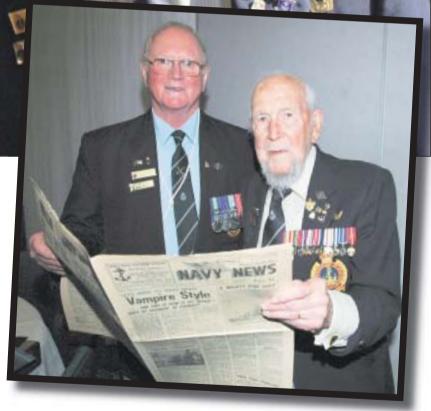
during the Battle of Crete. "They were firing cannons and I only had a Lewis gun," he said.

Mr Bowden recalls bobbing around in the liferaft for a day before being rescued by HMS *Havoc*, which initially tried to ram them in the mistaken belief they were a German submarine.

"When you live to be 97 years of age and have cheated death a couple of times you start to think 'somebody up there likes me'," he laughed.

Mr Bowden 'swallowed the anchor' in 1958 while posted to HMAS *Sydney III* and worked for Victorian State Electricity until 1970, when he retired to Bateau Bay on the Central Coast of NSW.

As *Navy News* celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary we would like to take this opportunity to salute Mr Bowden and the thousands of RAN veterans like him who, since 1911, have helped the Navy add inspiring new chapters to the legend of Anzac.



VETERAN READER: Former HMAS *Tingara* boy Danny Bowden, aged 97, ranks as one of the Navy's oldest veterans. He also loves reading *Navy News* and is pictured here with a copy of the January 1965 issue.

"When you live to be 97 years of age and have cheated death a couple of times you start to think 'somebody up there likes me'."



