

FLEET POWER

**A SPECIAL
12-PAGE
LIFT-OUT**

HMAS *Newcastle* leads JS *Fuyuzuki* and
USS *Hopper* in formation through the
Northern Australian Exercise Area off the
coast of the Northern Territory.
Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes

Warships locked in battle

LEUT Todd Fitzgerald

JUST three days into the sea phase of Exercise Kakadu, a task group of five international warships was locked in a steady battle of anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare.

The 'Red Force' task group was made up of a Japanese destroyer, an American destroyer, an Indonesia corvette and a Malaysian frigate, and was led by the RAN frigate HMAS *Newcastle*.

The task group's first challenge arrived at dawn on day one when it responded to a surface threat by forming an offensive line and firing their main guns at a target the size of a small boat almost eight kilometres away.

The next day, Red Force defended itself against a heavy air attack, after which each ship in the task group used its main gun to fire at a target towed 400 metres behind a Lear jet.

One of *Newcastle*'s Principal Warfare Officers LCDR Liam Walters coordinated Red Force in both air defence serials.

"Communications were exceptional with the regional partners coming together to achieve successful outcomes in each serial," LCDR Walters said.

"The ships worked together effectively and shots were on target."

Night offered little respite from the hectic pace, with the group's crews practising submarine detection, deterrence and prosecution.

During one exercise, five ships closed and continuously attacked an 'enemy' submarine attempting to get through their patrol area.

Newcastle's Principal Warfare Officer—Surface Warfare LEUT Courtney Kruger said many hands made light work when it came to submarine hunts.

"We achieved coordinated tracking and attacks on the submarine and we all

improved at using proper tactical coordination procedures," she said.

"It was pleasing to see everybody across the task group progressing and developing their skill sets, not only in warfare, but also in interoperability."

Eighteen warships took part in Exercise Kakadu, the RAN's largest multilateral exercise.

Helicopter frigate HMAS *Warramunga*

led the 'Blue Force' task group, which also included a Canadian frigate and two Singaporean corvettes.

Two Australian submarines, patrol boats from Australia and Papua New Guinea and 18 aircraft from across the region were also involved in the exercise.

Red Force and Blue Force operated independently for the first six days so regional partners could practise working together and coordinate operating procedures, after which the preparedness and cohesion of the two forces was tested when they battled each other for disputed maritime territory.

Red Force leader CO *Newcastle* CMDR Mark Sirois said his task group positioned itself well for the final battle.

"Our task group was able to use the first five days of force integration training exceptionally well," he said.

"There were some trials but we learned and improved a lot, and came together as an extremely effective task group."



USS *Hopper* fires a round from its main gun during an anti-air warfare serial.
Photos: LSIS Justin Brown

Glenelg more than well catered for

LSIS Jayson Tufrey

ABML-C Adam Grant comprises half the dynamic duo of HMAS *Glenelg*'s catering capability and has been posted to the Armidale-class patrol boat for the last nine months.

He was fortunate enough to get a sea-ride on a patrol boat while posted to the main galley at HMAS *Stirling* and he was hooked.

AB Grant said that experience aboard *Stirling* was enough for him put his hand up for a posting to Darwin.

"I love being on small boats; of course they have their challenges, but it's a great environment to be in," he said.

The two chefs in *Glenelg* prepare three meals, morning and afternoon tea for up to 30 people every day.

AB Grant said even though major fleet units cater for many more people, he and LSML-C



ABML-C Adam Grant with a cheese platter for 'arvos' on board HMAS *Glenelg*.
Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey

Ben Coulter have enough work to keep them busy.

"On small boats, we all have multiple ancillary duties. I act as bow-man in the sea boats and have fender duties during berth-

ing," AB Grant said. "I also share canteen manager duties. It's a big task keeping the ship running and everyone fed and happy during a busy period like Exercise Kakadu."

Boarding tactics

LSIS Jayson Tufrey

AUSTRALIA'S closest neighbours had the opportunity to observe RAN tactics, techniques and procedures in real-time as Exercise Kakadu's minor war vessels conducted boarding operation training off the coast of Darwin.

Members of ship's companies from Papua New Guinea, and observers from Fiji and Tonga, embarked in the DMS-operated *Discovery III* to observe as crews from HMA Ships *Armidale* and *Glenelg* conducted boarding of the vessel.

Discovery III is an asset used by both major fleet units and minor war vessels to conduct boarding training under the supervision of Sea Training Group (STG), the organisation responsible for testing Navy's ability to execute missions safely.

STG member POB Damien Keygan said the boarding scenarios were tailored around flag verification and fisheries interdictions.

"We're engaging with our regional partners with this type of training which is based on real-world operational situations faced by patrol boat crews off the north coast of Australia," PO Keygan said.

"Having our Pacific partners here to observe our standard operating procedures lays a solid foundation, paving the way for better interoperability between our nations in the future."

"The crews are always receptive to the tactics and techniques we show them. I believe the lessons reinforced through exercises like Kakadu will become the standard procedure for navies in our region."

PO Keygan said bringing nations together for training is a good approach for all concerned.

"Australia has a massive coastline which means a huge oceanic responsibility for us," he said.

"With our regional partners all operating similarly, we are well-placed to respond to contingencies in our part of the world."

"Our neighbours have a large part to play in the sustainment of maritime resources in the Pacific and it's great we can share our knowledge with each other."

By the end of Kakadu crews from HMPNG Ships *Moresby* and *Seeadler* will have tried their hand at conducting boarding exercises themselves on *Discovery III* under the supervision of Sea Training Group staff.

Specialists behind scenes ensure smooth operation

LEUT Nicholas Robinson

BEHIND the Exercise Kakadu action unfolding at sea off the coast of northern Australia, exercise director CAPT Nick Woodley ensured the coordination from Exercise Headquarters allowed all units involved to meet the objectives of the exercise.

Kakadu involved more than 3000 personnel, 18 warships, and 19 aircraft, from 19 nations. Coordination of Australia's largest maritime exercise, with such a large number of complex moving parts, was no short order.

CAPT Woodley explained the structure of the team that supported the exercise from the headquarters in Darwin.

"During the exercise period we had almost 50 personnel who were collectively operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week to support the fleet at sea, and squadrons in the air," he said.

"These personnel are from a wide range of specialisations including Maritime Operations, Maritime planners, Logistics, Legal, Intelligence, Communications, Public Affairs, Cultural Awareness, Maritime Trade Operations, Aviation and Submarine Operations.

"Beyond the Exercise Kakadu headquarters, we also had multiple organisations which assisted us in bringing the exercise together including Air Traffic Control, Navy Port Services and the Darwin Port Authority."

The Naval Harbour Master of Darwin, LCDR Paul Ruhl, managed the movement of all ships to and from Darwin Navy base HMAS Coonawarra with his team at Port Services.

"On a normal day, Coonawarra is the busiest navy port in Australia, LCDR Ruhl said.

"Once you overlay the additional exercise requirements for the Australian fleet as well as our regional partners, this is an extremely busy period for us. "Our team is well rehearsed and comfortably managed the traffic in and out of this strategic base."

LCDR Geoff Hart-Davies, Maritime Trade Operations, was the Officer in Charge of the Shipping Coordination Team, which operated on the opposite side of Darwin, at the Darwin Port.

"We monitor all the mechanical and electrical systems on board, including the emergency sensors that detect fire and toxic hazards, as well as conduct rounds of the machinery spaces."

AB Patmore said his secondary role is duty as a member of the boarding party.

"You get plenty of different experiences on the small boats. I am look-



Above: Naval Harbour Master Darwin LCDR Paul Ruhl and SMNBM Maddison Ball at HMAS Coonawarra.

Photos: LSIS Tom Gibson

Right: Exercise director CAPT Nick Woodley on the wharf at HMAS Coonawarra.



"Our unit was stood up during this period to specifically support Exercise Kakadu," he said.

"We are here to ensure alignment of any military activity with the commercial and civilian interests at sea.

"It is an important responsibility for us to keep Headquarters informed of civilian movements, and advise civilian

vessels of our activities, so everyone has a clear and coordinated picture of the exercise environment."

The aims of Kakadu are to develop interoperability with Australia's regional partners, enhancing the capabilities of Navy, the RAAF and each of the participating military forces.

Darwin proves popular destination

ABMT Matthew Patmore joined the patrol boat squadron a year ago, joining HMAS Glenelg's marine engineering team for career progression.

AB Patmore has served seven years in the Navy and, despite enjoying the major fleet units, recently made the decision to move to Darwin.

"I decided to come to small boats because I love everything about Darwin," he said.

"I love the heat, the lifestyle and my girlfriend is a Darwin local.

"I am currently working towards getting my marine systems technician endorsement, and patrol boats are a great place to do that.

"We monitor all the mechanical and electrical systems on board, including the emergency sensors that detect fire and toxic hazards, as well as conduct rounds of the machinery spaces."

AB Patmore said his secondary role is duty as a member of the boarding party.

"You get plenty of different experiences on the small boats. I am look-



ABMT Matthew Patmore on watch on the Marine Link console on board HMAS Glenelg. Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey

ing forward to being trained on the davits which launch and recover the sea boats," he said.

"I love the role we play on the ship as technicians. You get a great sense of accomplishment in the very important role – keeping all the systems going.

"My favourite part of Exercise Kakadu has been seeing and working with all the ships participating.

"It's great to be getting some sea time; I've missed it in recent times and like being back out in a hard working fleet."

– LSIS Jayson Tufrey

on display



Boarding officer HMAS Armidale POB Jada Montgomery questions a role-player ship's master during a boarding exercise on Discovery III. Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey

Warramunga proves her



A Lear jet performs a simulated attack on HMAS Warramunga during an air defence exercise.



LSATA Brent Campbell carries out an inspection of an MH60 Romeo on board HMAS Warramunga.

Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes

LEUT Adam Grover

FROM hunting submarines by moonlight to engaging and defeating surface and air targets by day, HMAS Warramunga proved to be a highly potent warship during Exercise Kakadu, as well as leading Combined Task Group 628.1.

Reflecting the increasingly sophisticated and complex scenarios of the exercise, Warramunga, working with HMCS Vancouver, successfully denied a submarine from disrupting simulated shipping in the exercise area.

In a coordinated and orchestrated daytime gun firing serial, Warramunga, again working with Vancouver, as well as Singapore Navy Ships Valiant and Victor, engaged a surface target with her five-inch gun.

In the warfighting heart of the ship, the operations room, Warramunga's officers and sailors worked closely together to identify and destroy the surface target.

The communication between staff in the ops room and the bridge ensured the success of the serial.

The efficacy and potency of Warramunga was comprehensively established in the gunnery serial.

CO Warramunga CMDR Dugald Clelland said he was proud of the performance of the ship's company.

"The determination of Warramunga's crew to aggressively engage threats in the exercise areas displays our ability to project power at sea," he said.

"The results of our simulated

warfighting confirm Warramunga's lethality.

"I am privileged to lead a highly professional agile and adaptive crew.

"Warramunga's sustained rate of effectiveness in warfighting during Kakadu 16 will ensure our future operational effectiveness."

Showing her versatility, the surface engagement was followed by an air defence serial as a simulated attack was undertaken by RAAF Hawk 127 aircraft and Lear jets.

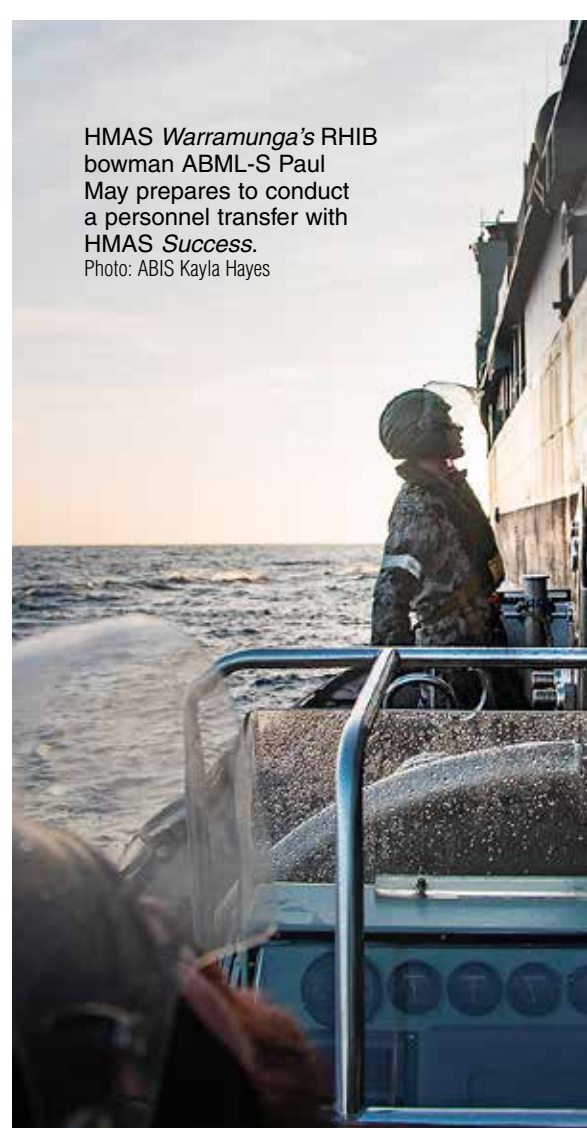
Warramunga's world class sensors, including the new phased array radar technology, allowed the threats to be destroyed by a combination of the simulated use of the Evolved Sea Sparrow point defence missile, as well as the utilisation of the Nulka active missile decoy system.

The contribution of her sailors, such as ABBM Matthew Barton on the ship's 50-calibre machine guns, strengthens Warramunga's reputation as a versatile war fighter.

"Defending the ship with the 50-calibre machine gun is a massive privilege and responsibility," AB Barton said.

"The design of the weapon long predates me, but there is no doubt-ing its accuracy and potency."

While undertaking the major serials of the exercise, the crew continued to undertake a wide range of daily activities including weapons trade testing, ship medical emergency team training and boarding party training.



HMAS Warramunga's RHIB bowman ABML-S Paul May prepares to conduct a personnel transfer with HMAS Success.

Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes

worth



r defence serial.

Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey



Romeo Flight Two
prepares to launch
the embarked MH60
Romeo on board HMAS
Warramunga.
Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes

SMNBM Taija
Vaisanen conducts a
daily pre-fire check
on the 12.7mm
machine gun
on board HMAS
Warramunga.
Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes



LSCIS Danny Ginger
updates the fleet exercise
program on the bridge of
HMAS *Warramunga*.
Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes



Manoeuvres reaffirm links with neighbours

LSIS Jayson Tufrey and
LEUT Nicholas Robinson

HMA Ships *Glenelg* and *Albany* enjoyed some in-company time with our closest Commonwealth neighbours in the Arafura Sea as part of Exercise Kakadu.

Her Majesty's Papua New Guinean ships *Seeadler* and *Moresby* are Pacific-class patrol boats based at PNG's naval base on Manus Island. They conducted officer-of-the-watch manoeuvres (OOWMANS), engineering casualty control drills (ECCDS), man overboard exercises (MOBEX) and gunnery serials with the Australian warships.

CO *Moresby* LEUT Collen Yaperth said he had participated in many Kakadu exercises in the past.

"We get a lot out of these biennial exercises. We get to develop our seaman officer skills, and have a better understanding of fleet work and tactical manoeuvres," he said.

"There is always the possibility we will be called upon to work with the Australian Navy for any number of reasons, so it is great to know we can integrate should we need to.

"Most of our officer training is done in Australia so many of our procedures are the same."

LEUT Yaperth said working in company with the international fleet at Kakadu presented many challenges and was at the same time rewarding.



CO HMPNGS *Moresby* LEUT Collen Yaperth chats with STG's CPOB Paul Norton aboard *Moresby*.

"We have to ensure we are in the right place at the right time and following the correct procedures," he said.

"As the CO it presents a fantastic training opportunity for the younger officers coming up through the ranks – it is also rewarding to see the increase in your crew's skill level as you progress.

"My highlight has been participating in OOWMANS with six or more ships in company. That is not something we get to do every day."

Sea Training Group (STG) traditionally are utilised

to work crews up to an operational standard. They participate in exercises such as Kakadu by embarking in foreign vessels to ensure serials run smoothly, and as overall safety observers.

CPOB Paul Norton, of fleet gunnery and seamanship, said STG's role was to train, coach and mentor.

"We're on board to alleviate any communications issues that may arise from misinterpretation of tactical orders. We also make sure there are no safety breaches," he said.

"During this year's Kakadu I have been embarked on the boats from PNG and it is impressive to see the professionalism these guys have.

"A lot of their procedures are almost identical to ours and some, such as steering gear failures, are quite different and interesting to see."

CO HMAS *Albany* LCDR Carl Jordan said he was looking forward to building on the professional and personal relationships his ship has already established.

"As the exercise evolves, we have been really impressed by the professionalism and capability of our partners," he said.

LCDR Jordan underscored the importance of taking the opportunity to engage with visiting nations.

"We are here to support the training outcomes of the multinational task group and to share knowledge and experiences with our regional partners to achieve their objectives," he said.



ABBM Sarah Anderson conducts a s



Officer of the watch on HMPNGS *Moresby* SBLT Peter Waso takes a bearing during manoeuvres off the coast of Darwin.



The gunner of the watch closes up on HMPNGS *Moresby*.

From left, USS *Hopper*, RSS *Valiant*, HMAS *Armidale* and RSS *Victory* in formation off the port side of HMAS *Glenelg*. Photos: LSIS Jayson Tufrey



surface shoot with the 12.7mm Browning machine gun on board HMAS *Glenelg*.

Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey



A member of HMPNGS *Moresby* ship's company takes part in a steering gear failure exercise during the exercise.



Midshipmen Kosbi Koyati and Thomas Icke compare notes on chart work aboard HMPNGS *Moresby* during the exercise.

Midshipmen find they have a lot in common

LSIS Jayson Tufrey

TWO Midshipmen, one from Australia and the other from Papua New Guinea, discovered they had a lot in common during Exercise Kakadu.

MIDN Thomas Icke, of HMAS *Albany* and MIDN Kosbi Koyati, of HMPNGS *Moresby* have both undertaken training at HMAS *Creswell* and the pair share mutual friends.

The meeting of two navies saw discussions around training, ships and routines, as well as cultural exchanges that will forge relationships well into the future.

Currently completing training in an *Armidale*-class patrol boat, MIDN Icke said visiting the PNG Pacific patrol boat was a highlight of Kakadu.

"This experience has been fantastic and the PNG crew are professional and a lot of fun," MIDN Icke said.

"It's interesting to see how different some aspects of seamanship can be and how many things are exactly the same.

"I guess that is a product of the training we share with Papua New Guinea."

MIDN Icke said it was great meeting MIDN Koyati.

"We have so many friends in common, bridging the gap was immediate," MIDN Icke said.

"I found it easy to relate as we

have similar naval backgrounds with the training at *Creswell*."

MIDN Koyati, who has been in the PNG Navy for nearly two years, said he always enjoyed his time in Australia on courses and exercises.

"After Exercise Kakadu, I'm looking forward to getting back to Australia to complete more training," MIDN Koyati said.

"I love learning about Australian culture and this cross-deck experience reminds me I can't wait to get back."

Since posting to HMAS *Albany*, MIDN Icke has participated in Exercise Singarook and undertaken Operation Resolute patrols to Christmas and Ashmore Islands.

"During Singarook, I was fortunate enough to tour a Singaporean missile corvette. I was able to see *Albany* conduct her officer-of-the-watch manoeuvres from the other side, which was exciting to see," MIDN Icke said.

"I've loved my time on patrol boats and have another four weeks with *Albany* before I post to HMAS *Darwin* for three months, where I will not only get to experience life on a frigate but learn about warfare.

"After that, I'm aspiring to become a submariner by 2018. After experiencing the sub familiarisation course last year I decided that is where I want to be."

It's interesting to see how different some aspects of seamanship can be and how many things are exactly the same.

— MIDN Thomas Icke,
of HMAS *Albany*

International cooperation



CO JS *Fuyuzuki* CMDR Kuniaki Orito and CO HMAS *Coonawarra* CMDR John Navin lay a wreath during the memorial service on board Japanese navy ship JS *Fuyuzuki* during Exercise Kakadu. Photos: ABIS Kayla Hayes

LEUT Todd Fitzgerald

THE Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force and the RAN held a memorial service during the harbour phase of Exercise Kakadu to commemorate the lives lost in Darwin by both sides during WWII.

More than 200 people attended the ceremony, which was held in Darwin Harbour on the flight deck of Japanese Ship *Fuyuzuki*.

Darwin deputy mayor Bob Elix and CO HMAS *Coonawarra* CMDR John Navin joined CO JS *Fuyuzuki* CMDR Kuniaki Orito to lay wreaths in memory of the fallen.

CMDR Orito spoke to the gathering saying Japan has deep respect for both sides of the conflict.

"It breaks my heart when I think about what was in the mind of those who sacrificed their lives for their countries," CMDR Orito said.

"Whether Australian or Japanese, all fought with the faith

their country would win the war. I hope Japanese-Australian relations will flourish in the years to come and I offer my respects to all those who sacrificed their lives. May their spirits rest in peace forever."

Japan lost 80 crew members in submarine I-124 when it was sunk by Australian warship HMAS *Deloraine* just 40 nautical miles off the Darwin coast on January 20 1942.

On February 19 1942, Japan began a series of air raids on Darwin and northern Australia.

From the first raid to the last on November 12 1943, Australia and its allies lost about 900 lives, 77 aircraft and several ships. The Japanese lost 131 aircraft.

Mr Elix said combined services are important to heal the wounds of the past.

"The commemoration was very moving and I am pleased that both nations can come together to remember the fallen," he said.

"I think it is an important part of moving forward. It is part

of our history, it is part of their history and we will learn from the past to build a better and enduring relationship."

CMDR Navin said the service was a reminder of how far Australian and Japanese relations had come since the end of the war.

"The ceremony reminds people what the Second World War brought to Darwin and how relations between the two countries have developed," CMDR Navin said.

Darwin Returned and Services League representative Rod Cook also attended the service, which he described as touching and inclusive.

"I appreciate the way Japan is so respectful for our dead. We can remember the war with mutual respect and condolence," Mr Cook said.

"The RSL will be wherever there is a service to respect our fallen."

Fuyuzuki and her crew of 190 were in Darwin to participate in Exercise Kakadu, the Australian premier maritime exercise.

Workshop demonstrates incorporation of gender perspectives



Kakadu Gender Adviser LCDR Donna Sill with Indonesian Navy Ensign Kevin Syaifullah at an information session on Gender Perspectives in Maritime Operations. Photo: LSIS Tom Gibson

FLTLT Tritia Evans

DURING the harbour phase of Exercise Kakadu, Australia's Gender Adviser LCDR Donna Sill hosted a Gender Perspectives in Maritime Operations workshop with international partners, to develop case studies and discuss gender issues that arise in maritime operations.

The workshop was designed to demonstrate the existing incorporation of gender perspectives across the spectrum of maritime operations, and to highlight particular areas of improvement for the planning and conduct of future Australian maritime exercises and operations.

LCDR Sill said the workshop was an excellent opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with our regional partners.

"We already consider gender perspectives in mari-

time operations, but quite often it's ad hoc and reactive," she said. "The case studies we've explored from across the participating nations have been an excellent opportunity to highlight issues commonly faced by navies across the Asia-Pacific.

"By deliberately incorporating the principles of the United Nations Resolution on Women in Peace and Security into the planning and conduct of our maritime tasks, we will increase our operational effectiveness."

Indonesian Navy Ensign Kevin Syaifullah joined the workshop to provide insights into how Indonesia handles gender issues that present themselves at sea.

"It's important to understand how vulnerable people are disproportionately affected by human trafficking," Ensign Kevin Syaifullah said.

"During boarding operations, we separate victims from agents [of human trafficking], and men and women, for the protection of the vulnerable groups."



and respect



Family and military representatives pay their respects during the service.



A contemplative POB Steve Shelton during the memorial service on board JS Fuyuzuki.

WHAT THEY SAID

The expertise, discipline and professionalism of the Australian Navy is something you should be proud of.

— CMDR Tepparit Kamkert, Royal Thai Navy



The Australian Navy is very professional and a pleasure to work with.

— COL Rahman Nazri, Royal Malaysian Army



The fleet looked fantastic in full formation during the major in-company serial.

— CMDR Mark Chadwick, Royal New Zealand Navy



Kakadu is a good opportunity for other navies to learn how each other operates together in an exercise environment.

— LCDR Hoang Anh, Vietnam People's Navy



Photos: LSIS Jayson Tufrey

Kakadu guests tour Darwin

FLTLT Tritia Evans

INTERNATIONAL observers made time during Exercise Kakadu to appreciate Australia's military and cultural history, touring the Darwin Military Museum and WWII oil storage tunnels.

The observers from India, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea discovered memorabilia including artillery pieces, vehicles, uniforms, models and paintings in the exhibitions on the 1942 bombing of Darwin, WWI and the Vietnam War.

They found the Bombing of Darwin re-enactment a stirring and exceptional experience, recreating the time Australia was brought to the forefront of the WWII conflict.

And they learned the Japanese aircraft

carrier-borne forces that attacked Darwin on February 19, 1942 were the same forces that attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941, dropping more bombs on Darwin than they did on Pearl Harbor.

Indian Navy CMDR Dinesh Singh Rana said he enjoyed the experience.

"Our visit to the Second World War heritage sites was educational and clearly depicted the grit and resolve of the Australian people in standing up to the imperial designs," he said.

"Further, it was heartening to see these historical treasures have been preserved for posterity."

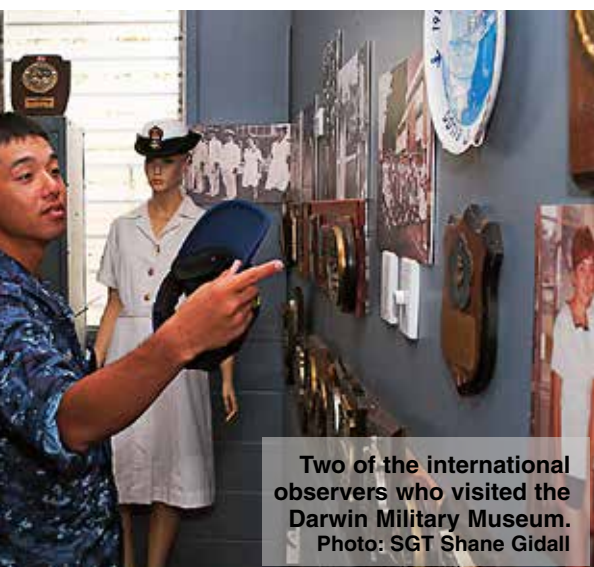
Legal Officer Fleet Battle Staff LCDR Jacqueline Swinton organised the excursion to broaden the international observers' experience of Darwin and the exercise.

"The tour gave them an opportunity for greater international engagement and a more broad appreciation of Australia's military history," she said.

"This included the impact of military operations in Darwin."

The International Observer Program was designed to build relations among participants and to share experiences around the planning and conduct of military exercises.

Nations participating in the 13th iteration of the exercise included Canada, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and the United States. Working alongside RAN and RAAF assets were observers from Fiji, India, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vietnam.



Two of the international observers who visited the Darwin Military Museum. Photo: SGT Shane Gidall



The crews of HMAS Success (Red) and HMCS Vancouver compete in a friendly game of indoor soccer during the Exercise Kakadu Sports Day held at Defence Establishment Berrima.

Personnel put the exercise in Kakadu

FLTLT Tritia Evans

ON the hot and humid sports fields of Defence Establishment Berrimah, Northern Territory, 300 military personnel from eight countries battled for the honour of the Kakadu Shield at the Exercise Kakadu All Ranks Sports Day.

Navy's Fleet Sports Officer and event organiser CPOPTI Stuart Rowe, said it was more than just having fun.

"A sports day during a military exercise is more than just a friendly competition. In this heat and humidity, we can test our sailors' resilience and endurance and ability to work as a team," he said.

"At sea and in the air, you are constantly tested and you have to learn how to bounce back and play on."

Another goal for the day was to encourage social interaction and develop an esprit de corps between sportsmen and women from the participating nations.

"Sports days are a great way to progress the multinational force integration in a relaxed environment, with goodwill on both sides, before the ships set to sea and conduct war fighting scenarios," CPO Rowe said.

From the international banter in the queue for the sausage sizzle, to friendly rivalry and cheering on the sidelines, the sports day brought

some interesting challenges, such as Australian sailors explaining the rules of touch football to keen Japanese players who speak little English. It was a reminder for everyone to slow down and be clear communicators.

The sports were chosen to be inclusive of the counties visiting for Exercise Kakadu, including futsal and softball (Japan, Singapore and Malaysia); beach volleyball (United States and Canada); and touch football, giving the host nation a home-town advantage.

As winners of the round robin competition, the team from the HMAS Newcastle Task Group took the shield to sea for the first time.



Right: Personal trainer SGT James Hood referees a game of touch football.



HMAS Coonawarra crew and Japanese sailors challenge each other with a game of touch football.



Crew members from HMAS Newcastle cook a BBQ lunch for the servicemen and women participating in the Exercise Kakadu Sports Day held at Defence Establishment Berrima.



HMA Ships Glenelg and Newcastle challenge each other to a game of beach volleyball.

Photos: LSIS Justin Brown

TOP-END WAR FIGHT

EXERCISE KAKADU

A special 12-page lift-out

ABBM Matthew Barton and SMNBM Charlie Quinn prepare the .50 calibre machine gun on board HMAS *Warramunga* during Exercise Kakadu. Photo: ABIS Kayla Hayes



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A star for a star

LEUT Adam Grover

NAVY Headquarters – Tasmania's CO CMDR Lewis Gaha is an exemplar of personal character and professional commitment.

In a formal ceremony in the exquisite setting of Tasmania's Government House in Hobart, CMDR Gaha has been awarded the Federation Star by the Governor of Tasmania, Professor Kate Warner.

The Federation Star recognises CMDR Gaha's 40 years of service to the Navy and to the nation.

Reflecting on his service CMDR Gaha said he had experienced many periods of rapid change in Navy. "When I joined in 1975 as a general entry recruit Navy was still recovering from the Vietnam War experience, had a comparatively old fleet, and had a strongly male-dominated culture," he said.

"Today Navy has a rich and diverse culture of inclusion, a growing, highly capable fleet and superb opportunities for its people, who are sophisticated, professional and focused.

"Given this, it is no coincidence that we are able to maintain our recruiting targets as we are an employer of choice," CMDR Gaha said.

His career has had a number of notable highlights including the role of Navy Reserve Career Manager, Director of Navy Ministerial Coordination, and Director of Navy Reputation Management.

His role in Baghdad, working as the Elections Liaison Officer embedded in the Multinational Force Iraq



CMDR Lewis Gaha is awarded the Federation Star by the Governor of Tasmania, Professor Kate Warner, at a ceremony at Government House, Hobart.

Photo: Richard Catt

is particularly memorable.

"Working with, and learning from coalition partners in a demanding and complex environment and being able to deliver solutions in Iraq to help those on the ground was rewarding," CMDR Gaha said.

His personal and professional commitment to achieving the very best for Navy and its people is the

defining characteristic of CMDR Gaha's service.

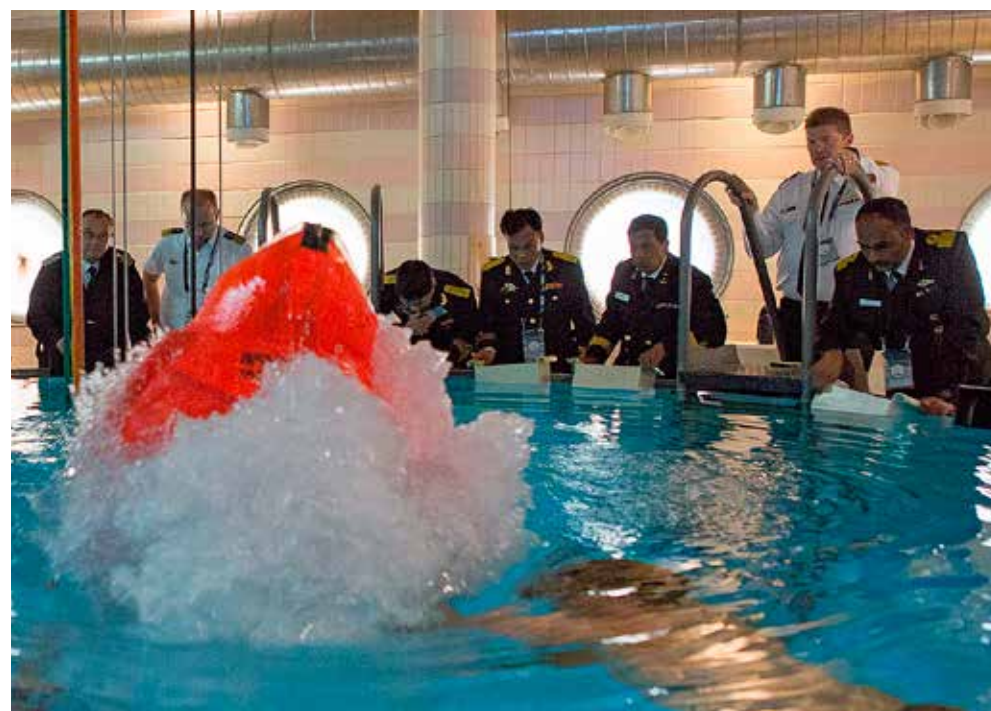
"My approach has always been to deal with people with integrity and honesty. For me it's always been about serving others, most particularly by ensuring that I understand their needs and by doing everything I reasonably can to assist in others reaching their goals," he said.

"I'm looking forward to my remaining time as Senior Naval Officer Tasmania.

"I work with a small group of talented, flexible and optimistic staff, with a real 'can-do' attitude.

"I would like to think that this is, in part, a reflection of my leadership style."

Submarine conference shares ideas



ABOVE: Officers from foreign navies tour the Submarine Escape and Rescue Centre at HMAS Stirling as part of the conference. RIGHT: Submarine Escape and Rescue Manager CMDR Kenneth Marr speaks about the remotely operated vehicle to foreign defence delegates in Fremantle.

Photos: LSIS Bradley Darvill and CPOIS Damian Pawlenko



Andrew Bujdegan

THE RAN has hosted the 16th iteration of the Asia-Pacific Submarine Conference discussing submarine survivability, escape and interoperability of rescue assets.

The conference was conducted at the Western Australian Maritime Museum in Fremantle from September 19-21, with 53 representatives from 21 nations and agencies in attendance.

Established by Commander, Submarine Force, United States Pacific Fleet in the wake of the 2000 *Kursk* disaster, the annual forum is hosted on a rotational basis by selected submarine-capable nations.

Bringing together regional submarine operators, as well as other navies, the forum helps to foster mutual understanding and cooperation, offering an important knowledge-exchange platform for all participants.

The three-day event was chaired by the Australian Director General Submarines CDRE Peter Scott, and officially opened by Head Navy Capability RADM Jonathan Mead.

"We are all here, bound and glued by a common cause – the safety of our sailors at sea," RADM Mead said.

"We take this opportunity to come here, cross-pollinate ideas, learn from each other and essentially reduce the risk for our people."

The format of the conference allows for each represented nation to give a presentation, highlighting achievements and progress in the field of submarine escape and rescue, as well as to have frank discussions on the topic in a less formal environment.

This year the conference was preceded by Exercise Black Carillon, Navy's annual submarine escape exercise. This was completed the week before with some of the foreign observers who attended Black Carillon also attending the conference.

Australia last hosted the Asia-Pacific Submarine Conference in 2004.

CN launches Family and Domestic Violence Strategy

Mission: protect families



CN VADM Tim Barrett addresses personnel during the launch of the Navy Family and Domestic Violence Strategy at Russell Offices. Photos: LSIS Jayson Tufrey

Remember, we can't do our job effectively without the support of our families.

— CN VADM Tim Barrett

LSIS Jayson Tufrey

"FAMILY is important to me and it's important to you. So we're working hard to ensure they're supported and protected."

These words from CN VADM Tim Barrett echoed throughout the fleet as he launched the Navy Family and Domestic Violence Strategy (FDV) on September 30.

To reinforce the message all Navy units around the nation held a clear lower deck (CLD) to view the webcast featuring CN's message.

At the CLD, COs were required to discuss the objectives of the strategy.

All units were also encouraged to conduct a 'celebrate Navy families' event in the form of a social gathering such as a BBQ, as was the case at Russell Offices.

This is relatively new ground for Navy in terms of extending support to Navy families and addressing what has traditionally been considered a private issue.

CN said domestic violence was a significant issue for our society which affected Navy people as well as their families.

"It is a matter I take seriously. It

destroys lives and relationships, erodes unit cohesion and affects your ability to do your job well," he said.

"I am proud of the efforts Navy people take to maintain a safe workplace, and we want to ensure that everyone feels safe in their homes as well. Look after your families, and look out for your workmates, too. If something doesn't look right, ask them if they're okay and make sure your Command knows to look out for them, too.

"I require all Navy personnel to understand the strategy and how we are all part of preventing and responding to FDV, and supporting those affected.

"Remember, we can't do our job effectively without the support of our families. 'Let's celebrate our families and make sure the Navy family at home, and at work, is a safe one.'"

The strategy continues along the reform and cultural change journey Navy is presently undergoing.

It has three objectives:

- Prevent FDV by or against Navy people and Navy families.
- Respond when FDV occurs that involves Navy people or Navy families.
- Support the victims of FDV, whether

they be Navy families, or victims of FDV perpetrated by a Navy member. Deputy Chief of Staff

NAVSTRATCOM CAPT Bruce Legge said FDV was an extreme form of unacceptable behaviour and would not be tolerated.

"It doesn't always involve physical violence; it can be conduct that is threatening, coercive, controlling or intended to cause household members to be fearful," he said.

"Family domestic violence is not acceptable in any form and it is in fact fundamentally against our Navy values and signature behaviours.

"This is a complex topic in which no two circumstances will be the same."

CAPT Legge said we should always remember the premise of looking out for our shipmates.

"Feel empowered to enquire into the welfare of our people and seek advice from specialists if you think it is warranted," he said.

"Most worryingly, it is likely that FDV is affecting some Navy people and their families right now."



LCDR Brooke Curtis and son Jack take part in the 'Celebrate Navy Families' BBQ at Russell Offices after the launch.

Combat systems decision welcomed

THE Australian defence industry has welcomed Minister for Defence Industry Christopher Pyne's announcement that Lockheed Martin has been selected as the program Combat System Integrator for the Australian Future Submarine Program.

Australian Made Defence spokesperson Kerry Smith said awarding of the contract was a significant step forward in the program and would boost opportunities for local industry.

"Lockheed Martin will partner with Australian industry to deliver and support the Combat System Integration, which will be significant for Australia's defence industry supply chain," she said.

"This program will ensure many businesses can reinvest in themselves and make industry more competitive, ahead of other major Defence projects to come.

"Combat systems are the cornerstone of submarine operations, and it is critical that our submarines have the most capable and up-to-date technology available to them.

"The awarding of this contract showcases the capabilities of Australian companies in participating



Minister for Defence Industry Christopher Pyne.

defence industry, particularly our SMEs," Ms Smith said. "It is also encouraging that the announcement was handed down in Thales' Bendigo facility, highlighting the importance of regional communities in Australia's future economic prosperity, which will be boosted through this and future defence programs, such as Land 400.

and collaborating on crucial projects."

Mr Pyne has also announced a three-year extension to the Global Supply Chain Program, further bolstering opportunities for local industry.

"The Global Supply Chain program supported by the Prime Defence Contractors here in Australia has been enormously successful and has provided access to export markets and global supply chains for Australia's

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Security in paradise



LEUT Mark Doggett

THE ability of the Royal Australian and Papua New Guinean navies to work together in maritime security is stronger than ever following the conclusion of Exercise Paradise.

The exercise is the RAN's primary bilateral maritime engagement activity with the PNG Defence Force Maritime Element.

This year it involved Armidale-class patrol boat HMAS *Wollongong* from Australia and Pacific-class patrol boats HMPNG Ships *Seeadler* and *Moresby* from PNG. At the closing ceremony, representatives from both countries highlighted the strong historical, geographical and

cultural links between PNG and Australia and pledged their ongoing support for each other.

LSBM James Friday said the *Wollongong* crew performed professionally during the week-long exercise.

"We remained focused and motivated on delivering the required outcomes and supporting the local forces," he said. "I am incredibly proud of the conduct and effort displayed by the crew."

It was the first international exercise for SBLT Daniel O'Neill, who joined *Wollongong* as part of Maritime Warfare Officer training.

"The *Wollongong* command team allowed me the opportunity to take charge during multi-ship Officer-of-the-Watch

Manoeuvres, close-in station keeping, and harbour pilotages," he said. "The experience and knowledge I gained during Exercise Paradise will benefit me significantly as I continue my training."

A Maritime Warfare Officer is responsible for the control and safety of ships at sea and alongside.

The development of international friendships was a highlight for LSMT Stuart Macfarlane.

"I was able to visit HMPNGS *Seeadler* and provide engineering support. I received a local carving from the Second Engineer in return," he said.

On return to Australia, *Wollongong* will continue to support border protection activities and to police illegal fishing.

Ships work together off Port Moresby.
Inset: Taking a fix from the centreline Pelorus on the bridge of HMAS *Wollongong*.

Photos: LSCIS David Sivy

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Missiles represent new era

THE first upgraded standard missile (SM-2) has been produced for use in Hobart-class destroyers.

Explosive Materiel Branch of Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group has delivered the first SM-2 in a canister for use in a Vertical Launching System (VLS) to Navy.

The production of the first SM-2 All-Up Round marks the culmination of years of planning and dedicated work by multiple stakeholders within Defence and represents the introduction of a significant capability investment into Navy.

The SM-2 is an air-defence missile, used to defend ships from attack by anti-ship missiles and aircraft and can be used against surface vessels.

It was introduced into Navy in 2009 in the Adelaide-class Frigates (FFGs) to replace the obsolete SM-1.

In the FFG, SM-2 is stored inside the Mk13 Guided Missile Launching System magazine. Navy's new Guided Missile Destroyers (DDG) will use the Mk41 VLS, where each missile is stored vertically in its own canister until launched.

The existing stock of SM-2 missiles will be converted from rail launch to vertical launch configuration to be used in the DDG.

All SM-2 maintenance is con-



CDRE Simon Ottaviano, right, representing the delivery agent, and CDRE Michael Miko, representing the customer, for the acquisition.

Photo: SGT Brett Sherriff

ducted at Defence Establishment Orchard Hills, where missiles are tested using the Guided Missile Test Set, which has also been delivered by Explosive Materiel Branch. Once declared serviceable, missiles are installed into Mk13 VL canisters, making an All-Up Round.

The test set provides an enhanced ability to process weapons and a further level of assurance the All-Up Round remains serviceable when issued to the Fleet.

The event was overseen by CDRE Simon Ottaviano, representing the delivery agent, and CDRE Michael Miko, representing the customer.

CDRE Ottaviano is the Director General Explosive Materiel Branch, which is responsible for managing the entire explosive ordnance life-

cycle, from acquisition through sustainment, to use or disposal for all Services.

Director General Logistics Navy CDRE Miko is the Navy Capability Manager's representative for explosive ordnance and fuel. The delivery of explosive ordnance by Explosive Materiel Branch to Navy is administered through two Materiel Support Agreement Product Schedules.

In "handing over" the SM-2 missile to DG Logistics-Navy, CDRE Ottaviano thanked the hard work of the entire team which included the project and maintenance staff within Explosive Materiel Branch.

He said it was an important milestone ensuring the DDGs had the most advanced area air defence weapon available in the world.

Cook Islands op a success



His Majesty's Armed Forces Tonga Navy LCM *Voea Late*, PPB *Voea Pangai*, Cook Island PPB *Te Kukupa* and Samoan PPB *Nafanua* during the operation.

NOW in its fourth year, the joint annual maritime surveillance operation, Operation Ika Moana, involving more than 100 personnel from Tonga, Cook Islands and Samoa, New Zealand, and Australia, was successful in both terms of its achievements and as a demonstration of the value of regional partnerships.

During this year's operation, Cook Islands Police Patrol Boat (PPB) *Te Kukupa* and Samoa PPB *Nafanua* joined with Tongan vessels *Voea Late* and *Pangai* for the surveillance mission.

Voea Late would be familiar to many Navy News readers as a former Landing Craft Medium, gifted by Australia to Tonga in September 2015 as part of the Defence Cooperation Program.

The PPBs were also provided with air support in the form of a New Zealand Air Force P3 Orion maritime surveillance aircraft.

The operation focused on the Northern Cook Islands Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the

Penrhyn Atoll; a remote, scarcely populated area that sees a high concentration of foreign flagged fishing vessels, but infrequent policing.

This year the tiny island nation of Niue was also included in the operation, so the Task Force stopped briefly in Alofi to embark a Niuean fishery and police officer.

The ships also took the opportunity to conduct a sail past close to the coast for the Niuean government and New Zealand High Commissioner to Niue.

This is not something often seen in this small island country (population 1200), so it was a real treat for local people.

For the next two weeks the Joint Task Force conducted 32 boardings and many sightings. The boardings often focused on fishing vessels known to have had past violations.

Although many of the fishing vessels were found to be in good standing, a number of violations were detected and the vessels concerned ordered to leave the Cook Island EEZ.

Meanwhile the Landing Craft

Voea Late provided logistics support running a 300km supply line between Manniki and Penrhyn Atoll, replenishing depleted food stores.

LCDR David Ince, the RAN Maritime Surveillance Adviser to Tonga, said the scale of the operation, as well the results, were impressive.

"The main search area covered by the three patrol boats was 66,500 square miles to the south and west of Penrhyn Atoll where the majority of the foreign fishing vessels were congregated," he said.

"The Task Force itself sailed and patrolled a combined 15,400 miles."

The contribution of the RNZAF P3 was particularly important in detecting and targeting vessels as it covered 350,000 square miles during its 35 hours of missions, reporting 170 vessels.

"The success of this year's operation means that Ika Moana will be a likely enduring feature in the calendar of these defence forces," LCDR Ince said.



Above: CI PPB *Te Kukupa*, inboard, and *Voea Pangai*, in Niue. Left: Tonga Navy LCM *Voea Late*, PPB *Voea Pangai*, Cook Island PPB *Te Kukupa* and Samoan PPB *Nafanua*. Inset: Maritime Surveillance Adviser – Tonga LCDR David Ince.

Veterans' film festival at AWM

THE second annual Veterans' Film Festival (VFF) returns to Canberra with a three-day program on October 13, 14 and 15 at the Australian War Memorial.

The film festival is a not-for-profit event designed to promote a greater understanding of veterans, their families and the impact war has on society.

This year's festival will kick off with Afghan war epic *Hyena Road*, a Canadian drama written, directed

and starring Paul Gross and Rossif Sutherland, the son of legendary actor Donald Sutherland.

The screenings include dramas, comedy, animation and science fiction in feature-length, short film and documentary form.

Submissions are selected from independent and emerging filmmakers, featuring talent from 13 countries including Australia, Serbia, the UK, Germany and Iran.

The stories explore diverse perspectives, outcomes and influ-

ences relating to veterans' lives and issues. The Red Poppy Awards in 2016 represent the high point of the festival program. Hand-blown glass trophies will be awarded to four film categories: Best Australian Feature Film, Best International Feature Film, Best Australian Short Film and Best International Short Film.

For further information and to order tickets, visit www.veteransfilmfestival.com

Yarra crew shares insights in E Timor

MINEHUNTER HMAS *Yarra* has visited one of the world's youngest nations, Timor-Leste, as part of her South-East Asian deployment en route to Exercise Bersama Lima.

The visit provided an opportunity for not only respite and friendship-building, but also working to enhance military capability.

Yarra's leadership group met with some of the senior defence members in Dili, including the Senior Naval Adviser and Defence Attaché to share insights with the Timor-Leste military officers residing in Dili.

The Australian ship also provided tours while alongside, hosting military members, Australian and East Timorese officials, and students from the local international school representing more than 15 countries.

SBLT Kylea Jones, a phase III MWO trainee who has recently been recommended to attend fleet board, headed the team conducting the tours of *Yarra*.

"The enthusiasm shown by the East Timorese sailors and officers who

attended was impressive, they were eager to learn about how we run things daily here on *Yarra*," she said.

While the ship tours were being conducted the clearance divers took advantage of an opportunity to train, advise and assist the Timor-Leste dive team.

The ship's embarked dive team demonstrated basic dive techniques and safety procedures culminating in teaching emergency responses and first aid.

ABCD George Cantarakis said he found the exchange of ideas rewarding.

"It was a great experience working with the East Timorese Navy," he said.

"They were very appreciative of what we had to offer in terms of training and we were glad when they reciprocated by showing us one of the most stunning dives I've ever been on."

ABCD Dominic Blond was another of the Australian team sharing his knowledge.

"I feel we have created an important ongoing and productive relationship with the dive branch of our close neighbour, one that I hope to be involved in further," he said.



HMAS *Yarra* plays host to a curious crew of East Timorese sailors and officers en route to Exercise Bersama Lima.



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Members of the Seychelles National Drug Enforcement Agency enjoy a damage control display during a tour of HMAS Perth.

Inset: Members of the Seychelles National Drug Enforcement Agency on the deck of HMAS Perth. Photos: LEUT Richard Morris

Anti-drug operations form bond

HMAS Perth is conducting counter-terrorism operations in the Indian Ocean region, under the command of Combined Task Force 150.

In this region, narcotics smuggling has a global impact, but one small multinational agency located in the Seychelles, the National Drug Enforcement Agency (NDEA), is making a stand.

During Perth's visit to the islands, two RAN officers, LEUTs Tim Russell-Cook and Richard Morris, conducted a goodwill visit to the Maritime Element of the NDEA. The visit included tours of NDEA facilities and seized vessels, and provided excellent insights into the complexities of narcotic trafficking across the Indian Ocean.

The visit also provided the officers with a new-found appreciation of the impact that the black market drugs trade has on small island communities.

The Seychelles authorities have had a positive impact on regional maritime security operations in the Indian Ocean. They play a prominent role in countering maritime piracy and is now making significant progress towards law enforcement-led successes against drug traffickers.

In April, the NDEA seized a dhow transiting through its waters carrying 98 kilograms of heroin.

LEUTs Russell-Cook and Morris were offered a tour of the seized dhow and were impressed with NDEA capabilities.

"The NDEA has achieved a lot, especially when you consider the huge island archipelago it has to patrol," LEUT Russell-Cook said.

To reciprocate, the officers invited agents for a tour of HMAS Perth, which included an informal brief on the challenges of counter-narcotics operations in the Indian Ocean region.

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CO HMAS Perth, CAPT Ivan Ingham, with the ship's youngest member, SMNBM Bridgette Hopkins and oldest member POML-C Renato Franz on Perth's 10th Birthday. Photo: ABIS Richard Cordell

Ten years young

LEUT Richard Morris

HMAS Perth celebrated her 10-year anniversary on August 26 and although Perth was the last frigate to be commissioned, in 2006, her history has been characterised by a series of firsts.

Perth was the first Anzac-class to successfully integrate the Anti-Ship Missile Defence Upgrade. The frigate was also the first to embark the multi-mission MH-60R, the world's most advanced naval helicopter. In doing so, Perth became the first of her type to achieve the full suite of capabilities envisioned during the procurement of the Anzac-class.

Now, Perth has become the first upgraded Anzac-class to deploy to the Middle East region.

Her deployment brings with it the added challenge of conducting testing and providing analysis, integration and validation of a new generation of sensors and weapons systems. The lessons from Perth's deployment will certainly have a significant influence upon the future employment of the Anzac-class and the RAN presence in the Middle East.

On the other side of the world, Perth's sister ship, the Los Angeles-class Nuclear Attack Submarine USS Houston, marked its decommissioning following long and loyal service in the US Navy.

Perth I and Houston II were both lost in a valiant action on the night of March 1, 1942, against a numerically superior Japanese naval force.

The fact that August 26, 2016 marks special dates for both ships is a point not lost on CO HMAS Perth CAPT Ivan Ingham.

"Houston and Perth have a history dating back almost 75 years to the Sunda Strait," he said.

"It is fortuitous that Houston decommissions on the same day that we are celebrating our 10th birthday. We have maintained close ties with Houston and have sent them a video message as a tribute to their great service."

To appropriately commemorate the occasion, Perth officers and sailors assembled for a photo on the flight deck to form the number '33', saluting Houston for 33 years of service to the US Navy.

Perth continues on the 63rd rotation of Operation Manitou.



HMAS *Ballarat* returns home to Fleet Base West after a six-month deployment.
Photos: LSIS Lee-Anne Mack

Ballarat's warm welcome

LEUT Gary McHugh

FAMILIES, friends and well-wishers lined the wharf at Fleet Base West recently as HMAS *Ballarat* returned home from a six-month Pacific deployment.

After steaming more than 24,000 nautical miles, the officers and crew of *Ballarat* were more than happy to be home and justifiably proud of their achievements over the past 25 weeks.

CO *Ballarat* CMDR David Landon said the deployment had a number of highlights, including acting as consort to one of Navy's newest ships HMAS *Adelaide* during her work-up, and taking part in Exercise Nichi Gou Trident with the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force.

"But the real highlight was participating in Exercise Rimpac off Hawaii," he said.

During Rimpac, *Ballarat* joined more than 40 ships and submarines, and 200 aircraft from 26 countries in the world's largest international maritime exercise.

Following Rimpac, and before returning to Australia, *Ballarat* took part in Exercise Northern Shield, which saw all three arms of the ADF deploy to remote North Western Australia to counter a fictitious threat to the country's national security.

The exercise incorporated force preparation activities, land force



LSML-C Daniel Healey gets a hug from daughter Natashja as partner Chiarina Hill wipes away a tear.

manoeuvres, air operations and maritime evolutions.

This was *Ballarat's* first deployment since she underwent the Anti-Ship Missile Defence upgrade in 2014/15, and CMDR Landon said his crew performed admirably during the entire six-months.

He said family support had a lot to do with the ship's company being able to keep their minds on the job for such an extended period of time.

"The support of family and

friends makes a deployment like ours possible," CMDR Landon said.

"The *Ballarat* families have been exceptional in their support throughout our time away, and to have them share in our homecoming was very special."

Ballarat will now head into a short maintenance period, giving the ship's company a chance to take leave and undertake various courses before preparing for a busy 2017.



Crew members of HMAS *Ballarat* search for familiar faces among family and friends on the wharf.

Asia-Pacific navies in warfare law debate

AUSTRALIAN representatives were among 37 senior naval officers from around the Asia-Pacific to participate in the third Asia Pacific Workshop on the Law of Armed Conflict at Sea, held in Surabaya, Indonesia.

The Indonesian Navy, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), hosted navy officers from 22 nations last month to debate the law of naval warfare.

ICRC's regional delegation head for Indonesia and Timor-Leste Christoph Sutter said the aim of the five-day event was to facilitate operational dialogue on maritime security issues, especially on the laws of naval warfare.

"Maritime and territorial disputes feature prominently in the Asia-Pacific region," Mr Sutter said.

"If tensions continue to rise, there could be an increasing risk of clashes at sea in a region which has the world's busiest maritime trade route.

"Naval forces in the region are already routinely involved in a range of maritime operations.

"Through such events, the ICRC is seeking to share with the participating countries its expertise on laws of naval warfare and stimulate

exchanges on its applicability in the region."

The workshop also covered other maritime security operations, which are below the threshold of armed conflict, such as anti-piracy, rescue, and movement of people at sea.

"This is a rare opportunity to exchange our ideas so that we acquire a better knowledge and understanding of those particular issues," Chief of the Indonesian Navy ADML Ade Supandi said.

"It will also allow us to identify the challenges and opportunities of cooperation in our region, especially in what relates to the application of the laws of armed conflict."

The workshop gathered naval officers from Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, South Korea, North Korea, India, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, United States of America and Vietnam.

The sessions were facilitated by military experts from Indonesia, United Kingdom and Australia, as well as ICRC armed forces delegates and law-of-the-sea specialists.

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Navy medics stand out



Medical officers LCDR Anthony Dilley, left, and CMDRs Janine Gregson, Anthony Holley and Ian Young.

CPL Max Bree

STANDING out in the sea of khaki as part of the Army's 7 Brigade welcome home parade in Brisbane was CMDR Janine Gregson and three other Navy medical officers.

"It's kind of handy that we stick out because I can find the rest of them, but it's also good to show our triservice approach here," she said.

A pair of Bushmaster vehicles led the way through the city ahead of about 1000 ADF members as part of the parade on September 17, honouring those recently returned from the Middle East.

Brisbane locals, along with family and friends, lined the city streets for the official welcome home by Defence Minister Marise Payne and Governor of Queensland Paul de Jersey.

CMDR Gregson is an anaesthetist

deployed with 7 Brigade as part of the medical element for Task Group Taji 2.

"It was very quiet for us, and for a surgical team that's a good thing," she said. "But we did a lot of training and got to know the whole team there."

COL Matt Galton, former commander of Task Group Taji 1, led one of the contingents through Brisbane.

"I think we've learned the hard way over a number of decades about recognising servicemen and women well when they come home," he said.

"The ADF has done a lot of work on that, but Australian society also looks after us well and we appreciate that a lot."

7 Brigade recently stood down as Army's ready brigade, but not before a large number of its soldiers deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East.

But this wouldn't have been pos-



The Navy medical officers participate in the welcome home parade in Brisbane for 7 Brigade's return from the Middle East.

Photos: CPL Max Bree

sible without the help of families, according to COL Galton.

"We join up, we're trained for what we do, and trained to go and deploy," he said.

"Families don't sign up to the military – they inherit it – and the support

we get from families is what keeps us going overseas."

CMDR Gregson is no stranger to working with Army, having also deployed to East Timor, Solomon Islands and Afghanistan.

"I actually enjoy deploying with

the Army units," she said. "I've probably done more Army deployments than Navy ones.

"They also have a can-do attitude that I really like, and it's great being part of the military culture."

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Director General Australian Navy Cadets and Reserves CDRE Bruce Kafer, left, Director General Reserves–Airforce AIRCDRE Bob Rodgers, and CA LTGEN Angus Campbell answer questions at the DRA conference.

Maximising Reserves

MAJ Kathryn Ames

DIVERSITY, service conditions, and integrating Reserve expertise to deliver capability were some of the key discussion points at this year's Defence Reserves Association (DRA) conference, held recently in Brisbane.

CA LTGEN Angus Campbell, Director General Australian Navy Cadets and Reserves CDRE Bruce Kafer, and Director General Reserves–Airforce AIRCDRE Bob Rodgers provided updates on how the three services intended to maximise Reserve forces as part of an integrated force as new service categories were implemented Defence-wide.

LTGEN Campbell acknowledged the importance of the Reserve, saying a well-trained Reserve force was critical to Defence capability.

"We quite simply can't sustain a prolonged presence without the Reserves. A strong Reserve force is vital," he said.

CA reinforced the need for diversity and flexibility, something for which, he said, the Reserves was already recognised.

Government representative Stuart Robert and Shadow Defence Minister Richard Marles demonstrated the bipartisan approach to Defence matters by engaging in an open panel, and acknowledged complexities of debating Reserve conditions, such as taxation and

superannuation. "There is no easy answer, but government is ready to listen to different options," Mr Robert said.

"The Reserve community, represented by organisations such as the DRA, needs to come to some form of agreement, but to date that agreement has been hard to come by. This represents how complex some of the issues are, particularly when growing a diverse organisation."

Conference organiser Queensland DRA President COL Jenny Cotton said she was pleased to see so many serving members from Army Reserve units attend the conference.

"The conference provides a rare opportunity to hear directly from senior officers about what is happening across the three services that directly impacts their Reserve service," COL Cotton said.

"Having informed representatives from parliament, who were able to provide an update on matters impacting Reserve service, was a bonus.

"We also hosted seven members of the Thai Territorial Defence Reserve Force Association, led by COL Pihphu Suchokchaikul, which provided a great opportunity to learn from one another."

More information about the DRA can be found at www.dra.org.au. Membership is open to individuals and organisations with an interest in Defence.

Competition keeps sailors fit to fight

LEUT Fitzgerald

HMAS *Kuttabul* is driving a team sport and physical fitness focus with the introduction of dragon boating, gladiator games, sea kayaking and lunch-time fitness classes at the Sydney Navy base.

The push to reinvigorate participation levels was aimed at securing a ready resource of resilient, fit-to-fight crews for the fleet, according to National Sport and Recreation Manager LEUT Ian Rushton.

He said he had created the new fitness program in consultation with Navy physical training instructors to cater for all capability levels and interests to improve teamwork skills.

"The response from Navy personnel has been extremely positive and a sound base line has been established," LEUT Rushton said.

"We are now transitioning into Fit to Fight – Fleet Resilience Plan with more challenging activities that positively contribute to teamwork and resilience."

LEUT Rushton said he "would not take the foot off the pedal" when it came to motivating more Navy personnel to improve their fitness.

He said more demanding activities would develop and improve



HMAS *Kuttabul* teams give their all during a dragon boat tug-of-war challenge at Garden Island boat pound.

individual resilience and confidence.

"We have moved ahead in a positive direction but there is still plenty of room for expansion with these activities," he said.

"The key is to undertake challenging activities on our doorstep to alleviate travel time and to ensure the assets we hold, such as the dragon boats and kayaks, are used to their full potential."

The Gladiator Games were held at Fleet Base East Gym on September 21.

Sea kayaking occurs each Wednesday, cycling each Friday from 8.30am to 11.30am and dragon boating is conducted each

Tuesday and Thursday from 7.30am to 8.30am at Garden Island boat pound.

Personnel should see the Kuttabul Sports Program on the base's intranet site for timings of walking and running groups, the dragon boat tug-of-war challenge and all fitness classes.

Physical training instructors are responsible for the physical health of all Navy members and are a critical element in assisting a ship's command with the maintenance of a motivated crew while at sea.

Physical and mental fitness are important parts of the RAN mission to fight and win at sea.

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Kuttabul under new command

Natalie Staples

TWENTY months after posting in, CMDR Rebecca Jeffcoat has handed over command of HMAS *Kuttabul* to CMDR Andrew Fraser. More than 100 personnel lined the quarterdeck to see the transition. CMDR Jeffcoat assumed command in late January 2015 and says her time in the top job has been rewarding. “HMAS *Kuttabul* now holds a very special place in my heart; she is complex with multiple personalities. She is old and needs much care, but with such a great team working here each day she provides an incredible capability to the Navy. I am honoured to now form part of her history,” CMDR Jeffcoat said. “It’s been an incredible privilege to have had command of such a knowledgeable, professional, and impressive group of people.” CMDR Andrew Fraser brings a wealth of experience to the role

both at sea and ashore. He served as XO HMAS *Tobruk* and has worked in New Generation Navy and Navy Continuous Improvement reform programs. Most recently CMDR Fraser completed postings as Deputy Director Individual Training, and Staff Officer One Mine Clearance Diving Platforms. In his address to *Kuttabul* ship’s company, CMDR Fraser thanked everyone for the warm welcome. “*Kuttabul* is key to supporting the fleet and that role cannot be understated. I was impressed by the changes around the base that have been ongoing for some time,” CMDR Fraser said. “I was afforded a warm welcome and received a positive vibe from all those that I have met this week. That reflects well on CMDR Jeffcoat and her command team. I wish her the best for her new posting in Canberra and hope that she keeps *Kuttabul* close to her heart.”



CMDR Rebecca Jeffcoat hands over the weight of command of HMAS *Kuttabul* to CMDR Andrew Fraser at a ceremony on HMAS *Kuttabul*’s quarterdeck. Photo:ABIS Bonny Gassner

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REMOVING REMNANTS OF WAR

More than 70 years after WWII drew to a close, Navy Clearance Divers are helping to clean up the hazardous munitions that still remain, **MAJ Cameron Jamieson** reports.

MEMBERS of Navy’s elite AUSCDT1 traded their fins for combat boots when they assisted with land clearance operations in the Solomon Islands in support of Operation Render Safe.

Working in the village of Konga, east of the capital Honiara on the island of Guadalcanal, the detachment and two medics joined two Royal Solomon Islands Police Force explosive ordnance disposal specialists to remove explosive remnants of war that still litter the countryside and pose a threat to the community 70 years after WWII drew to a close.

The village is surrounded by grasslands interwoven with numerous creeks lined by jungle growth.

There are precious few roads or paths, and as the area is believed to have been used in the later stages of the Pacific campaign as an artillery and mortar range by the US, the countryside is pockmarked with craters.

Unfortunately for the divers, the smaller mortar blast holes are hidden by the waist-high grass, so every step in the open terrain is a hazard.

Fortunately for the team, they have six confirmed and suspected locations for explosive remnants, with photos and descriptions of the confirmed munitions.

Arriving in a small convoy of white Toyota Land Cruisers, the team establish a base site on a hillock to establish communications with their Task Force headquarters. This way medical evacuation by helicopter can be swiftly arranged if the worst case scenario unfolds.

Team leader LEUT Robert Kelly holds a brief meeting with his sailors and the policemen to determine the order in which they will tackle the sites. It is agreed to deal with some suspect sites first, and so with the base personnel standing by on their radios the rest of the team moves downhill via road until they can go no further. A short trek across a creek leads them to the first site, but a search through the undergrowth reveals nothing, so it’s on to the next site.

This one proves to be trickier. The team must move across country to a creek line shrouded in jungle growth. What looks like a pleasant walk across some rolling hills shrouded in long grass, is actually an obstacle course of hidden mortar blast holes and an uneven rocky surface.

Midway across a hill LEUT Kelly pauses to allow his men to continue over the ridge so he can inspect a 60mm mortar round that protrudes from the ground. Its rusty body is almost impossible to spot in the grass, and even when the undergrowth is cleared away it still resembles the burnt rocks that surround it. With everyone clear he digs further to find it is only the tail of the mortar – there are no explosives or a body compartment attached. Thankfully this round cannot hurt anyone, but that can only be proven now that the round has been dug up and examined.

For the sake of safety the team enters the creek line earlier than planned and uses it as a path to the waiting explosives known to be upstream. The large rounded rocks in the creek bed are still a hazard, but at least they can be seen.

Thirty minutes later the tired sailors and policemen arrive at the site to find the munitions waiting for them. There are two artillery shells – a large 105mm shell and a massive 155mm shell. Both have been fired but failed to detonate, the evidence of their flight scored into the driving band around each shell that shows the rifling of the barrels of the guns that fired them so long ago.

An inspection confirms they are safe



Above: LEUT Robert Kelly, right, holds a 155mm artillery shell while POCD John Armfield holds a 105mm artillery shell following their recovery in wild country south of the village of Konga, south-east of Honiara.



Right: A WWII memorial display in the village of Barana, on Mount Austin.



A pile of 40mm Bofors anti-aircraft artillery shells await destruction at the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Facility at Hells Point.



Right: A WWII memorial display in the village of Barana, on Mount Austin.

Working to render Solomons safe

THE dangers posed by explosive remnants of war in the Solomon Islands were again tackled with Operation Render Safe.

The annual ADF-led deployment is Australia’s enduring commitment to the removal of unexploded and abandoned WWII munitions, commonly referred to as explosive remnants of war, which continue to pose a danger to communities in the South West Pacific.

The operation finished on October 7 after being conducted in three primary areas: Honiara (Guadalcanal Island), Tulaghi (Florida Group) and Yandina (Russell Islands).

The 120 ADF personnel were joined by 40 specialists from New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom, with the full cooperation of Solomon Islands government and in close partnership with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force.

Australian Contingent Commander CMDR Etienne Mulder said the operational deployment held special significance for the personnel involved as they are able to contribute to the safety of people.

“Operation Render Safe is an important real-time undertaking that removes the lethal potential of explosive remnants of war,” he said.

“We achieved this through close cooperation and working side-by-side with Solomon Islands personnel who possess extensive explosive remnants of war knowledge and experience.

“We also relied heavily on the local communities as they were the ones with the local knowledge as to the location of explosive remnants of war.

“Without positive interaction and community support, the mission becomes very difficult.”

CMDR Mulder said disposal went beyond contributing to a safer environment for communities.

“We also provided the opportunity for potential economic prosperity by enabling families and communities access to more land for food cultivation,” he said.

“The use of minehunting vessels from Australia, a diving support ship from New Zealand and clearance divers allowed us to undertake more underwater clearances, which in turn contributes to a safer maritime environment for activities like tourism and fishing.”

This year Australia has contributed the mine-hunter vessels HMA Ships *Huon* and *Diamantina*, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Specialists from Navy, Army and Air Force supported by health personnel and logistic troops.

The RAAF also provided strategic airlift with a C-130J Hercules transport aircraft.

New food innovation

DEFENCE is bringing a new food processing technology, microwave assisted thermal sterilisation (MATS), to Australia.

This technology rapidly processes meals in sealed food trays to better preserve the tastes, textures and nutrition in the form of a ready meal that does not require refrigeration.

While Defence does not currently have an established requirement for MATS products, Defence scientist Ross Coad said the establishment of an industry base for MATS foods would open opportunities for improvements to military feeding systems.

"The potential for microwave technology has been known for decades. In the 1960s, a Swedish scientist invented and built a commercial system in which food was sterilised by a combination of microwave energy, pressurised hot water and steam," Mr Coad said.

"The microwaves in this system had a frequency of 2450 MHz, the same as that used in the common household microwave oven.

"Although capable of producing sterilised foods, the technology had technical shortcomings and ceased production."

In response to the need to improve the quality of military meals, a development program on microwave food

processing was started at Washington State University (WSU) in 1997.

An important improvement was changing the microwave frequency to 915 MHz. In Australia, 922 MHz will be used so the equipment operates in the industrial, scientific and medical bandwidth – not in mobile phone frequencies. MATS was patented in 2006 and is now licensed and manufactured by American company 915 Labs.

Centre for Food Innovation director Prof Roger Stanley said the system operates as a continuous process with sealed trays of food, weighing up to 2kg, being moved on a conveyor through pressurised heating and cooling zones to kill all microbial contamination in a process which takes about 10 minutes.

"The 922 MHz microwave energy can penetrate about twice as far as the domestic microwave, enabling effective heating of the centre of the food," Prof Stanley said.

"With good packaging the meals can be designed to maintain their quality for more than two years without refrigeration."

Defence organisations have a long history of providing the momentum for key advancements in many fields of endeavour; food and nutrition is no exception. The MATS project at WSU was supported by US Army Soldier

Microwave assisted thermal sterilisation could increase the longevity of food.



Systems in Natick, Massachusetts, along with a consortium of food and packaging industry partners.

"The first Australian MATS plant will be on a research scale, and is expected to arrive at the Defence Science and Technology Group site in Scottsdale, Tasmania in 2017," Defence scientist Dr Lan Bui said.

"A small, production scale, MATS plant will follow approximately 12 months later for installation at a Launceston, Tasmania site.

"A research program is being developed by the Centre for Food Innovation – a body comprising the Defence Science and Technology

Group, CSIRO and University of Tasmania – to support the Australian MATS project and transition research outcomes to industry."

Prof Stanley said successful introduction of the MATS to Australia will hinge on government funding through Defence, together with strong interest and support from industry.

He said there would be a significant learning curve, supported by research and training, to develop the knowledge and skills to safely exploit the improvements in meal quality.

"This will include optimisation of formulation, processing, flavour, texture and validation of food safety,

nutritional value and consumer acceptability," he said.

"The potential benefits to the Australian food industry are considerable, including opening up both domestic and export markets for higher quality, 'heat and eat' style food products.

"It has potential for a wide range of military applications, including use in ration packs, field catering, and voyage extension for submarines and patrol boats.

"Defence opportunities will be investigated over the coming years as the industry production base develops and Australian products and application opportunities emerge."

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Cadets' experience at sea

LEUT Nicole Francis

CADETS have enjoyed an 'at-sea' experience with Hydrographic Survey Red Crew embarked in HMAS *Leeuwin*.

Leeuwin deployed from Cairns on September 5 to undertake a 10-week survey task off Western Australia's North West Shelf.

When *Leeuwin* sailed from Cairns for trials, the ship's company took the opportunity to embark cadets from Training Ship *Endeavour*, located in Cairns, the majority of whom had never been to sea on a RAN vessel.

Every Navy ship is twinned with a Navy Cadet Unit within Australia to enable a rapport to be developed between the cadets and the crew, and to encourage cadets to gain an understanding of Navy life.

Leeuwin is twinned with Training Ships *Ganning*, *Marmion*, *Morrow*, *Perth* and *Pilbara*, all of which are quite a distance from *Leeuwin*'s home port.

Fourteen cadets and two staff members from TS *Endeavour* embarked in *Leeuwin* to experience a day at sea.

XO TS *Endeavour* SBLT Lesa Jarvis said in her time at the unit they had undertaken many ship tours.

"This is the first opportunity for the cadets to have a sea ride," SBLT Jarvis said.

On arrival, the cadets were greeted by CO CMDR Nic Zillman, and then



Members of TS *Endeavour* on completion of the Sea Day before departing the ship (above) and (inset) one of the cadets wearing a thermal protective suit.

Photos: LEUT Nicole Francis

participated in a Colours ceremony on the quarterdeck.

The cadets were escorted by two members of the ship's company who were former cadets.

Throughout the day the cadets participated in a variety of activities

including observing the ship depart from HMAS *Cairns*, dressing in thermal protective suits and using firefighting equipment.

The visitors watched as the ship's company responded to a simulated fire, recovered a Survey

Motor Boat and received briefings on the various pieces of hydrographic equipment.

The day was topped off with a scrumptious meal served by the Navy chefs.



DHA chair Sandy Macdonald, left, Soldier On CEO John Bale, DHA acting managing director Jan Mason and Raiders chair Dr Allan Hawke.

Photo: Jez Rozdarz

Hats off to fans

DEFENCE Housing Australia donated a cheque for \$30,000 to Soldier On, raised through the sales of popular DHA lime green Viking beanies.

DHA chair Sandy Macdonald, and Raiders chair Dr Allan Hawke, jointly presented the cheque to Soldier On CEO John Bale.

DHA acting managing director Jan Mason said the beanies were originally designed as a promotional give-away but then DHA began collecting donations at Canberra Raiders' games during last year's NRL season. Beanies were also sold via the Raiders' online shop.

"Raiders fans responded with tremendous generosity and enthusiasm so we continued to collect donations through this season," Ms Mason said.

"Soldier On is an organisation that has had extraordinary growth since it began in 2012 and its aim to help serving and ex-serving men and women reintegrate is a worthy and important cause.

"At DHA we create communities where Defence members as well as other Australians live, raise families and forge relationships with their neighbours so

we feel an enormous connection with Soldier On and a deep respect for the work they do."

Ms Mason thanked the Canberra Raiders for their enthusiastic endorsement and support of the fundraising project.

"The club allowed beanies to be distributed at home games as well as sold via the Raiders shop website and this resulted in sales to fans from as far away as Queensland and the UK," Ms Mason said.

"And of course none of this would have been possible without the fans themselves. They enthusiastically and generously supported the project.

"The Raiders have made history this year and we were pleased and proud to be part of that journey."

Dr Hawke said his club's association with DHA would be remembered as an exciting and successful period. He said fans had shown their true colours by supporting the Soldier On fundraising project.

"Raiders' fans understand mateship and there's no better way to support our mates who have served than by supporting Soldier On."

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New chopper takes flight

CMDR Darren Murphy

IT WAS up, up and away for the EC135 helicopter, the latest aircraft to be acquired by the RAN and Australian Army as part of the new Helicopter Aircrew Training System (HATS).

The first aircraft lifted off from HMAS Albatross on September 22 with the first tranche of flying instructors from the Navy, Army and Boeing Defence Australia.

The modern twin-engine helicopter will provide a generational change in training to what both Army and Navy have been able to achieve with existing training systems.

Senior Army Instructor MAJ Anton Leshinskas said it was exciting to be part of the team to have commenced flying operations.

“The EC135 is a great aircraft to fly and it is exciting to be part of the initial team of instructors getting this training system off the ground,” MAJ Leshinskas said.

“We are now on the path to realising an excellent training capability for both the Navy and Army.”

EC135 helicopters will provide the Live Training Environment as part of the new system being delivered under Joint Project 9000 Phase 7 by both Boeing Defence Australia and Thales Australia.

HATS Pilot Instructor LCDR



The EC-135T2 being prepared for flight trials at HMAS Albatross.

Photo: ABIS Sarah Ebsworth

Tony Hammond said the aircraft would deliver state-of-the-art, contemporary training to Navy.

“The array of systems embedded in the new EC135 means that we are going to be able to much

better prepare aircrew for the more complicated operational helicopters to which they will then transition,” LCDR Hammond said.

“The HATS concept is all about providing better training in a more

efficient manner.” Along with a suite of simulator training devices, the EC135 will provide initial helicopter conversion training to Army and Navy pilots and aircrewmembers, along with Navy Aviation Warfare

Officers and Sensor Operators. The first students will begin training on the EC135 in 2018, with the focus now on aircraft familiarisation and training design efforts.



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Inspiring our future sailors

LCDR Alan Parton

RECRUITS from the Defence Indigenous Development Program got a chance to take a closer look at what life is like on board a minehunter when 16 participants visited Sydney recently.

The visitors spent the day at HMAS Waterhen visiting MWT16 and AUSCDT1, before embarking HMAS Gascoyne.

RCT Jeremiah Maitie Manning said he was impressed by how much could be packed into a small space.

"The tour was pretty inspiring. It motivated me even more to join the Navy as a marine technical sailor," RCT Manning said.

"The best thing about the visit was meeting the ship's company and witnessing firsthand how they live and work on such a small ship."

Members of Gascoyne's ship's company explained the important role Huon-class coastal minehunters play in protecting the nation's waterways from the threat of sea mines.

RCT Shakira Thaiday said she learned a great deal from the visit.

"During the tour, I learned that minehunters look for the old mines that may be still active and floating in the

oceans," RCT Thaiday said. "While Gascoyne was interesting, I would prefer to work on bigger ships as there is more room."

CPOML-S Trevor Maybir, a Senior Divisional Instructor who travelled with the students, said by getting to see Navy life firsthand the students could decide if Navy would be a suitable a career for them.

"This is a great way for the recruits to get an insight into possible careers," CPO Maybir said.

"The recruits really enjoyed their visit. They have now returned to Cairns and will start their TAFE Year 10 Education and then graduate at the end of the 'living-in' program."

Defence Indigenous Development Program recruits come from all over Australia. They join the Navy on a six-month enlistment term.

"Before they graduate, the recruits have the option of extending their enlistment allowing them to join the next Recruit School Division," CPO Maybir said.

Information on taking part in the Defence Indigenous Development Program is available here: www.defence.gov.au/Diversity/indigenous/career/ADF/didp.asp



Students from the Defence Indigenous Development Program and CPOML-S Trevor Maybir pose for a picture with CO HMAS Gascoyne LCDR Alan Parton outside the ship following a tour.



LSNPC Jean Paul Metcalf with Legacy items for sale at HMAS Waterhen as he prepares to raise money for Legacy Week.

Legacy Week gets personal

Natalie Staples

COLLECTING money for Legacy was more than just adding a helping hand for HMAS Waterhen's LSNPC Jean Paul Metcalf, whose grandmother is one of thousands of widows supported each year by the charity.

During Legacy Week, Waterhen raised more than \$43,500 for the appeal, collecting money through the sale of badges, pens, wrist bands and teddy bears to the community.

LS Metcalf says he has seen firsthand the benefit Legacy pro-

vides to the families of incapacitated or deceased service personnel, so he was keen to get involved.

"My grandfather Ted Metcalf was an Air Force flight sergeant and Air Force warrant officer during the Vietnam War," LS Metcalf said.

"He made it back from the conflict, but sadly passed away in 1985.

"Since then my grandmother has been helped by Legacy – with accommodation, emotional support and with some financial assistance.

"It is good to know that since my grandfather gave part of his adult life in the service of his coun-

try, there is an organisation that acknowledges this and can provide support to his loved ones."

About 22 badge sellers from Waterhen travelled all over the North Shore during Legacy Week, fundraising at key transport hubs, Bunnings and North Shore Hospital.

"It was good to get involved with the fundraising appeal," LS Metcalf said.

"The money raised is indicative of the hard work of the personnel who collected it, and the community's support for veterans and returned servicemen and women."

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Above: ABIS Kayla Hayes on board HMAS Warramunga during Exercise Kakadu 2016.
Photo: LSIS Jayson Tufrey



Left: ABBM Dylan Veldman of HMAS Adelaide prepares for his first replenishment at sea.
Photo: LSIS Sarah Williams



Command WO Career Management WOATA Sean Campbell, right, presents RCTMTSM Luke Moir with the 'Warrant Officer of the Navy Excellence Award' during his graduation ceremony from General Entry 345 – Taylor Division.
Photo: LSIS Dove Smithett

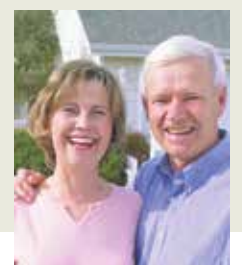


General Entry 347 Shipp Division at Recruit School of HMAS Cerberus.

LSIS Dove Smithett



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Australian Government
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Lessons from the Great War

The Battle of Jutland highlighted the challenges of technological evolution, **SGT Dave Morley** reports.

THE use of naval gunfire at the Battle of Jutland was outlined in depth at the fourth *Firepower: Lessons from the Great War* history seminar series held at ADFA on August 31.

The presentation by RADM James Goldrick gave a methodical account of the Battle of Jutland in 1916, the only direct encounter between the main battle fleets of Britain and Germany during WWI.

RADM Goldrick said the engagement was of profound technical and tactical interest to artillery specialists because it highlighted so many of the challenges new technology and the operating environment presented for gunnery.

"Jutland came after 20 years of incredibly rapid development in naval gunnery," he said.

"It is important to understand firepower at sea is dominated by the practical problem of achieving a firing solution from a moving platform against a moving target without fixed external references."

RADM Goldrick said in the days of smooth-bore, round-shot cannon, the solution was to fight at the closest possible ranges, ideally no more than a few hundred yards.

"But the combination of the development of precision-manufactured, rifled guns with the much greater ranges they could achieve, together with the emergence of the asymmetric threat of the 'locomotive' torpedo, meant fighting ranges had to increase," he said.

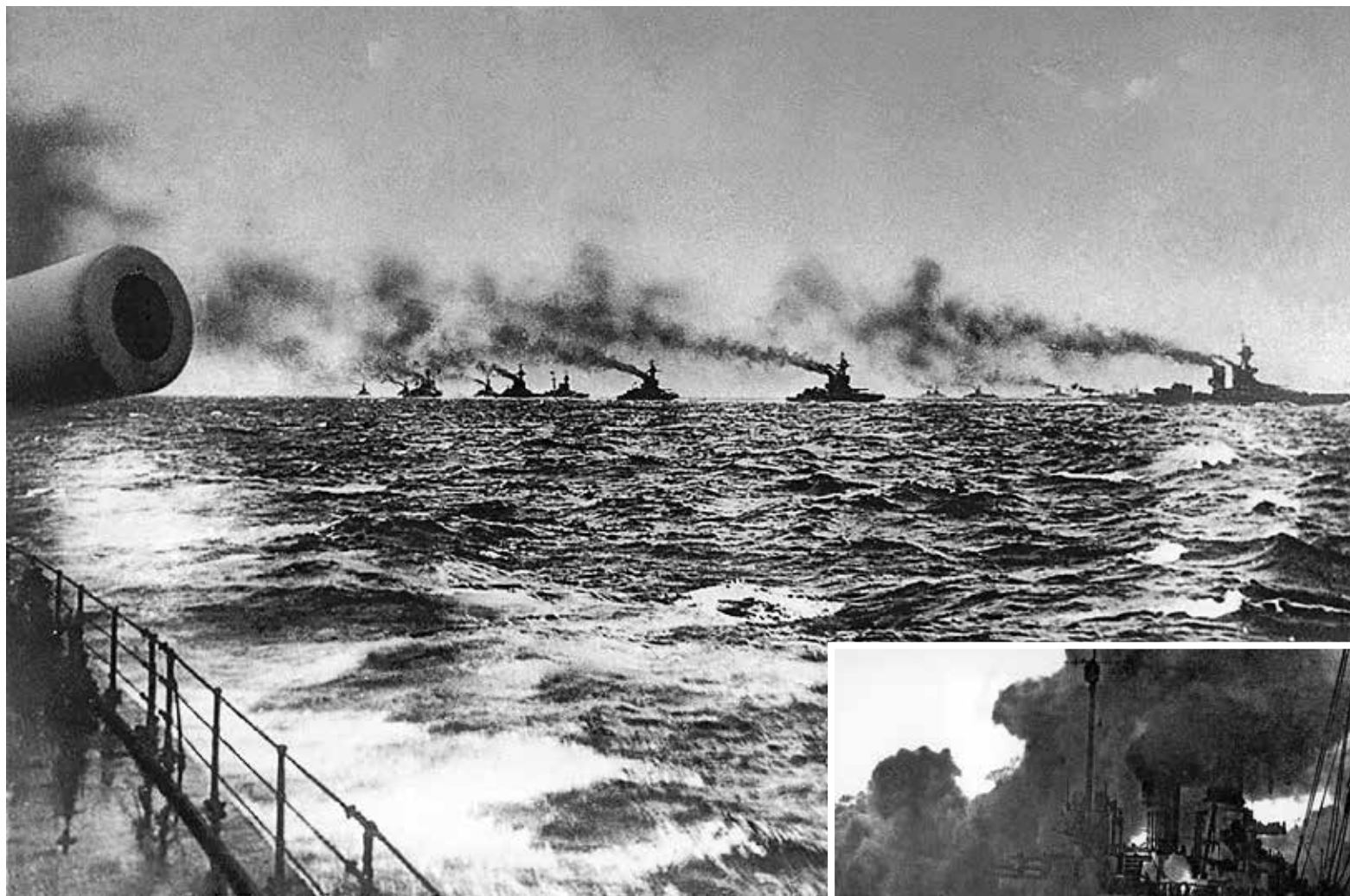
"What rapidly became obvious was the best-trained gun layers could not exploit the full range of their weapons by eye alone.

"To the simple telescope were added progressively longer rangefinders, followed by centralised control from a single point in the ship, known as 'director-control'.

"Simultaneously, there were efforts to develop mechanical, and then electro-mechanical calculators to solve the complicated mathematics involved in predicting a fire control solution in which range was not only changing, but changing at different rates, with the rates also changing."

RADM Goldrick said these innovations only just came in time because many of the same developments that supported improved gunnery assisted other weapons.

"The gyroscope had greatly assisted the accuracy of the torpedo, which



ADM John Jellicoe's British Grand Fleet at the Battle of Jutland (above). There were 151 ships in total in the British formations and 99 in the German. VADM Franz von Hipper's flagship SMS *Seydlitz* (inset), of the German fleet, was heavily damaged during the Battle of Jutland.

together with improved propulsion, meant the range of the newest torpedos could match that of the biggest guns," he said.

"In the years immediately before the war, the advent of the efficient sea-going submarine added another complication.

"Battleships could no longer operate by themselves, supported by a few scouting vessels – they now needed to have large numbers of screening cruisers and destroyers, both as protection against surface torpedo craft and submarines and as offensive torpedo firers.

"This created vast new problems for command and control. In 1906, the average sea-going battle force

numbered fewer than 20 vessels, while at Jutland there were 151 ships in the British formations and 99 in the German."

Radio allowed this new system to be managed, but brought many difficulties of its own. RADM Goldrick said the new communications systems, combined with the increased fleet sizes, meant naval warfare at the tactical level acquired a more remote dimension for the first time.

"Before radio, all naval tactics were visual," he said.

"The change brought about a battery of problems for procedures, doctrine and for the culture of command.

"The admiral when out of sight was no longer out of mind to his subordi-

nates and this created enormous potential for misunderstanding and missed opportunities."

RADM Goldrick said there was an artillery footnote for Australia with an important relic of Jutland in Australian hands at the AWM.

"The 28cm weapon known as the 'Amiens Gun' captured by Australian units on the Western Front on August 8, 1918 was, before its modification to a railway gun, a naval weapon," he said.

"It is believed to have been one of four mounted in the pre-dreadnought SMS *Hessen*, which formed part of the Second Squadron of the High Sea Fleet at Jutland.

"We know *Hessen* fired five main

armament rounds on May 31-June 1, although we do not – yet – know whether the Amiens Gun fired any of them.

"Apart from the battle-damaged barrel from SMS *Seydlitz* outside the naval museum at Wilhelmshaven, the gun may be the only main armament weapon from Jutland still above water."

RADM Goldrick joined the Navy in 1974 and, after completing an Arts degree at UNSW Kensington, graduated from the RAN College at the end of 1978.

He retired from the Navy in January 2012.

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Don't be a bystander

Zero tolerance for bad behaviour

Carla Roscoe

A BYSTANDER is a person who is aware of unacceptable behaviour, and is neither the perpetrator nor victim of that behaviour.

Bystanders tend to fall into one of two categories: an active bystander is a person who does something to intervene; and a passive bystander is the person who does nothing.

Head of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Office (SeMPRO) CAPT Christine Clarke said bystanders had a responsibility in maintaining zero tolerance of unacceptable behaviours, because bystander inaction condoned behaviour and reinforced to the victim that they were at fault.

"If a bystander sees someone engaged in any act of unacceptable behaviour and does nothing, then that behaviour becomes accepted. Being an active bystander makes our workplace safe for everyone," CAPT Clarke said.

The program was developed to measure attitudes towards, and experiences of, unacceptable behaviour in Defence. Unacceptable Behaviour Surveys are administered each year to a sample across the whole of

Defence. The survey is a component of cultural reform efforts and contributes to reporting for Pathway to Change.

CAPT Clarke said the survey revealed crude behaviour was the highest reported type of incident in the workplace.

"This presents a significant opportunity for all of us to speak up against unacceptable behaviour that we witness, or know about, in the workplace," she said.

CN VADM Tim Barrett confirmed bystander action reflected Navy's signature behaviours.

"We must live our values and behaviours," VADM Barrett said.

"Intervention can sometimes take courage, but be confident that reporting unacceptable behaviour will be supported by your Command and the Navy leadership team. I'm asking each and every one of you to step up and take action when things aren't right.

"Call it out when it happens, and together we can stop unacceptable behaviour, support our colleagues and make a difference."

Bystander training is being rolled out as part of the Defence Safety Stand Down Day. The package is available to download on the Navy's Divisional Toolbox.



USE YOUR VOICE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HAVE you been invited to participate in the 2016 Defence Unacceptable Behaviour Survey?

The survey is held twice a year and is sent to 50 per cent of the workforce to measure attitudes towards and experiences of unacceptable behaviour in Defence.

Director General Workforce Planning Branch BRIG Natasha Fox said maximum input from ADF and APS personnel was instrumental for Defence's leadership to gain a better understanding of personal views on unacceptable behaviour matters within Defence.

"Your feedback ensures that positive change and progress can be made in your workplace," BRIG Fox said.

"Every response counts and every response has an impact on the decision and direction Defence takes in reducing unacceptable behaviour across the organisation.

"Without your input, change is difficult to achieve. So be a part of creating a future workplace that you are proud of by having your say on unacceptable behaviour."

The survey was distributed via email on September 16, and participants have until October 14 to complete it.

All personnel have a responsibility to foster an equitable, fair and safe workplace environment free from all forms of unacceptable behaviour.

Responses to the survey are anonymous and, individual personnel are not identifiable. Some of the questions contained in the survey are personal and sensitive in nature. Participants can choose to complete the survey away from the workplace by forwarding the email they receive to their personal email.

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Youth get taste of life at sea

LEUT Kathryn Sykes

A NUMBER of Navy sailors had the time of their lives this year in a ‘try before you buy’ scheme allowing young Australians to experience life in uniform.

The ADF Gap Year – Navy (ADFGY-N) provides the opportunity to experience military training and lifestyle for up to 12 months, with no further obligations on the participant to continue to serve.

The program allows members to experience Navy life with the potential to be considered for transfer to Permanent Navy workforce categories, subject to sustainability and vacancies. The program targets individuals aged 18 and 24 who have completed their Year 12 (or equivalent) education.

SMNGX* Sinead Prewett’s journey began at HMAS *Cerberus* in Victoria, in Taylor Division intake 342.

Over the following 14 weeks she completed the General Service Duty Recruit Course and the ADFGY-N Basic Seamanship Course, which allows participants to work safely within Navy units.

“By the end of it I was emotionally, mentally and physically drained,” she said.

“But during those months of cold weather, drill and conditioning to make new recruits into Navy sailors, I learned things about myself that I never knew before.

“I have never been more proud of myself than I was when I graduated Recruit School and became a SMN*.”

The ADFGY-N experience includes a programmed visit to various shore establishments conducted over two weeks that exposes members to a range of RAN environments including those officer training and submarine service opportunities.

Following the establishment tour is the Sea Training Phase to allow members to participate in life at sea for a minimum of four weeks so they can make a more informed decision on whether or not to seek an extension of their service.

SMN* Prewett spent eight weeks in HMAS *Adelaide*.

“My time in HMAS *Adelaide* has been full of amazing opportunities for learning about the many different career paths the Navy has to offer,” she said.

The final employment component of the ADFGY-N is being assigned to shore establishments and fleet support units undertaking meaningful employment within the base/unit for experience in areas of vocational interest.

“Working at HMAS *Cairns* has been incredible and I plan to continue to take full advantage of the amazing opportunities that are on offer,” SMN* Prewett said.

“My time in the program has been incredible and I plan on furthering on my career in the RAN.”



ADF Gap Year – Navy participant SMNGX* Sinead Prewett during her sea training phase on board HMAS *Adelaide*.
Photo: LSIS Sarah Williams



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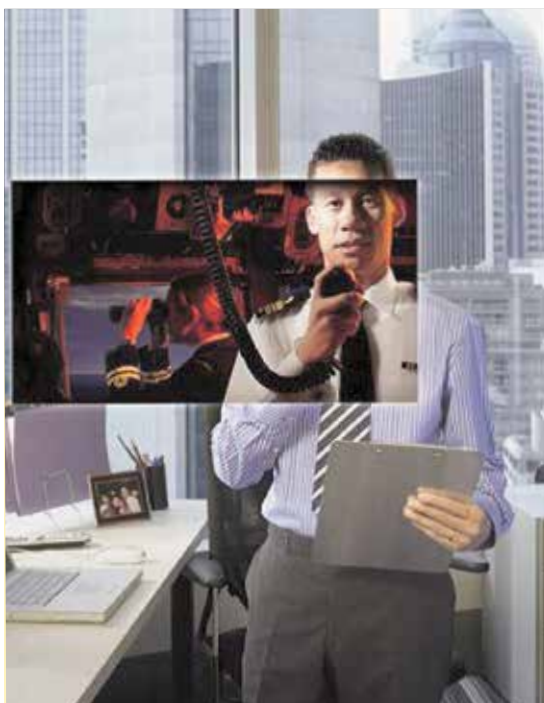
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We will send you a reminder by e-mail before the survey opens. By the way, this is a good time to make sure your e-mail address in PMKeyS is up-to-date, so your invitation does not go astray.

**For enquiries related to the survey please email
EmploymentPackageResearch@drn.mil.au**

Mental health focus of ADF

Talk and provide support

AS THE ADF prepares to mark World Mental Health Day on October 10, Defence's senior leaders have encouraged personnel to take note of this year's theme "Let's Talk" and use the activities as an opportunity to chat with their mates. World Mental Health Day is dedicated to mental health education, awareness and advocacy. Every year since 2012, the ADF has conducted an activity to coincide with World Mental Health Day to highlight a particular aspect of mental health.

VCDF VADM Ray Griggs said the health and wellbeing of all Defence personnel was an ongoing priority and throughout the month of October Defence would conduct a range of activities to focus on mental health and wellbeing.

"This year's theme 'Let's Talk' is about reinvigorating the conversation about mental health issues, how to provide support to others and how to seek support when needed," VADM Griggs said.

Defence's senior leaders encourage all personnel to use the Mental Health Day activities as a reminder to talk about:

- treating everyone with respect

and dignity to ensure a positive and supportive work environment;

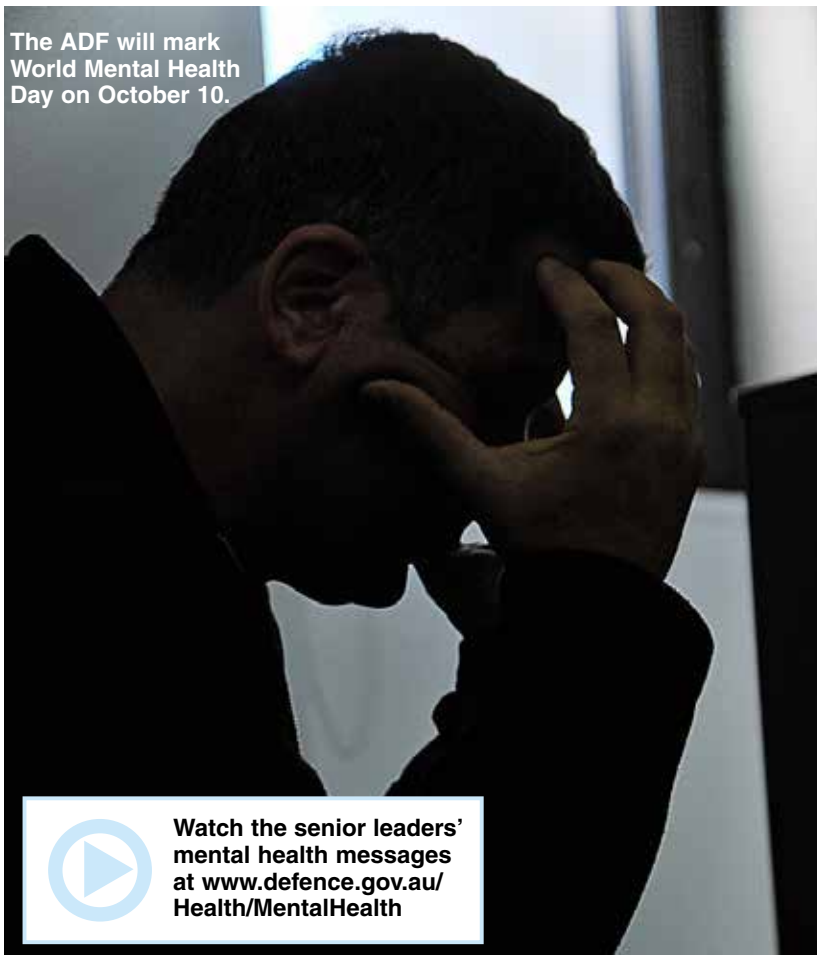
- the range of support services available;
- when to provide support to others and being able to reach out and accept support when it's needed; and,
- the shift in culture Defence is making – a shift that needs to be maintained to reduce stigma and other barriers to care.

"Service in the ADF can pose significant pressure on our people and their physical and mental health," VADM Griggs said.

"Frequent relocations, long separations from friends and family, demanding and sometimes dangerous working conditions, can all place demands on ADF people and their families.

"Defence continues to make significant investments in resilience training, early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation programs, and building on our understanding through research programs to ensure people are prepared and supported throughout their careers."

The ADF will mark World Mental Health Day on October 10.



Watch the senior leaders' mental health messages at www.defence.gov.au/Health/MentalHealth

REACH OUT FOR HELP

- More information about the mental health services available for ADF personnel can be found at www.defence.gov.au/Health/HealthPortal.
- The Defence All-hours Support Line is a confidential telephone service for ADF members and their families that is available 24/7 by calling 1800 628 036.
- The Defence Family Helpline is available 24/7 by calling 1800 624 608.
- Crisis support and confidential counselling is available by calling the Veterans' and Veterans' Families Counselling Service on 1800 011 046.
- You can also speak to your chain of command or base chaplains about the support services available.



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Have your say on services

Darryl Johnston

JOINT Health Command (JHC) has embarked on an ADF-wide consultation program to shape future Defence health services.

The program involves a series of workshops and feedback sessions for ADF members at selected Defence bases and opens with the first session at HMAS Kuttubul on October 10.

Commander JHC AVM Tracy Smart said the current ADF Health Services contract expired in October 2018.

"Health service providers, users, and unit commanders and managers are invited to help shape future Defence health services as part of the Next Generation Health Services (NGHS) project," she said.

"The project aims to review health services, define the service delivery model to meet Defence's

capability, and establish a new contract from November 2018.

"We want to hear what is working well, what is not, any changes that should be made to health support plans and what lessons can be learnt from current service delivery arrangements."

ADF members can participate in the program by:

- attending one of the workshops to be held in October and November;
- emailing the project team at NGHS18project@defence.gov.au; or
- completing an NGHS Feedback Form (available on the NGHS Intranet site).

For more information and details on the project, workshop dates and venues click on the NGHS link on the JHC intranet homepage.



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LSCSOMW Jason Harrison, of HMAS Creswell, runs in to score a try, with LSMT Luke McKinnon, of HMAS Darwin, in support at the LS Damien Rex Memorial Rugby League Game. Photos: SGT Dave Morley

Players honour former comrade

SGT Dave Morley

NAVY Tridents ended a successful week of training and public engagements in Wagga Wagga by defeating Combined Wagga RAAF/Army 24-6 on September 17.

The LS Damien Rex Memorial Rugby League Game was dedicated to the memory of a former Wagga local and Trident who died in tragic circumstances in June 2015.

RANRL president LCDR Darren Nembach said the performance was a tribute to LSPTI Damien Rex, who was uncompromising on the field.

"The game was an important event for the Navy Tridents and Damien's family," he said.

"It provided us with the opportunity to celebrate Damien's life on and off the rugby league field and provide closure for both the family and Navy Rugby League.

"The untiring efforts of Damien's father Peter, team manager WOET Mark Donlan and support from the local community and the Air Force and Army ensured a successful event."

Tridents captain ABMT Jack Le Prou, of HMAS Adelaide, said the best player was hooker LEUT Tom McKenzie, of HMAS Choules.



LCDR Darren Nembach and Peter Rex, father of LSPTI Damien Rex, present the 'Spirit of Remy' award to LEUT Tom McKenzie of HMAS Choules.

were the best players," he said. "They were fantastic – everyone put in 100 per cent effort and played with their heart on their sleeve – they did Remy proud."

AB Le Prou said it was important the Tridents come to Wagga and play at LS Rex's home ground.

"It just shows the community of Wagga that he was a big part of the Navy and a big part of our team and we really care about him," he said.

LS Rex's father Peter Rex said it was "absolutely fantastic".

"Damien was born and raised in Wagga Wagga and lived here until he was 16," he said.

"I remember putting him on the bus when he was just 17, to train in the Navy at HMAS Cerberus.

"I couldn't have been more proud than I am today of what the Navy, Air Force and Army have

done as a combined Defence Force to honour Damien's memory."

Mr Rex said people never healed from something like suicide.

"It's something you go through in your life, what nobody plans for – nobody plans to bury their son, it's always going to be living in my memory every day," he said.

"So days like today are so important as part of the healing process, and the Navy, the Army, the RAAF are all to be congratulated for what they've done."

Mr Rex presented the 'Spirit of Remy' award – the player who best played in the spirit of LS Damien Rex – to LEUT Tom McKenzie, and the Peter Rex Encouragement Award for untiring effort and devotion in support of the team to LSET Lloyd Gray, of HMAS Kuttabul.



ABC SO Kaitlin Shaw in action during the Australian Services Bowls Association National Interservice Carnival and (inset) female player of the series ABRO Anita Jenkins. Photos: CPL Oliver Carter and LSIS Paul McCallum

CPL Max Bree

NAVY'S dominance of lawn bowls was shattered by Air Force with an upset at the national interservice championships.

A young Air Force side ended Navy's five-year reign during the Australian Services Bowls Association National Interservice Carnival held at Windsor, NSW, from September 18-23.

ABC SO Kaitlin Shaw, Navy player and team selector, said it was difficult to match the talented airmen.

"Air Force really had the stronger side this year," she said. "And that's fantastic. For them.

"We still had some confidence from last year even though we were missing people unable to attend this year."

RAAF won three from four rinks and beat Navy by 28 shots overall. Navy did get the better of Army by winning two rinks, drawing one and losing another.

"We watched them play against the Army and they were playing really well so it was always going to be a hard game for us," AB Shaw said. "And on the day they just had the better team.

"We picked the best team we could and that's all you can do."

It wasn't all bad news for the sailors on the green with ABRO Anita Jenkins picking up the female player of the series award.

"It was held near a RAAF base and they had big Hercs flying over the top of us and I though the RAAF had set it up," she said.

AB Jenkins was again selected for the ADF representative bowls side this year and was the first woman to make the side four years ago.

"Once you get over the fact there's so many blokes here and see yourself as equal, you let your bowls do the talking for you," she said.

"Guys will go out and play a hard game but girls will go out and play very level-headed."

AB Jenkins was happy with her performance but hoped to get more women into the sport.

"The girls get stronger and stronger every year," she said. "We don't let it get to us that the blokes dominate the field."

WA won the state-based competition that also ran during the event.

The ADF lawn bowls team will play against the ACT side in October and in Queensland next year.



AB Tosh Hopaku of HMNZS Canterbury evades SMNET Zhao Chan of HMAS Anzac during the touch football. Photo: LSIS Peter Thompson

Trans-Tasman rivalry strong

AB Jason Priest

WHILE day-to-day Anzac friendships remain strong between the nations of Australia and New Zealand, on the sporting field it is war.

During the recent maintenance period for Kiwi ship, HMNZS Canterbury at Garden Island, Sydney, the visitors challenged Australian crews on HMA Ships Anzac, Choules, and Darwin in touch football and indoor soccer round robins.

The six teams proved competitive across the afternoon, with Darwin and Canterbury edging out the competition and reaching the finals. The last

game was close, but Canterbury was able to hold out against Darwin, winning both matches 1-0.

Fleet Personnel Officer CMDR Paul Hines presented Canterbury with the 'International Fleet Challenge' trophy.

"The re-invigoration of the 'visiting ships sports day' produced a competitive and healthy environment enjoyed by those playing and those cheering from the sides," he said. "These sports challenges are a good way to build lasting bonds and friendship through friendly competition."

Following the trophy presentation, the ship's crests were exchanged to show mutual respect.

style while we were playing a counter-attacking form of football and you saw that in the final scores," he said.

This led to another penalty shoot-out where Anzac's shooting skills shone through for them to take the win 4-2.

"Those things can go either way, it just depends how good your feet are on the day," PO Sheakey said.

"It's the first time Anzac has won it and it was great to lift the

trophy for the ship." PO Sheakey was also awarded the most valuable player of the tournament.

Co-captain LCDR Luke Van Aaken said PO Sheakey saved four of eight goals in the shoot-outs.

"He was like the base of the spine; everything ran out of his defence," he said.

"He was easily the best player on the ground in every game we played."

Anzac wins in a penalty shoot-out

From Page 24

"Everyone was pretty lethargic before the game," PO Sheakey said.

"Knowing how well we played in the previous games, we knew if we stuck to our game plan that it would probably come close."

The final was tightly contested and at full-time neither team managed to get points on the board.

"They played a pretty attacking

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SPORT



LCDR Paul Williams, of HMAS Anzac, heads the ball during the final against HMAS Albatross at the Nirimba Cup held at Randwick Barracks.
Photo: ABIS Nicolas Gonzalez

DOWN TO THE WIRE

Anzac wins final in penalty shoot-out

Cpl Max Bree

HMAS Anzac took home the Nirimba Cup following several nailbiting matches and penalty shoot-outs at Randwick Barracks on September 14.

Teams from nine different ships and establishments came together for a shot at the cup but Anzac co-captain POET Steven Sheakey didn't expect his side to dominate.

"I wouldn't say we were confident going in," he said. "We knew we were up against some strong establishment sides. "We'd played together

in South-East Asia last year so we knew we had a good team."


Anzac was rattled early after they lost to HMAS Stirling 1-0 in a group round match.

"We fully expected them to kick on and go the full distance," PO Sheakey said.

Despite the setback, Anzac made it through to the semi-finals and defeated HMAS Kuttubul FSU 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out.

This brought Anzac into the final against HMAS Albatross.

Continued Page 23




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