

MEDIA EMBARGO

6am Saturday
26 January 2019

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26 January 2019



AUTHORISED
LANCE KER
PRESIDENT

TINGIRA
AUSTRALIA
ASSOCIATION

AUSTRALIA DAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Tingira President, Lance Ker

"Today we celebrate Australia Day. The Australian Flag flying high atop the mast of Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle, Western Australia and atop the mast of Tingira Memorial, Rose Bay, New South Wales with the memorial also dressed in nautical signal flags at 'full ship' in true naval tradition. It is appropriate on this special occasion that I am proud and privileged as President of Tingira Australia Association and on behalf of our committee, to announce - TINGIRA AUSTRALIA members and all former Junior Recruits of HMAS Leeuwin and HMAS Cerberus, are invited to unite for the celebration of the 60th Diamond Jubilee of the Junior Recruit Training Scheme with the **2020 JR Reunion** to be held in Perth on the second weekend of July 2020."

Deputy Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Mark Hammond, AM, RAN has given his full commitment towards the Tingira Australia Association to make this historical Junior Recruit reunion a great success for all members incorporating navy local level support during the Western Australia activities in July 2020.

The opening reunion event will be held in East Fremantle, commencing Thursday 9 July 2020 with **RAN Naval Ceremonial Sunset Service**, followed by a '**meet and greet**' function of the former Junior Recruits at their original navy base on the Swan River, HMAS Leeuwin, East Fremantle.

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This will be the last occasion that the former Junior Recruits will be able to gather in the Leeuwin establishment in its present status. Leeuwin Barracks as it is known today, is presently in use by the Australian Army. The base will be sold by the Federal government in the near future when the Army moves their operations to new facilities. The site is expected to be re-developed to become part of the local East Fremantle suburban community.

Planning is under way with the RAN and Fremantle local government authorities to conduct a daytime local tribute '**Naval Salute - Leeuwin Junior Recruits**' on Friday 10 July, in the Fremantle port district.

13,000 15-16 year old boys trained at the HMAS Leeuwin establishment from 1960 to 1984 for the start of their naval careers. This was part of a great navy tradition following on from the 3,000 'Tingira Boys' who in 1912 also aged 15, trained on board the navy's first training ship, HMAS TINGIRA, anchored in Rose Bay, Sydney, before they commenced their naval careers, of which many served in both World Wars of the 20th century.

Many of the former Junior Recruits that formed the 89 intakes during the period from 1960 to 1984, will unite with intake reunions of their former shipmates over the Saturday and Sunday that weekend. Many will also link up with former sponsors, that were like second parents to them on weekend leave periods during the 12 month training at the HMAS Leeuwin base.

On the final night of the reunion, Monday 13 July - '**Diamond Jubilee**' **60th birthday dinner** to be held at the new Optus Stadium to conclude the five day event. This birthday dinner celebrates the Junior Recruits birthday on the occasion when the first intake of Junior Recruits entered HMAS Leeuwin, 13 July 1960.

Complete details and booking procedures for Tingira Australia members and former Junior Recruits for the '**2020 JR Reunion**' will be released in **early May**, with all communications posted on the TINGIRA website.

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Ends Release

Further details for media only

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Thursday 9 July to Monday 13 July 2020

LEEWIN BARRACKS
PORT OF FREMANTLE
OPTUS OVAL PERTH

Bookings commence on line **May 2019** at tingira.org.au

"This will be our most historic navy reunion ever"

Lance Ker
President, Tingira Australia Assoc

