

BROADSIDE

February 2022

Volume 12 Edition 2

Editorial



This month's editorial is kindly provided by Commander Cameron Eastman RAN, the Project Officer for the HMAS CERBERUS Redevelopment Project.

THE SURVIVAL AT SEA TRAINING CENTRE – THE JEWEL IN THE HMAS CERBERUS REDEVELOPMENT CROWN!

The \$466m HMAS CERBERUS Redevelopment Project commenced construction of new and refurbished training and support facilities in April 2018. One of the key buildings to be constructed was the Survival at Sea Training Centre (SASTC) building at a cost of approximately \$33m, which was officially opened by Chief of Navy on 9 December 2021.



VADM Michael Noonan at the new SASTC facility

The SASTC is arguably the 'Jewel in the Redevelopment Crown' and includes classroom and office space surrounding a practical training

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Events Calendar

(see [Calendar](#) for full details)



- 01 Mar** - HMAS Perth & USS Houston Service
- 01 Mar** - Father of the Navy Service
- 02 Mar** - Soundwaves concert - Cerberus
- 11-12 Mar** - Wooden boat festival, Geelong
- 11-12 Mar** - ADF careers expo - Albury
- 01 Apr** - Recruit School graduation
- 01 Apr** - HMAS Cerberus Ceremonial Divisions
- 08-10 Apr** - Formula 1 Grand Prix
- 09 Apr** - HMAS Vampire service
- 10 Apr** - George Cross Award Day - Maltese Australia
- 22 Apr** - Recruit School graduation
- 25 Apr** - Anzac Day Dawn service
- 25 Apr** - Anzac Day march

area, which consists of a 25m x 15m x 5m deep practical training pool. The pool enables Recruits to simulate abandoning ship from the starboard waist of an FFH. Upon entering the water life jackets automatically inflate, the trainee climbs into a life raft and is eventually wet winched from the water. Environmental factors can be simulated which include a .75m high wave, rain, 60 knot winds and night conditions. Additional training is provided in a 7.2m Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) capsiz simulator and a 10m high Marine Evacuation System chute to simulate abandoning ship from an LHD.



Note the wave ball and wind fans used to simulate inclement weather.

Survival at Sea training was previously conducted for all Recruits in Hanns Inlet. The trainees were required to jump off the wharf at varying states of tide (2m - 4m above the waterline) and varying water temperature (often below 10 degrees Celsius). This variation impacted on the quality of the training outcomes able to be achieved. The new SASTC ensures all trainees enter the water from a height of 5m above the waterline with the water temperature generally between 24-26 degrees.

Not surprisingly the two day SAST course has become the highlight for many of the trainees undertaking the new nine week Recruit Course. The facility has also proven to be a great addition to personnel undertaking the Small Boat's Coxswain's Course.

Latest Videos, Podcasts and News Headlines

Keep up to date on all the news by visiting our website: <https://navyvic.net>

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VIDEOS.....

- *Navy team surveys Tonga below the waterline*
- *Australians and Fijians working together in Tonga*
- *Defence assistance to the aged-care sector*
- *Navy meteorologist helps improve mission objectives*
- *58th Anniversary HMAS Voyager/Melbourne Collision*
- *HMAS Adelaide chefs rise to the occasion*
- *HMAS Adelaide delivers humanitarian stores to Tonga*
- *Amphibious operations in Tonga*
- *Tongan homecoming for ADF personnel*
- *Operation Tonga Assist - HMAS Adelaide has arrived in Tonga*
- *Osborne House, Geelong*

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NEWS.....

Angered by Australia's rejection of its huge conventional sub deal, France has cast Australia out from its select group of strategic partners.

Able Seaman Shannae Fiddymont started this year with a career opportunity of a lifetime, deploying in HMAS Adelaide on Operation Tonga Assist 2022.

Twenty-four ADF medical teams have assisted at aged-care facilities in the first weeks of ADF support to the aged-care sector, with the number expected to increase over the coming weeks.

HMAS Adelaide's deployable geospatial support team and the amphibious beach team have conducted terrestrial reconnaissance on the island and its



Undergoing Water Entry training

The RHIB capsizer simulator is based on the same technology as the Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (HUET), which uses a crane and ring which rotates the module, with the RHIB installed inside the rotating steel ring. The RHIB capsizer trainer was installed by a Canadian Company, Survival Systems Limited (SSL), and is understood to be the first of its kind in the world.



An upturned RHIB

approaches so Operation Tonga Assist 2022 teams can begin clean-up efforts following last month's volcanic eruption and tsunami.

Whether it is on a bed during deployments or on the lap of a veteran in hospital, a quilt made by volunteers from Aussie Hero Quilts adds colour and warmth to an otherwise sterile environment. In the 10 years since the first quilt was sewn, organisation founder Jan-Maree Ball and her team have made 14,000 quilts and 33,000 laundry bags for ADF personnel.

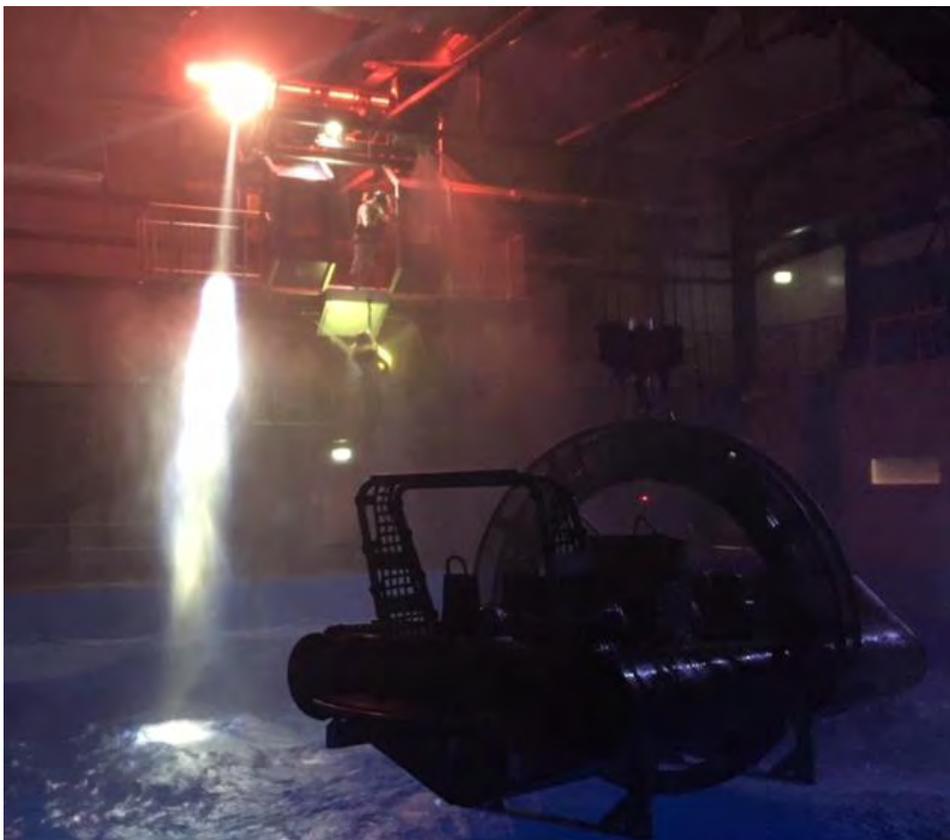
Boffins are looking for the best paint, glues and fastenings to keep Nelson's flagship weatherproof and watertight for the next half century. Engineers from the University of Southampton are working with HMS Victory's conservators ahead of the next phase of a £35m revamp of the legendary warship: replacing rotting planks, repairing the structure of the hull and renewing the rigging.

Some of the crew of HMAS Glenelg went ashore on the remote Cocos (Keeling) Islands to clean-up a beach during their recent deployment on Operation Resolute. Direction Island – part of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands archipelago – is characterised by vivid blue waters, lush vegetation and pristine white beaches, however, its remote position in the Indian Ocean means a significant amount of rubbish washes ashore.

Two new members have been appointed to the Victorian Veterans Council, renewing the veteran community's representation to the Andrews Labor Government. Minister for Veterans Shaun Leane today announced the appointment of Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RAN to the position of Chair and Lucy Saaroni as a Board Member of the Victorian Veterans Council.

HALCON, a regional leader in the production and supply of precision-guided weapons and unmanned aerial

The overall design of the building was undertaken by Melbourne based company Design Inc., who visited the SSL training facilities in Canada, the Australian Maritime College in Launceston and the Toll Training facility in Sydney to ensure the best features would be incorporated into the Cerberus facility. The OIC of the facility is Warrant Officer Dean Watkins, who is supported by 10 uniformed and two civilian staff. It has been a busy 12 months as the staff have undertaken numerous safety certification activities before the first trainees entered the water.



Wet winching – Night Conditions

It is anticipated that an Open Day will be held at Cerberus in March 2023 and it will be time well spent if you have the opportunity to see a demonstration of this exciting new capability!

Yours Aye!
NVN Team



If you know of any of our Navy family that has crossed the bar, please don't hesitate to [contact us](#). We will list their names in perpetuity on our special [Memorial Wall](#) on the website. If possible list their Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age.

- † ABMTP T.M. McGowan, R107704, 25 February 2022. Aged 68.
- † LSWTR C.P. Streets, 23 February 2022. Aged 55.

vehicles (UAVs), revealed a swarming drone capability on the first day of the Unmanned Systems Exhibition and Conference (UMEX) in Abu Dhabi. The drones, based on the Hunter 2 series UAV, will use artificial intelligence technology to share information with each other and to fly in a steady formation towards their target, HALCON CEO Saeed Al Mansoori told Breaking Defense. "Once the target is identified, a decision is made among the swarm, and based on the target size, shape, and category, they decide how many drones are needed to destroy the target, like two or four or five, and then they start diving towards it,"

The U.S. Navy needs a fleet of more than 500 ships to meet its commitments to the soon-to-be released National Defense Strategy, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday said on Friday.

The U.S. Navy only operates nuclear-powered submarines. China meanwhile never stopped operating conventional submarines even though they are less capable. This has advantages and disadvantages. But a new submarine pushes this difference further.

HMAS Arunta's ship's company has been busy maintaining and enhancing their skills since departing their home port of Sydney last month for a regional presence deployment.

Sailors have navigated by the stars since the dawn of time, but now Navy is looking skyward to understand who is observing us.

Royal Australian Navy guided-missile destroyer HMAS Hobart has provided an impressive backdrop in the Derwent River for the 184th Royal Hobart Regatta from February 12-14.

Australian Defence Force personnel across Australia are gearing up to further support the aged-care sector, following a request from Emergency Management Australia.

- † CPOETC C.J. Hawley, R42446, 18 February 2022. Aged 77.
- † RADM N.R.B. Berlyn AO, 17 February 2022. Aged 87.
- † SBLT J. Paizis, PM5077, 14 February 2022. Aged 97.
- † AB C.J. Rowe, R46442, 10 February 2022. Aged 88.
- † CPOFC D. Hardy, R96176, 10 February 2022. Aged 70.
- † CPOETS B. Parker, R59153, 10 February 2022. Aged 78.
- † PORP A. Durston, R64618, 08 February 2022. Aged 75.
- † RCT WRRP B.K. Arthur(nee Dennis), R34876, January 2022. Aged 82.
- † LEUT P. McBurney, 30 January 2022.
- † R. Paskevicius, 29 January 2022. Aged 68.
- † SIG J.D.F. Ferguson, S6353, 29 January 2022. Aged 96.
- † CPOBUTCHER J.E. Alexander, R54051, 28 January 2022. Aged 81
- † REM1 A.J. Rowe, R51882, 27 January 2022. Aged 83.
- † WRMTD H.E. Corby(nee. Reynolds), WR/1353, 27 January 2021. Aged 98.
- † CMDR W.K. Bird, 25 January 2022. Aged 93.
- † CPOWTR B. Saunders, 21 January 2022. Aged 65.
- † LEUT C.H. Brown, C101295, 19 January 2022. Aged 74.
- † D. Purvis, 08 January 2022. Aged 67.
- † LCDR A. Pearson, 05 January 2022.
- † WOMUSN L. Nurse, R54884, December 2021. Aged 85.
- † CAAH L.L. Dobson, R47476, 28 December 2022. Aged 92.

Lest We Forget



OUR FEBRUARY HERO: Captain David John Hamer AM DSC RAN

David John Hamer, who served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, had a distinguished career as a naval officer before entering the Parliament in 1969. He was also an enthusiastic, fluent writer with two published books and numerous newspaper contributions and broadcasts. During his years in the Senate, and particularly his period as Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, he was a dedicated campaigner for a greater role for the Senate as a house of review.

Hamer served onboard Australia as the Air Defence Officer, during her operations in the Philippines at Leyte Gulf in October 1944 and at Lingayen Gulf in January 1945, where he directed the ships anti-aircraft guns against frequent and multiple enemy air attacks. Australia was subjected to repeated suicide aircraft (kamikaze) attacks and despite putting up a heavy barrage of anti-aircraft fire she was hit four times; losing three officers and 41 ratings killed and one officer and 68 ratings wounded. Hamer was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross: "for gallantry, skill and devotion to duty while serving in HMAS Australia in the successful assault operations in the Lingayen Gulf, Luzon Island".

Read his full biography on our website:
<https://navyvic.net/heroes/hamer.html>

Hannah Cvancara was born with a birth defect called fibular hemimelia that resulted in her left leg never growing correctly and the amputation of her left foot when she was just a year old. But 25 years later, she hasn't let her reliance on a prosthetic leg stop her from living a full and physical life that includes surfing, rock climbing and long shifts on her feet as a civilian nurse. Now, Cvancara is trying to make history by becoming the first pre-service amputee to join the U.S. Navy, and the Nurse Corps in particular.

For the moment, Defence Minister Peter Dutton has decided to stick with the troubled Hunter-class frigate program. With his usual candour, he told The Australian last week: 'We looked very carefully at this project and we've decided that we will proceed with it.

Ex-service and community organisations across the country can now apply for a share in \$3.5 million for commemorative projects through the latest round of the Saluting Their Service grants program, which is now open.

Hunter-class frigate report indicates Australian naval shipbuilding in disarray

Yesterday's short hearing of Clinton McKenzie's matter in the Federal Court took an unexpected but positive turn from ADFERA's perspective. Justice Perry recognized the potential significance of the outcome of the matter for a large number of former members of the Australian Defence Force, their widows, widowers and dependent children and orphans.

FlyBy – A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. [February issue.....](#) (Note: right mouse click link and download document)

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