



BROADSIDE

September 2023

Volume 13 Edition 9

Editorial



The Navy Victoria Network proudly supports five 'Flagship' events during the year, namely the Creswell Oration held in March; the Battle of the Coral Sea commemorative service at the Shrine of Remembrance in May; the Battle of Bita Paka wreath laying also at the Shrine in September; the Seafarers Memorial Service at St Paul's Cathedral on 22nd October this year, and the HMAS *Goorangai* Service held in Queenscliff in November. The last of these key annual events is almost certainly the least well known of the five, so as we approach this year's service, it is appropriate to give some background to the tragedy and to encourage your attendance.



*HMAS Goorangai
Memorial, Queenscliff*

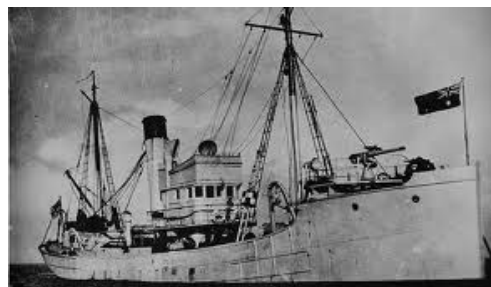
This year's memorial service is being held at Hesse Street, Ocean View Reserve, Queenscliff on Sunday, 26th November from 11:00AM. It will be followed by lunch at the Queenscliff Bowling Club at 12.00PM. Wearing of medals/decorations is encouraged.

If you wish to attend the service, please advise by email the [Naval Commemorative Committee of Victoria](#).

For those attending lunch please note that bookings are **essential**. Phone (Bowls Club) on 5258 1773. Historically, the event has been very well attended and certainly worth the day trip to the beautiful Bellarine Peninsula.

HMAS Goorangai

The steam trawler MV *Goorangai* was built for the New South Wales Government at the State Dockyard in Newcastle in 1919 and was sold to Cam & Sons Pty Ltd of Sydney in 1926. She was requisitioned for naval service on



HMAS Goorangai

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Events Calendar

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

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11 Oct - 1030 - TPI Ex-Servicemen and Women's Association of Victoria service - Western Precinct, Shrine of Remembrance

11 Oct - 1400 & 1900 - Soundwaves Concert - HMAS Cerberus cinema complex

13 Oct - 1100 - Legacy's Centenary Commemoration Ceremony - Second World War Forecourt, Shrine of Remembrance

20 Oct - 1100 - HMAS Lismore Service - Shrine Reserve - Tree 7

22 Oct - 1000 - Seafarer's Service Saint Paul's Cathedral

23 Oct - 1900 - NHSA(Vic) meeting - Waverley RSL

11 Nov - 1100 - Remembrance Day Ceremony - Shrine Sanctuary

the 8th of September 1939, one of eight vessels requisitioned from Cam & Sons, and commissioned as HMAS *Goorangai* at Melbourne on the 9th of October 1939 for service as an auxiliary minesweeper. She joined Minesweeping Group 54 in Melbourne and operated primarily in Bass Strait.



HMAS Goorangai in Port Phillip Bay. Her wartime designation is prominently displayed on her hull.

HMAS *Goorangai* had been on operation since the 8th of November 1940 in Bass Strait following the discovery of minefields laid in the area the month before by German Merchant Raiders. The resultant minefields had sunk the US merchant vessel *City of Rayville*, and the British steamer *Cambridge* on the 7th and 8th of November.

In the evening of the 20th of November, while enroute from Queenscliff to Portsea in Port Phillip Bay where she intended to anchor for the evening, *Goorangai* collided with the 10,364 ton, outward bound passenger liner, *MV Duntroon*, which struck her amidships on the port side. *Duntroon's* captain had believed that she was on a parallel course to *Goorangai* and overtaking her. By the time he realised *Goorangai's* true course, with *Duntroon* travelling at more than 17 knots, it was too late to avoid the collision. *Goorangai* was cut in two and sank in less than a minute with the loss of her entire crew of 24.

The *Duntroon* stopped and lowered two life boats to commence a search for an hour and a half. The search was then taken over by the Queenscliff life boat, the picket boat *Mars* and others while the *Duntroon* returned to Williamstown for repairs. The search was to no

19 Nov - 1200 - HMAS Sydney Service - Shrine Sanctuary

22 Nov 1400 & 1900 - Soundwaves Concert - HMAS Cerberus cinema complex

26 Nov - 1100 - HMAS Goorangi Service – Queenscliff

27 Nov - 1800 - NHSA(Vic) End of Year Celebration Dinner - Waverley RSL

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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.....

- *Defence Blood drive*
- *Invictus Games 2023 Wrap Up*
- *New Video Show Details of Famed Carriers Lost in the Battle of Midway*
- *Defence Australia - Welcome*
- *NCIS: Sydney (CBS) Trailer HD*
- *United States and Australia celebrate maintenance milestone*
- *Air and amphibious assault - Exercise Alon wraps up*

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NEWS shorts.....

Race to find Great Lakes shipwrecks before mussels destroy them

One of Australia's oldest submarines has suffered an on-board electrical fire while at sea, with the crew able to continue their mission after managing to extinguish the blaze. The ABC can reveal the emergency inside HMAS Farncomb occurred last month while the Collins-class boat was on deployment in its 25th year of service.

India and Australia have an interest in addressing subsurface challenges

avail with only minor flotsam recovered from the water. Just six bodies were recovered in subsequent salvage operations.



The 10,364 ton MV Duntroon, which collided with the 223 ton HMAS Goorangai on 20 November 1940.

The sinking of the *Goorangai* on the 20th of November 1940 was the RAN's first loss in WWII and the first surface ship loss in any era (the only WW1 losses being the submarines AE1 and AE2).

The news of the collision quickly reached media outlets ashore which believed that normal wartime censorship provisions did not apply, as *Goorangai's* loss was not due to enemy action and did not involve aspects of security and claimed the right of immediate publication. The Naval Board, however, secured a censorship ban until the next-of-kin of those lost had been informed, an action later upheld by the Government. On the 10th of December, the War Cabinet confirmed supplementary censorship instructions which provided for the loss of service personnel in accidents in Australia or Australian waters.

The wreck of *Goorangai* lay inside the shipping transit zone in less than 15 metres of water and was considered a hazard to navigation. She was demolished by explosive charges early in 1941.

The site remains popular with divers, and steel plates are scattered over a 200 sq m area of the seabed.

On the 16th of November 1995, the wreck of *Goorangai* was declared a historic shipwreck as specified in the Historic Shipwrecks Act (1981).

in their shared maritime domain. As they and other countries in the region grow their submarine fleets, there's a critical need to develop underwater search and rescue capabilities and considerable scope to work together.

Canada is the latest country to conduct joint maritime activities with the Philippines in the South China Sea amid Manila's renewed focus on countering China in its regional waters. Royal Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Ottawa (FFH 341) and Philippine Navy frigate BRP Antonio Luna (FF-151) rendezvoused off Western Palawan on Thursday morning.

HMAS Hobart, affectionately known as 'the green ghost', recently received a much-needed refresh inside and out. It was a significant milestone, as the ship became the first Hobart-class guided missile destroyer to undertake a docking selected restricted availability (DSRA) as part of its usage and upkeep cycle.

Google maps has finally been updated to reflect the renaming of main entrance to HMAS Cerberus from Wilsons Avenue to Sheean Avenue. The renaming was part of the base redevelopment project and was in recognition of Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean VC, the RAN's first Victoria Cross recipient.

"China's research in several advanced sensor technologies vital to military navigation and targeting is overwhelmingly ahead of the three AUKUS partners, the United States, United Kingdom and Australia," according to a new report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

Skills, qualifications and a wealth of new opportunities are just some of



Members of Goorangai's crew photographed on the morning of her collision with MV Duntroon

The men who lost their lives in HMAS Goorangai on the 20th of November 1940 were:

- ☛ Commissioned Officer from Warrant Rank D McGregor, RANR(S)
- ☛ Warrant Officer KJ Matheson, RANR(S)
- ☛ Lieutenant Commander GW Boyle, RANR, Minesweeping Advisor
- ☛ Steward B Buchanan, RANR
- ☛ Ordinary Seaman A Carter, RANR
- ☛ Signalman CC Cox, RANR
- ☛ Signalman JH Dungey, RANR
- ☛ Able Seaman NL Farquharson, RANR
- ☛ Engine Room Artificer H Gilroy, RANR
- ☛ Chief Engine Room Artificer CW Green, RANR
- ☛ Ordinary Seaman FR Hack, RANR
- ☛ Stoker HH Johnson, RANR
- ☛ Ordinary Seaman WV Johnston, RANR
- ☛ Leading Seaman A Kemp, RANR
- ☛ Able Seaman ATR Ladlow, RANR
- ☛ Ordinary Telegraphist A MacDonell, RANR
- ☛ Stoker E McLaughlan, RANR
- ☛ Cook, MW Madden, RANR
- ☛ Stoker LWK Mainsbridge, RANR
- ☛ Leading Stoker J Moxey, RANR
- ☛ Engine Room Artificer RP Redman, RANR
- ☛ Able Seaman J Sanders, RANR
- ☛ Petty Officer FH Wadds, RANR
- ☛ Able Seaman R Wadrop, RANR

Source: [RAN website](#)

benefits on offer through the new STEM Upskilling Program.

The Australian government has celebrated delivery of the 16th Guardian Class patrol boat under the Pacific Maritime Security Program.

The unmanned surface vessels (USVs) Ranger and Mariner from Unmanned Surface Vessel Division ONE (USVDIV-1) arrived at Fleet Activities Yokosuka on September 18 as part of a scheduled port visit during Integrated Battle Problem (IBP) 23.2.

Nowra locals and dignitaries recently gathered to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the commissioning of the Navy's only air station and largest operational base, HMAS Albatross.

From 20 September 2023, some veterans and their families will receive an increase to their pension payments in line with increases to the cost of living.

The federal government will hold off publicly responding to the independent analysis of surface combatant fleet capability until next year, according to Defence Industry Minister Pat Conroy.

Maritime underwater tracking ranges will be built in Western Australia for the Royal Australian Navy and sustained until 2045 under a \$328 million contract awarded to L3Harris Technologies.

Executives and senior managers from the defence and space sectors around Australia, the US and UK will begin a specially curated global program to help build a pipeline of talent across the AUKUS alliance.

Pooling capabilities for space domain awareness (SDA) as part of AUKUS

OUR SEPTEMBER HERO



Our Naval Hero for September is Vice Admiral R.A.K. Walls AO RAN who sadly passed away on 28 August 2023 after a long illness. Robert Walls was born at Colac, Victoria, on 15 March 1941 and was educated at country schools before joining the Royal Australian Navy College when it was still at Flinders Naval Depot/HMAS Cerberus following the Depression-era strictures. Joining in 1955 his class was the last 13-year-old entry. The discipline at the RANC during the FND years could be harsh and young Cadet Midshipman Walls found it tough going at times and even contemplated leaving the College. Despite this inauspicious start to his career, he developed into an insightful strategic thinker who made a significant contribution to the post-carrier RAN. His key senior appointments included Deputy Chief of Navy (1991), Commander Australian Fleet (1991 - 1993) and Deputy Chief of Australian Defence Force (1995 - 1997). His full naval story can be found at: <https://navyvic.net/heroes/walls.html>

Commemorative Events

Turning to the October commemorative program at the Shrine of Remembrance, we hope that you and your family can attend one of the following:



Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women's Association of Victoria

A wreath laying to honour the service and sacrifice of the Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-

Servicemen and Women's Association.

11 October 2023 10:30 am - 11 October 2023 11:30 am

Western Precinct, Shrine of Remembrance.

The Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen and Women's Association (TPI) has a long and proud history. The association was formed in 1926 by a group of disabled veterans who worked to provide welfare, advice and benefits. TPI aimed to support veterans who had come home with a disability and those who needed further medical treatment or long periods of rehabilitation. More than 90 years later, TPI continues to provide that support to veterans and their families.

Shrine Representative:

* Shrine Governor Air Commodore Rowan Story AM RFD (Retd)

would not only improve trilateral security, but also lay the groundwork for a global network for keeping tabs on satellites and dangerous space debris in Earth and, eventually, cislunar orbits, according to a new report by The MITRE Corporation

Chief of the Defence Force General Angus Campbell examined the impacts of five major disruptions – strategic, economic, diplomatic, climatic and informatic – on our ability to deter conflict, in an address at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute's Disruption and Deterrence conference.

Royal Australian Navy Armidale Class patrol boat HMAS Maryborough II is awaiting decommissioning later this month in Queensland after 15 years of service.

Australia plans to make a \$3 billion AUKUS investment in the US over the next five years for long-lead items and to help fund the expansion of American shipyards that will build and retro-fit Australia-bound Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack subs.

An exchange of ideas was the aim of two conferences held on board HMAS Canberra in the Port of Manila during Indo-Pacific Endeavour.

Recent sea trials of a remotely operated underwater vehicle proved it is capable of neutralizing naval mines, a new milestone for the Franco-British Maritime Mine Countermeasures program, French firm Thales announced Wednesday.

The chair of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has taken the unusual step of addressing the National Press Club before his inquiry is complete. Commissioner Nick



Legacy's Centenary Commemoration Ceremony

A wreath laying to honour the service and sacrifice of Australian Defence Force personnel and their families.

13 October 2023 11:00 am - 13 October 2023 12:40 pm

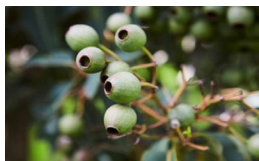
Second World War Forecourt, Shrine of Remembrance.

A commemoration service following the finale of the Legacy Torch Relay 2023. The relay is presented by Defence Health to honour 100 years of service by Legacy supporting Veterans' families.

Shrine Representative:

* Chairman of Trustees Captain Stephen Bowater OAM

Watch the live stream: <https://youtu.be/reE1pIZSiQQ>



HMAS Lismore with Berwick Primary School

A wreath laying to honour the service and sacrifice of those aboard HMAS Lismore.

20 October 2023 11:00 am - 20 October 2023 11:30 am

Memorial Tree F01, Shrine of Remembrance.

This service is to honour HMAS Lismore and all those who served on her. HMAS Lismore was one of 60 minesweepers, commonly known as corvettes, built by Australia during the Second World War. Commissioned in January 1941, she served in Australian waters, in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, and in the Mediterranean Sea.

In October 2007, a memorial tree was dedicated to HMAS Lismore at the Shrine. Berwick Primary School continue to attend the memorial tree each year to honour the service of all those who served aboard HMAS Lismore.

Shrine Representative:

* Shrine Governor Lieutenant Commander Jan Gallagher

Yours Aye!
NVN Team

Kaldas said he made the decision to speak publicly, because the inquiry was failing to gain enough attention in the media or with politicians.

China is continuously bolstering its military bases along the coastline facing Taiwan, the self-ruled island's Defense Ministry said in a report Tuesday, as Beijing steps up military activities around the territory it claims as its own.

As part of its final deployment, HMAS Maryborough welcomed more than 1600 visitors for a rare glimpse into life on board an Armidale-class patrol boat.

An interest in travel and life at sea led Midshipman Sofia Dakin, from Queensland's Gold Coast, to do an ADF Gap Year placement with the Navy.

Within five to 10 years, clocks "a million times" more precise than GPS could improve accuracy, communications, and electronic warfare – without relying on an easily jammed satellite signal. What difference does a nanosecond make?

New Zealand's Defence Ministry has issued a request for information to replace nearly the entire naval fleet, which currently includes nine ships in six different classes.

Royal Navy patrol ships will experiment with protecting underwater infrastructure and the collective security of the Indo-Pacific region as the third year of their ground-breaking mission begins.

Australia and the Philippines agreed to joint patrols in the South China Sea on Friday as the two countries elevated their ties to a strategic partnership.

Quantum sensors can produce unprecedented levels of data and

If you know of any of our Navy family who has crossed the bar and don't appear on our list below or Memorial Wall on our website, please don't hesitate to [contact us](#). If possible, list their Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age.

- † LSETP W. Gayner, R109368, 24 September 2023.
- † CAAH F.C. Larter, R49386, 19 September 2023. Aged 90.
- † POCK D. Bellman, 18 September 2023.
- † CPOMTP5SM C.M. Fowler, R42024, 14 September 2023. Aged 82.
- † CMDR R.J. Greig, R53670, 11 September 2023. Aged 84.
- † ME I.M. Cook, R94906, 10 September 2023. Aged 74.
- † CMDR J.M. Munro OAM, R37963, 09 September 2023. Aged 91.
- † NAAH D.C. Stone, R62542, 09 September 2023. Aged 81.
- † LME E.R. Cockroft, R57841, 05 September 2023. Aged 80.
- † LSSIG D.P. Curbishley, 01 September 2023. Aged 69.
- † SAW1 P.A. Mackay, R42275, 28 August 2023. Aged 80.
- † WRSA J.M. Herbert(nee Sims), WR/1102, 27 August 2023. Aged 100.
- † LEUT D.L. Gilling, RANVR, S/V83, 15 July 2023. Aged 101.

All of the above names now appear on the special [Memorial Wall](#) on our website.

Lest We Forget

Unveiling the Legacy Centenary Tram



The tram commenced its commission on Wednesday September 20th from the Simpson Street Siding, East Melbourne and will run across routes 6 and 19 for approximately three months. Onboard at the launch was Legacy beneficiaries including, 101-year-old Joyce Quinn, Erika Peters-Snow and her three children and Melbourne Legacy President, Kerry Jenke. Australian Defence Force members representing all three branches were also in attendance. Yarra Trams is supporting the good work of Legacy Australia by providing the tram wrap to raise awareness of the work the charity undertakes each year on behalf of veterans' families.

increased fidelity. But the massive amounts of noise and information they produce can be difficult to process and understand.

Radio frequency technology has come a long way since the days of manually adjusting rabbit ears to get a TV signal – and it's still improving.

Engineers Australia has today welcomed the Government's announcement of a \$128.5 million investment over four years to fund 4,000 additional university places to help power the AUKUS workforce.

A small number of US Republican congressmen are holding up the passage of critical legislation required for the AUKUS deal between the US, UK, and Australia to proceed.

A Royal Navy warship has seized more than a tonne of cocaine – worth more than £140m on the streets of Britain – following a successful operation against drug traffickers in the Caribbean Sea.

A pilotless plane has flown on and off a Royal Navy aircraft carrier for the first time.

North Korea has revealed its latest submarine, a "tactical nuclear attack submarine". The new submarine has been named "Hero Kim Gun-ok" and given the hull number 841.

Members of the Royal Australian Naval College (RANC) have hosted a delegation from the Indian Navy as part of a relationship-building exercise between the regional partners.

Anzac-class frigate HMAS Perth has been presented with Navy's most prestigious award, the Gloucester Cup, by West Australian Governor Chris Dawson.



Australian Defence Force and Armed Forces of the Philippines personnel paused after weeks of tactical training during Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2023 (IPE23) to put smiles on children's faces.

It's been 26 years since 103-year-old Merle Hare's husband died, but Legacy made sure she wasn't left alone.

Australians with Filipino heritage on board HMAS Canberra were excited to step off in Manila to reconnect with family.

Navy is sailing into a new era, with a record-breaking number of women taking to the skies.

Gaining lifelong skill sets and an impressive qualification she didn't even realise was available to her, Chief Petty Officer Michelle Keygan, a self-described "kid from the bush", is proof that you should never underestimate yourself.

The crew of Indian Navy submarine INS Vagir were warmly welcomed to Fleet Base West during the first deployment of an Indian submarine to Australia.

Waves of anger spread across the South China Sea and India this week, following China's publication of a new official map renewing its illegal claims to most of the sea and adding new claims along the Indian border.

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