

Editorial

Here we are at what we hope is the tail end of nearly two years of Covid 19 and its incumbent restrictions. If nothing else, we all look forward to being with family and friends, except if you thought you could travel to WA. Thankfully Queensland has finally capitulated by allowing their own citizens and others into the State without worrying about a 14 Day 'quarantine' - notwithstanding, cancellation of travel arrangements is always on the card! Nonetheless, we have been saved from much of the trauma suffered by almost every other country across the planet, for that we must be thankful. It's unclear who to actually thank, given the diverse media commentary we were exposed to on a daily basis, who to believe?

At least we on the east coast can look forward to a Christmas with family and friends. A situation we have all longed for. One thing about the on/off again restrictions, it gave us a forced break. In some cases it may have been the 'down tools' necessary to recharge. The difficulty is getting back into harness, along with a positive mindset. We still have plenty of challenges before us, whether that be employment, volunteering or just forming a view on the best way forward.

Whilst not a segue, the Covid years have put enormous pressure on member based organisations, insofar as retaining paid up members – although that is not a problem for NVN. Membership issues may not be surprising, changes to the style of interaction between member and organisation due to Covid has adversely influenced membership. Membership of something is important, it's not surprising that individuals have a tendency to join or at least associate with movements, not-for-profits or other entities. The discussion regarding who joins, or more accurately who doesn't join associations or member based organisations remains a lively debate.



Join NOW Membership is FREE



Scan the code or <u>Click here to go to</u> the Registration page

Events Calendar

(see <u>Calendar</u> for full details)

NOTE: Due to COVID-19, it is advisable to check with the coordinators to confirm whether the event you were planning to attend is still going ahead. We will endeavour to keep the Diary updated as news comes to hand.

At present the Shrine of Remembrance is closed, but ceremonies are still being conducted and they are live streamed on the Shrine's <u>Facebook page</u>.

- 25 Dec Merry Christmas
- **01 Jan** Happy New Year
- **10 Feb** HMAS Voyager Service
- 14 Feb POW Memorial Ballarat
- 15 Feb Prisoners of War Service
- 19 Feb Darwin Defenders Service
- March TBC HMAS Yarra visits
- *March* TBC STS Young Endeavour visits
- **01 Mar** HMAS Perth & USS Houston

Initially, with respect to what might keep you interested is defining the value of membership. Membership primarily revolves around how well the value proposition has been and continues to be promoted. Obviously the value of membership existed at the time of joining, however, whether this value has been reinforced is crucial to ongoing participation. Consequently, serious consideration is warranted by those seeking to keep an organisation thriving, what is the ongoing value of membership.

In that sense, connection with NVN by our readers is important to us. Something strengthened by regular sharing of information: monthly distribution of 'Navy Hero' and the Editorial, each sent about two weeks apart. If nothing else, it goes to the heart of our purpose, that being to share advice and information relevant to the Victoria Navy fraternity. One important aspect of our purpose was to highlight events being scheduled in Victoria. Avoiding competing events, given interested parties would probably wish to attend both events. This objective has not happened as originally thought, however, events are visible to anyone who wishes to see if there is something of interest occurring on a particular day, such as concerts by the RAN Band Melbourne.

Looking beyond NVN, broadening your organisation's base by increasing membership is an ongoing challenge. If retention is stable, the focus needs to be on encouraging potential members. Again this will demand recognition of value, or relevance of the particular organisation to the needs of an individual. From a Navy fraternity perspective, relevance has been the challenge for a number of our ship/branch organisations for decades. This challenge does require astute thinking by all office bearers. Best to think of it as a shared responsibility for all members, remembering 'Once Navy, Always Navy'.

Incentives may be needed to excite a potential member. This may take a number of forms, if there is a cost to membership, then some relief may be in order to bring them into the organisation. If there is no tangible incentive available, then some other form of enticement may need to be created. Contact with senior members of the organisation could be of benefit, or merely bringing the candidate into contact with others in the organisation to demonstrate their likeminded interests. Nonetheless, expediting a response is critical to achieving the goal, particularly if that is anything to do with increased membership. In the case of NVN, if each of our registered readers where to encourage one other person to join us, then that would have a very positive impact on extending cohesion

Service

01 Mar - Father of the Navy Service

Latest Videos, Podcasts and News Headlines

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

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VIDEOS.....

- Farewell to a faithful Navy provider - decommissioning of HMAS Sirius
- Maybe This Christmas Royal Australian Navy Band Christmas Video 2021
- HMA Ships Brisbane and Warramunga arrive home
- HMAS Warramunga works with German frigate Bayern
- Wings Over Illawarra Airshow 2021
- ADF supports Pacific Islands family in times of crisis

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Navy Music Writers

NEWS.....

The 50th anniversary of the reestablishment of the rank of warrant officer in the Navy was marked with a ceremony held by the Keith Payne VC Veterans' Benefit Group on December 17 in Nowra, NSW.

The current six-month-plus deployment of German frigate FGS Bayern (F217) to the Indo-Pacific is the initial step toward a regular biannual naval deployment to the region, German Navy Chief Vice Adm. Kay-Achim Schönbach said today.

Sub Lieutenant Toia Mangakahia joined the Navy through the New Entry Officers' Course as a maritime warfare officer (MWO) submariner, said she wasn't completely sure what she was going for, but knew it was a job that would help her grow and develop her across the Navy fraternity.

Exposure across the likely cohort of potential members is another challenge. Publicising within different digital streams provides a wider coverage and may motivate individuals to make contact. This could be central to any future success. Some may say that too frequent contact is counter-productive, but what is too frequent contact. If too many emails happen to be invasive, they are easily deleted and knowing what are too many is guesswork. The aim is to provide sufficient coverage that prospective members are enticed by what they see. And by the way, keep in mind you have 20 seconds of viewing time to make your mark!

Membership of an organisation, no matter what type, requires a forever approach to membership if it is to be sustained over a long period. No one can afford to take their foot off the pedal, lest they seek to douse any enthusiasm past their own participation. If we galvanise existing members into supporting the values of the organisation and constantly seek to be relevant, then the prospect of engaging the wider membership becomes a possibility.

The total membership should be engaged in the process of recruitment, in searching for potential new members. Each member needs to feel empowered to describe the value and relevance of the NVN or their own organisation. This empowerment may at the very least involve sharing of ideas. If you have ideas on how to improve membership, let's hear them.

Virtually every edition this year has been vastly different than the previous one. We have endeavoured to showcase different organisations directly related to the Navy fraternity. The purpose being to stir up your curiosity and highlight the variety of interests at work within Victoria. If you have an association with something that would be of interest to our readers, like minded colleagues and you are prepared to put pen to paper, then by all means give us your thoughts.

The NVN Committee of Management has enormous faith in the Navy Fraternity, a faith bound up with the heartfelt spirit created by association with Navy.

Returning to our primary focus in this edition, we wish every one of our readers enjoyment with family and friends over Christmas and throughout the New Year – keep safe and let's catch up in 2022! own capabilities.

The 2021-22 rounds of the Veteran and Community Grants and Supporting Younger Veterans Grants are now open for applications. Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee said the grants deliver valuable funding to local community organisations providing activities and services that support the wellbeing of veterans and their families.

HMAS Sirius was decommissioned from the Royal Australian Navy on December 18 after more than 15 years' dedicated service providing fuel and stores to ships at sea.

Hard work and dedication paid off for the 31 graduates of the Maritime Warfare Officer Course 07, who celebrated the completion of their training at HMAS Watson on December 10. Two years of practical, theoretical preparation and assessments earned these officers their Bridge Warfare Certificates and their Maritime Warfare Officer (MWO) professional qualification.

Minister for Defence the Hon Peter Dutton MP has announced the creation of more than 300 scholarships over the next five years to grow Australia's nuclear science and engineering workforce. "The delivery of at least eight nuclear-powered submarines will see thousands of jobs created across the country over the next few decades," Minister Dutton said. "We must ensure our people have the right skills and qualifications to support and deliver this once-in-a-generation endeavour that will bolster our national security and defence."

The first of 12 Arafura-class offshore patrol vessels - NUSHIP Arafura - was launched yesterday at the Osborne Naval Shipyard in South Australia. First Assistant Secretary Ships Division, Sheryl Lutz, said the Arafura-class offshore patrol vessels were one of the foundational projects in the 2017 Naval

Yours Aye! NVN Team



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

- † CPOSBA J.R. Wilson, BEM, R55673, 14 December 2021. Aged 85.
- [†] CPOSY P.R. Greenfield, R103232, 12 December 2021. Aged 89.
- [†] WRSAV L.J. Turner, W86112, 09 December 2021. Aged 75.
- [†] CPOWTR R. Dalrymple, R/34691, 07 December 2021. Aged 93.
- [†] LCDR K.H. Cartwright OAM RFD RD, 07 December 2021. Aged 89.
- [†] ME P.W. Kane, R54261, 02 December 2021. Aged 80.
- † CAPT E.V. Stevens, 01 December 2021. Aged 94.
- [†] POAH B.R. Jeffrey, R46024, 01 December 2021. Aged 88.
- [†] LSTD J.R. Scott, 37660, 28 November 2021. Aged 91.
- [†] WOCOXN J.D. Pownall, R66257, 27 November 2021. Aged 72.
- [†] LCDR O. Rogers, R55261, 02 November 2021. Aged 80.

Lest We Forget

OUR DECEMBER HERO:



Commander Ian Maxwell 'Max' Speedy DSC RAN

Ian Maxwell (Max) Speedy was born in Levin, New Zealand, in 1944. The family came to Australia in 1950 and Max saw all his schooling in and around Brisbane.

It was in Vietnam that the "Golden Hour" for a

wounded soldier to be flown to a casualty station became the rule. The 135th, as with all the other AHCs, carried out its own troop resupplies, medevacs, reenforcements, and most crucially picking up their own pilots shot down. But not until the troops called the day over did the EMUs go back to base.

Like most of the aircrew, Max was awarded numerous times: the US Army Air Medal (12 times on the basis of 25 hours in combat for each one), two Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry (one Bronze Star, the other Silver Star), and on 4th July, 1969, his US Army Honorary Aviator's Wings! Later his Distinguished Service Cross was presented by HM, The Queen, Elizabeth II, in Buckingham Palace. *Read Max's full history in our Hero's section.*

Shipbuilding Plan.

A new memorial plaque honouring Ordinary Seaman Edward "Teddy" Sheean VC was unveiled in Shropshire Park in the Tasmanian town of Ulverstone 79 years after his death. Ordinary Seaman Sheean paid the ultimate sacrifice on December 1, 1942, while defending his HMAS Armidale I shipmates against enemy fighters during WWII.

Navy prosecutors will make their case to a military officer this week as to why a junior sailor should be court-martialed on charges that he deliberately set the 2020 fire that eventually gutted former USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) and intentionally put others in danger at Naval Base San Diego.

With an ageing fleet and quantitative disadvantage against potential adversaries, the US has ceded its long held naval superiority. Defence Connect analyses whether the National Defense Authorization Act 2022 can stem this decline, and whether the United States might see a resurgence in navalism.

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Commandant, Commodore Peter Leavy and Superintendent United States Naval Academy (USNA) Vice Admiral Sean Buck have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to begin an exchange program for midshipmen.

EIGHTY years to the day since HMAS Parramatta (II) was lost, the red kangaroo funnel insignia from successor ship Parramatta (IV) was donated to the Australian War Memorial.

FlyBy – A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. <u>December</u> <u>issue....</u> (Note: right mouse click link and download document)

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