

BROADSIDE

June 2020

Volume 10 Edition 6

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1155



This month's editorial is by Cr Dr Jackie Watts OAM, Chair Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network.

Strange indeed? Melbourne is unique in being the only large port city in the nation, and unique amongst comparable cities in the developed world, in ailing to neither recognize nor celebrate its rich maritime heritage. Maritime trade, enterprising migrants, gold (and staunch defense by our Navy of course) created the optimum social and economic conditions through which the prosperity of this city flourished.

The evidence of our maritime prominence surrounds us. The modern port of Melbourne remains the largest in the nation. Our early maritime infrastructure, Victoria Harbour and Coode Canal, achieved global significance renowned as extraordinary examples of 19th Century feats of civil engineering. Think about that achievement – the place, era and the distance! And the seas surrounding us!

Many of us are simply unaware of our maritime heritage, while others care a great deal about it and are determined that such ignorance be dispelled. Although many maritime enthusiasts work tirelessly, to protect and preserve our maritime heritage across the state and in this city, bureaucratic 'amnesia' and a plethora of competing authorities stymie their efforts. As the public and governmental awareness, plummeted and the city turned its back on maritime matters, the situation became acute: maritime artefacts and memorabilia was often lost or dispersed. The maritime skills base-eroded, Careers on the water (apart from the Navy) have sadly diminished. Yet we are an island nation and we remain utterly

Events Calendar

(see [Diary of Events](#) 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 [Facebook page](#).

30 Jun – On this day in 1941 - HMAS WATERHEN sunk off Tobruk

30 Jun – HMAS Waterhen Service will be held in the Sanctuary at 1100

02 Jul – 1950 – United Nations operations in Korea commenced. HMA Ships Anzac, Arunta, Bataan, Condamine, Culgoa, Murchison, Shoalhaven, Sydney, Tobruk and Warramunga operated with the Commonwealth Task Force

05 Jul – Reserve Forces Service

06 Jul – FESR Service

09 Jul – 80 years ago today HMA Ships Sydney, Stuart, Vampire and Voyager participated in the Battle of Calabria.

10 Jul – On this day in 1911 - King George V granted the Permanent Commonwealth Naval Force the title of Royal Australian Navy.

15 Jul – Soundwaves concert – Cerberus

17 Jul – Recruit school graduation

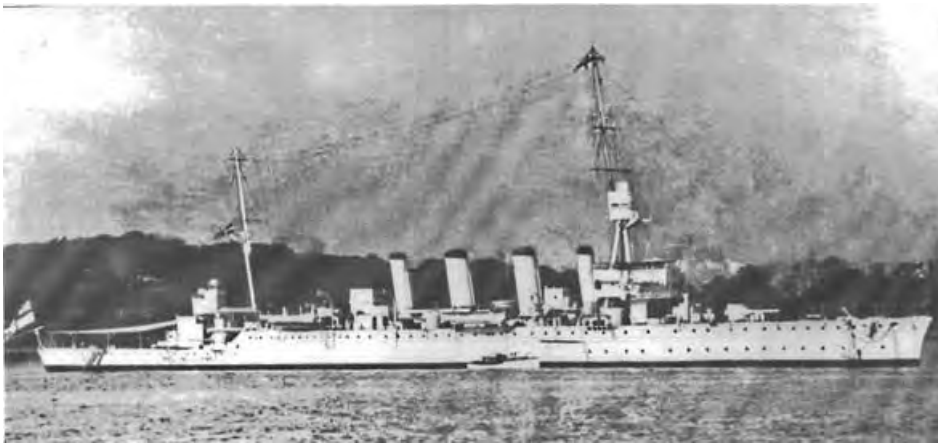
19 Jul – 80 years ago today HMAS SYDNEY sank the Italian cruiser BARTOLOMEO COLLEONI.

27 Jul – Korean Veterans service.

dependent on sea trade.

While the Navy has been exemplary in sustaining maritime expertise as well as preserving and presenting the maritime history of the service in Australia, other groups have been less well resourced and consequently less successful.

However, through the Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network (MMHN), we hope to achieve positive change, through vision, advocacy and creating opportunities for collaborations across the network to raise recognition of all maritime matters. Unusual collaborations are in fact occurring. For example Offshore & Specialist Ship Australia (OSSA) and Antarctic expeditioners ANARE are collaborating with the City of Melbourne to install maritime artefacts in the new Seafarers Rest Park located between the Mission to Seafarers and the iconic North Wharf. Another unusual collaboration involves the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum Group, currently restoring the Steam tug *Wattle*, are preparing for the restoration of a former Navy vessel *The Janet*. This Admiral's pinnacle originally from the HMAS *Melbourne* (pictured below) was built in 1922 at Garden Island and soon to be restored in Melbourne.



The MMHN is determined to re-focus attention on our Maritime Heritage. Our future, in a sense depends, on this. We need to embed in the imagination of the wider public and, importantly in our government, recognition that in the past, maritime expertise delivered our prosperity and that our future prosperity will require that a strong Maritime Industry Sector be strategically developed. We are an Island nation.

Latest Videos, Podcasts and News Headlines

The full articles of the news items listed below can be found on our website:

<https://navyvic.net/news/news.html>

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VIDEOS.....

- *Navy Outplacement Program with CEA Technologies*
- *Royal Navy continues trials of heavy-lift drone*
- *HMAS Toowoomba concludes a successful mission in the Middle East region*
- *Navy, Army and Air Force Push-up Challenge to raise awareness for mental health*
- *In This Together: National Reconciliation Week 2020*
- *China's Aircraft Carrier 'Shandong' Conducting Sea Trials in Yellow Sea*

NEWS.....

Royal New Zealand Navy's new fleet tanker and replenishment ship Aotearoa sailed into Auckland Harbor today following her 15 day journey from Ulsan, South Korea.

The two U.S. warships in the Middle East weren't aiming to break a record. But when the coronavirus made ship stops in foreign countries too risky, the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Ticonderoga-class cruiser San Jacinto were ordered to keep moving and avoid all port visits.

The recent developments in Ladakh on the disputed border between India and China were shocking and tragic. The clash in Galwan Valley last week has opened up a deep fissure in India-China ties, spawning tensions that could even escalate into an all-out-war.

From today, all Australians will have faster and easier access to essential cyber security information to help protect against online threats, following the launch of the enhanced [cyber.gov.au](https://www.cyber.gov.au) website.

Veterans' health and financial wellbeing

Hence the establishment of the MMHN to more effectively, bring together the diverse stakeholders – heritage, industry, educators, ‘sailors’ and maritime enthusiasts of all types, aspiring to collectively re-direct attention towards the significance of maritime history and the importance of the Maritime Industry Sector to this nation going forward.

Now in its second year of existence the MMHN has achieved rapid early recognition as a unifying force, and has attracted keen interest from a wide cross-section of maritime stakeholders. Significantly it now has the strong support from local government, education and museums sector, and relevant responsibility authorities within the areas of the State and Federal governments. It has attracted the attention of the wider public and the media.

The MMHN is ASIC registered and has status as a registered charity. The 10 members MMHN board, which includes Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RAN – Senior Naval Officer (Victoria), is ambitious and energetic. Check the MMHN website www.mmhn.org.au for more background information.

MMHN stated objectives, which are advanced by MMHN members who choose to participate in a series of Specialist Advisory Groups in key areas including:

- Maritime Industry & Commerce
- Museums & Heritage
- Tourism & Events
- Marine Skills, Education and Careers
- Maritime infrastructure
- Media, IT & social media

All meetings are currently via Zoom at the moment. But as we all emerge once more, from lock-down, please remember that all maritime related events or publications etc. may be promoted free of charge on the MMHN website.

COVID-19 has effectively torpedoed planned MMHN events for the time being but so much is actually happening in relation to maritime heritage and the Maritime Sector as a whole, monthly MMHN updates are sent to members keeping us all connected.

has been given a boost with the Government announcing an additional \$17.3 million to support two pilot programs for a further 12 months and increased claims processing capacity at the Department of Veterans’ Affairs (DVA).

TODAY is PTSD Awareness Day and Australians are urged to look out for their mates who may be experiencing poor mental health and encourage them to seek support and treatment as early as possible.

Veterans and their families in Tasmania will be able to have their say in how to access support with the Federal and Tasmanian governments jointly investing \$120,000 to undertake a feasibility study to look at an integrated, nationally connected service for the state.

Tomorrow we acknowledge the 70th anniversary of the start of the Korean War and recognise the service and sacrifice of more than 17,000 Australians who fought as part of the United Nations (UN) multinational force defending South Korea from a North Korean invasion. Minister for Veterans’ Affairs Darren Chester said the Australian Navy, Army and Air Force personnel who served in the Korean War won international respect for their courage, endurance and combat skills.

The U.S. Navy is poised to ink almost \$10.4 billion in contracts with General Dynamics Electric Boat to procure the first two Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines, which carry more than a dozen nuclear missiles on constant deterrent patrols.

Major Royal Navy vessels can now berth at the UK’s base in Bahrain after waterfront facilities were revamped.

The Royal Australian Navy’s latest upgrade of the Mark 15 Phalanx Close-in Weapon System (CIWS) has reached a major milestone by achieving Initial Operating Capability.

Unmanned surface vessels are all the

MMHN enthusiastically invites your participation and hopefully, membership. info@mmhn.org.au

Yours Aye!
NVN Team.

VALE

(The names below have been added to NVN's website [Memorial Wall](#))

- † ABQMG Alan Gildersleeve, 23 June 2020. Aged 57.
- † M.J. Free, R96484, 20 June 2020. Aged 68.
- † WOCSM A.D. Tait, 19 June 2020. Aged 67.
- † CMDR J.B. Mead, O2761, 17 June 2020. Aged 93.
- † PORSS B.C. Harley, R58321, 15 June 2020. Aged 77.
- † CPOUC D. Edwards, 13 June 2020. Aged 65.
- † CMDR C.R.R. Rex, O2267, 11 June 2020. Aged 72.
- † AB G.S. Heron, B5132, 10 June 2020. Aged 94.
- † SIG R.R. Drury, S9246, 07 June 2020. Aged 93.
- † LRO C.H. Dicker, R59872, 06 June 2020. Aged 73.
- † CPOAE A. Clark, R35828, 05 Jun 2020. Aged 92.
- † AB A.H. Thornton, PM2164, 30 May 2020. Aged 99.
- † CAPT B.J. Read RAN, O960, 28 May 2020. Aged 86.
- † A/SIG J.J. Willoughby, PM7527, 25 May 2020. Aged 94.
- † LME N.G. Rankin, R63896, 24 May 2020. Aged 78.
- † LEUT J.P Russell, O105967, 20 April 2020. Aged 67.

Lest We Forget

VALE Notices

If you know of any of our Navy family that has crossed the bar, please don't hesitate to let us know (webmaster@navyvic.net). We would like to list their names in perpetuity on our special 'Vale' wall on the website. If possible list their Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age.

Our June Navy hero is LCDR Kenneth James Brown RAN



Ken was born on 10th September, 1921 in Hamilton, Victoria.

His father fought as a soldier in World War 1 and following a serious illness he passed away at age 36 in November, 1926, leaving a wife and 3 young sons, Clive (8), Kenneth (5) and Keith (3 months). More tragically

Keith aged 3 months passed away just days after his Father.

This was the time of the Depression so there was no work about. His mother was now in a very difficult position with little or no income and could not provide for the children. The bank foreclosed on the house as

rage in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the U.S. Navy has lined up behind the effort. But Congress remains skeptical until it sees the Navy make progress on the basics.

Cerberus bleeds for National Blood Donor Week. Every day across Australia someone, somewhere, needs the vital gift of blood.

On June 17, 2020, a commissioning ceremony was held for the new corvette Type 056A "Jingdezhen" at the PLAN Naval Base in Xiamen (Fujian Province). In total, nine Type 056 corvettes have joined the People Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) since the beginning of 2020.

Today, with the full concurrence of the Secretary of the Navy, Kenneth J. Braithwaite, the Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Mike Gilday, announced the results of the command investigation into the events surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71).

The Royal Navy's experts in getting new technology to the frontline quickly are trialling the use of heavy-lift drones for future use on warships.

The Royal Australian Navy has a long connection with Australia's proud Indigenous heritage through Navy's people and operations.

Defence is bringing together its intelligence capabilities under a new Defence Intelligence Group (DIG) to ensure the organisation is best positioned to support Australian Defence Force (ADF) operations and take advantage of emerging capabilities.

The Federal Government welcomes the announcement of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) that the next Census will be held on 10 August 2021 and final confirmation that it will include a question about service in the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Seven warships sailed in the past week from Navy's Fleet Base East and Fleet

they could not make repayments and with virtually no equity in the property they were forced out.

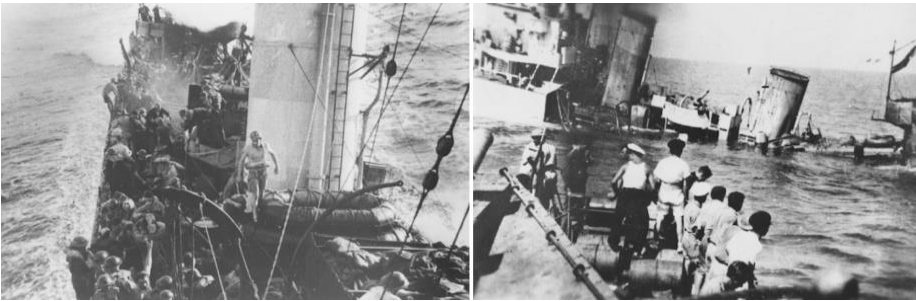
Big brother Clive was taken in by his Uncle Charlie BROWN and in 1927 Ken and his mother moved to Richmond when he was 6 years old. Soon after a baby girl was born in the house next door and Ken remembers having a nurse of this baby. The baby's name was Mavis, who, many, many years later would become his wife and remained so for 73 years. Ken crossed the bar the day after their 73rd wedding anniversary.

Life was financially tough for the Brown family and Ken in an effort to support his mother joined the RAN from Frankston, Victoria on 22nd March, 1938 as a 16 and a half year old boy.

Ken's full story can be found at: <https://navyvic.net/heroes/brown.html>

HMAS Waterhen Service

The HMAS Waterhen Service will be held in the Sanctuary at 1100, Tuesday 30th June 2020. Any attendees should be in the visitor centre before 1030 if they wish to be in the Sanctuary. The service may also be seen on Facebook '[Shrine of Remembrance](#)' webcast in real time, or later.



Left: The crew of HMAS Waterhen getting ready to abandon the sinking ship.

Right: Waterhen sinking beneath the wave.

Base West to undertake a range of training activities to test newly upgraded systems and exercise as part of a Maritime Task Group.

Navy's global credibility is set to thrive with the skills and knowledge of more engineering personnel to be acknowledged internationally.

HMAS Armidale has undocked in Cairns after undergoing a major servicing and restoration project, which invested more than \$5 million into the local economy.

The Australian government must take very seriously the threat to the Manus Island joint naval base project outlined recently by a senior minister in Papua New Guinea's government.

Community groups and organisations across the country that are committed to preserving Australia's wartime heritage as well as involving the community in projects and activities that commemorate our service personnel will share in more than \$2.2 million in funding through the Saluting Their Service commemorative grants program.

The first Borei-A-class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) officially joined the Russian Navy today (June 12). JSC Sevmas Shipyard held a ceremony led by the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Navy - Admiral Nikolai Yevmenov.

For the first time in nearly three years, three American aircraft carriers are patrolling the Indo-Pacific waters, a massive show of naval force in a region roiled by spiking tensions between the U.S. and China and a sign that the Navy has bounced back from the worst days of the coronavirus outbreak.

South Korean shipbuilder Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) has delivered HMNZS Aotearoa, a new Polar-class logistics support vessel, to the Royal New Zealand Navy.

The Royal Navy's task group in the Caribbean has come together once more



2020 Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition

Theme: *The Relationship of Humanity to the Sea*

The Mission to Seafarers invites you to participate in the 2020 Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition. It is an international competition that has been hosted at the heritage-listed Mission building in Melbourne's Docklands for eighteen years. If you are a budding or accomplished artist, here's your chance to exhibit your work and potentially win prize money in the Mission to Seafarers' annual maritime art exhibition.

[View press release.....](#)

70th Anniversary of the Beginning of the Korean War.



This is John Boyer's story. John lives in Frankston and was a Leading Stoker during the Korean war.

The Bombardment of Chinampo

by John Boyer, 28486, HMAS Bataan

Response to a new threat.

With the entry of the Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA) into the Korean War, the UN forces became hopelessly outnumbered and a general retreat began along the entire front. HMAS Bataan, having already been detached from the US 7th Fleet and ready to return to Australia, was immediately ordered to sail to the west coast of Korea and commence patrol operations at the mouth of the Yalu River, the border between Manchuria and North Korea.

On the 4th of December, 1950, Bataan was ordered to proceed to the Taedong River estuary and join her sister ship HMAS Warramunga, three Canadian destroyers (HMCS Cayuga, Athabaskan and Sioux) and the American destroyer, USS Forrest B Royal. In total darkness and being blacked out, the ships dropped anchor and the captains held a conference on Cayuga, being the senior ship, to decide what moves would be appropriate given the present situation. Communication with the threatened forces in Chinampo confirmed the decision to proceed up river to cover and assist in the evacuation of the UN troops.

A nightmare journey begins.

At 2200 the order was given to sail and so began a nightmare journey. A blinding snowstorm immediately enveloped the vessels making visual observation impossible. Each navigating officer would have his ability and skill tested to the utmost facing the hazards that lay ahead.

The available charts were old and probably no longer accurate. The treacherous eddy and flow of the river current meant constant wheel changes by the ever-alert helmsman. Mud banks, large and small, and the varying depth of the riverbed all contributing to a most unpleasant voyage. Added to this were the minefields. Uncharted and unknown, this was the most serious threat to face each ship.

Within an hour of departure, Sioux signalled that she had run aground and was stuck fast. Shortly after that Warramunga suffered the same fate and both ships were left to their own devices, being advised not to attempt to refloat until daybreak.

The remaining destroyers cautiously carried on with their mission, and after long and nerve-racking hours, finally arrived at Chinampo at 0400. It

as hurricane season preparations continue in earnest.

Australia's navy needs operations research to navigate the future by Tim Barrett and Arthur H. Barber Australia is at a watershed moment in naval capability with the fleet's regeneration over the next decade as a consequence of the 2016 defence white paper and the investment decisions flowing from it.

Mother of two from Beenleigh in Brisbane, Royal Australian Navy officer Lieutenant Kristy Bates is embracing the experience of leadership and communications on operations in Egypt.

HMAS Anzac has joined HMAS Arunta as the second Anzac Class Frigate to undergo the Anzac Midlife Capability Assurance Program upgrade.

The Philippine government is putting the brakes on its plan to end a critical aspect of its Mutual Defense Treaty with the U.S., but experts say it is too soon to tell whether this decision signals a warming relationship between the two allies.

On the Queen's Birthday 2020 Honours List, 24 Navy personnel have joined the long number of other servicemen and women who have been appointed to the Order of Australia or Conspicuous Service awards.

PODCAST: Policy, Guns and Money: Offshore patrol vessels, India-China standoff and Europe's Covid-19 response

No other weapon system embodies the menacing, but also out-of-sight, presence of nuclear weapons better than the stealthy nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) that have, for six decades, ceaselessly prowled the world's cold ocean depths, waiting for an order that has never come.

Work has begun on a new purpose built facility at Henderson in Western Australia which will house the Royal Australian Navy's Submarine Rescue System.

had taken six hours to traverse the 45 kilometres. It was a tired but relieved crew that settled down at relaxed action stations to await the coming daylight.

Astonishment is the only way to describe the feeling of those on board when it was realised that the entire city was ablaze with lights. Frenzied activity was taking place along the whole of the waterfront. After being in near total darkness and restricted to minimum physical movement, it took some time for the scene to register. The morning light began to reveal what was actually occurring. Equipment was being swung inboard and lowered into the holds of waiting craft, orderly lines of troops making their way along the jetties and up gangways onto transports. Individuals in khaki were rushing backwards and forwards indicating with their arms at who knows what. Then, as the sun rose higher, another drama began to unfold. Further along the waterfront, away from the controlled loading of the troops and equipment, were several jetties jammed with panic-stricken civilians.

The death of innocent civilians.

To escape the oncoming Chinese troops, they had fled towards the river and were trying to board the small craft tied to the wharves. In the mad rush to get to the boats some were pushed off the wharves. Others fell, while still others were carried over by the constant surge of people behind them. Others were trampled on, some were crushed between the pier poles and the boats and even then, after making the sanctuary of the craft, some were bodily thrown overboard to make room for others following behind.

It was complete chaos and the onlookers could only stare in disbelief at what was happening, unable to intervene. On the river, large and small vessels were scurrying downstream as fast as they could. A constant flow of humanity sailing past the anchored warships with one common purpose - escape!

Suddenly it was realised that many small boats were making their way towards the destroyers, no doubt seeing them as a means of rescue. Unfortunately for these poor people, the warships could not cope with an influx of such numbers. The Canadians, being closest inshore, were first to react. Fire hoses were directed at the oncoming craft with immediate and disastrous effect. The leading boats took the initial blast of water and the occupants began a mad scramble to the rear to dodge the water jets. This caused the stern to dip and in no time water began to pour in.

Knowing their boat was doomed they tried to move forward again, but were caught in a fight with those who had stayed put. Then the boat sank and its entire load was now struggling in the water. Being dressed in

Defence is poised to enter into a standing agreement with an Australian anti-microbial treatment specialist, in the wake of the continued COVID-19 outbreak.

Australia can acquire extra maritime capability quickly and affordably while promoting local industry and the government's continuous naval shipbuilding plan.

Australia's dedicated submarine sustainment organisation, ASC, is collaborating with Australia's national science agency, CSIRO, and DMTC Limited, to pioneer the use of additive manufacturing for the repair of Collins Class submarines.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Navy, Admiral Nikolai Evmenov, has signed the acceptance certificate for the newest Borei-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) Knyaz Vladimir.

*All aboard the Sea Train!
Imagine the following scenario. Four medium-sized U.S. Navy vessels depart from a port along the United States' coast. There's no crew aboard any of them. About 15 nautical miles off the coast, the four vessels rendezvous, autonomously arranging themselves in a line. Using custom mechanisms, they attach to each other to form a train, except they're in the water and there's no railroad to guide them.*

Veterans and their families from across Australia will benefit from projects funded under the Veteran and Community Grants (V&CG) program aimed at ensuring their health and wellbeing.

Support for the mental health needs of younger veterans has today received a boost with more than \$1 million in grants or eight projects which will be delivered by ex-service organisations (ESOs) and other veteran community organisations.

heavy winter clothing, some soon disappeared from sight. Others now tried to swim to the nearest boat but were quickly dissuaded by those onboard, who beat their hands or hit them to make them let go.

In an effort to escape the freezing jets of water, the following boats tried to turn around and some were rammed. Others were flooded and more people went into the icy river. The whole scene could not have lasted for five minutes but it was long enough for other escapees to know there was no rescue to be had. For several minutes pathetic bundles drifted slowly downstream before finally sinking below the surface. And still, oblivious to the happenings around them, fleeing ships went downstream ignoring the cries for help from those unable to leave.

Disquieted, the crews are called to action.

For the destroyer crews going about the various duties there was a feeling of disquiet. They were witnessing the other side of the coin of war, and they were unable to change what was unfolding. Then, at 1600 the signal was received that the evacuation of the 8000 American and South Korean troops had been successfully completed and the transports were already leaving.

Another signal was then transmitted saying, "Destroy everything that could be of use to the enemy." Then came the announcement "Hands will go to action stations at 1630." Every man on board began to ready himself to carry out his allotted task when the time came. At 1630 the order was given, "Hands to action stations." And the waiting began.

Enduring images of war: an eyewitness account.

An uneasy calm seemed to settle over the scene as those on board prepared for their next task. At 1700 the order was given "Commence firing." Immediately the silence shattered as broadsides fired from the ships, each shell landing into a preselected target area. With each blast the destroyers rocked and heeled. Asbestos began to fall from pipes and trunking in the mess decks and the other spaces where the material was in use.

Following a direct hit ashore, an enormous smoke-ring mushroomed skywards. It was huge and it rose majestically upwards. It stayed visible for a long time before finally dissipating and losing its shape high in the still atmosphere. The shelling continued unabated, the orange and yellow shell bursts preceding the clouds of dust and smoke.

As the firing went on the smell of cordite began to permeate the entire ship. Mess decks, magazines, store-rooms, boiler rooms, engine room, all compartments being filled with the acrid fumes. Asbestos dust now floated lazily about and covered most flat surfaces.

China's newest aircraft carrier, Type 001A Shandong (Hull 17), is conducting sea trials at a time Beijing's military leadership criticizes the pace and scope of U.S. Navy operations in the region.

More than seven decades after he died, a sailor finally has a gravestone befitting his gallantry. Historians have ensured George Niven is no longer forgotten by marking his resting place in a Birmingham cemetery.

The Royal Australian Navy Recruit Training School recently farewelled 137 graduates from General Entry Intake 380 Shipp Division, after 11 weeks of initial entry training, at HMAS Cerberus.

Defence chief says ADF retains warfighting focus while supporting bushfire and pandemic responses.

ASPI defence economist Marcus Hellyer has called for the Royal Australian Navy's new Arafura Class to be 'upgunned' by incorporating a suite of anti-ship and anti-submarine capabilities, running the risk of over-complicating the program and mission profile, while leaving the Navy short of critical sea lane protection capabilities.

Add the 2020 Warrior Games to the list of military events being cancelled over COVID-19 concerns. "As the lead planners for the 2020 Warrior Games, the Marine Corps announced the decision to cancel the Games, citing the paramount concerns for the health and well-being of the 300 U.S. military active-duty and veteran athletes, international military teams, and residents within the greater San Antonio area," the Corps said in a press release Friday morning.

Rolls-Royce is to supply complete MTU propulsion systems for five new Type 31 general-purpose frigates for the Royal Navy. In total, the order comprises of 40 engines and generator sets to be used for main propulsion and on-board power generation, the MTU Callosum propulsion control and monitoring system, and Integrated Logistics Support

The noise of the gunfire was deafening. There was the heavy blast of the 4.7 inch, the lighter crack of the 4.0 inch, the peculiar 'cough, cough, cough' of the 40mm bofors, and the rapid 'pmmf, pmmf, pmmf' of the 20mm pom poms, all adding their own contribution to the cacophony of thunderous sound.

Fires were now beginning to show ashore. Some were large, some small - all starting to burn out of control. Slowly and efficiently the calculated placement of shot was not only destroying the targeted area, but was providing the fires with a steady supply of material to burn, assisting in the destruction of the city.

Darkness fell quickly and now the fires were becoming the focal point of the operation. Explosion after explosion hurled flaming debris high into the darkness. It fell back into the raging inferno below. Tracer shells glowing red sped through the dark and disappeared into the flames. The whole waterfront was now ablaze. At 2000 came the order "Cease firing." The guns fell silent and an eerie hush prevailed.

To the onlookers the scene was awesome. As far as the eye could see in either direction was one unbroken wall of flames. Their reflections danced on the inky black waters and a bright red glow dominated the skyline. For several minutes those responsible surveyed the results of the bombardment, then it was time to leave.

One by one the ships slipped away from the devastation and began the journey downstream. There was no jubilation or bravado amongst the crew. There was subdued talk. Snatches of quiet conversation like "Point blank range," "Just like target practice," "Couldn't miss at that range," and "God help those poor bastards ashore," seemed to sum up the mood of those on board.

Fifty years on: a symbol of hope

On the 25 June 2001, I attended the annual Korean War Memorial service held at the Korean Uniting Church in Malvern. For the first time in years, I felt that here in this church was perhaps the reason for the wastage of Chinampo. The congregation were free to worship and live the life that was theirs by choice. At least that is what I hope.

NOTE: This is an edited version of the original 2001 piece.

First published in 2001 in *Do This In Remembrance: Healing the Wounds of War Addresses, Sermons and Scripts from the St. George's East St. Kilda Uniting Church Annual Memorial Service 1992-2001* (ed. John Bottomly)

Source: <https://rbh49.com/KVAA/VeteransStories/JohnBoyer.php>

The German Navy (Deutsche Marine) announced the postponement of the long deployment of its F124 Sachsen-class frigate "Hamburg" to the Indian Ocean. Hamburg was set to take part in a missile live-fire exercise off the Norwegian coast and then continue on a five-month training mission with stops in Reunion Island (France) and then all the way to Australia.

Fifteen new warships and supply vessels will operate in the Far East by the end of 2020.

The guardians of the nation's war dead have offered to help veterans and families pay their virtual respects to D-Day heroes next month.

The Independence-variant littoral combat ship USS Gabrielle Giffords (LCS 10) and the Republic of Singapore Navy Formidable-class multi-role stealth frigate RSS Steadfast (FFS 70) conducted a bilateral exercise in the South China Sea, May 24-25.

The Italian Navy has celebrated a major milestone in the life of its LHD/aircraft carrier hybrid, the Cavour, following a 16-month complex overhaul and modernisation that will allow the vessel to embark the fifth-generation F-35B, conduct complex combat operations, transport marines and conduct humanitarian support and assistance in a single platform package..

Naval Historical Society (Vic) President's Musings for June is now available to [download.....](#)

Navy League of Australia(Vic-Tas Div) April-June newsletter is now available to [download.....](#)

FlyBy – A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. [June issue.....](#)

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