

BROADSIDE

October 2021

Volume 11 Edition 10

Editorial



The First Lady of the Fleet Trophy

The First Lady of the Fleet Trophy was introduced into the Royal Australian Navy fleet in 2016. The trophy is bestowed upon the longest serving commissioned vessel and takes into consideration the ships age and experience. The trophy is in memory of Nancy Bentley, who twenty-one years before the first Women's Royal Australian Navy members (WRANs) entered service. She enlisted into the Royal Australian Navy in unusual circumstances, technically making her the first female to join the Royal Australian Navy.



*Nancy Bentley -
our first female sailor RAN*



Standing: Surgeon Lieut. Brennan, Rev. Mr Trigge (Chaplain, HMAS Sydney)
Seated: Bishop Hay (Hobart), Captain H.P. Cayley with Nancy

In 1920, the then six-year-old Nancy Bentley was playing in bushland at Port Arthur, Tasmania when she slipped and was bitten on the wrist by a snake. With the closest doctor at Sorrell, many miles away, her desperate father rowed the child to HMAS Sydney (I), then anchored in Carnarvon Bay after conducting exercises off Tasmania's east coast, and pleaded for the ship's medics to assist.

Events Calendar

(see [Calendar](#) 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](#).

03 Nov - Soundwaves concert TBC

11 Nov - Remembrance Day

19 Nov - HMAS Sydney Service, Shrine

21 Nov - HMAS Goorangi service, Queenscliff

01 Dec - HMAS Armidale Service

01 Dec - Soundwaves concert - TBC

05 Dec - Pearl Harbour Service

11 Dec - AMC / LSI Service

Latest Videos, Podcasts and News Headlines

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



VIDEOS.....

- *October Update on HMAS Cerberus Redevelopment*
- *HMAS Ballarat partners with USS Carl Vinson on Maritime Partnership Exercise*
- *HMAS Ballarat and JS Kaga bid farewell after Maritime Partnership*

A.S. 459.

CERTIFICATE of the Service of
Miss Nancy Bentley
in the Royal Australian Navy.

Port Division— *Melbourne.* Official Number— *000001.*

Date of Birth _____ National Name Relative or Friend (Surname, Name, and Address) _____
 Where Born Town *Port Arthur* State or Country *Tasmania* *Mrs Bentley*
 Usual place of Residence *Port Arthur* *Tasmania* *Port Arthur* *Tasmania*
 Trade brought up to *Nil* *Father*
 Religious Denomination *Church of England*
 Can Swim *Not tried*

Engagements			Males, Grade, &c.	
Date of actual Volunteering	Terminating Date of Engagement	Period Engaged for	Date Discharged or Forfeited	Nature of Discharge
<i>15th November 1920</i>	<i>15th Nov. 1920</i>	<i>Mascot</i>		
		<i>1st class</i>		

Description of Person	Stature		Colour of—			Marks, Wounds, and Scars
	Feet	In.	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	
On entry as a <i>young girl</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Light Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fairish</i>	<i>Scars Right Hand</i>
On advancement to man's rating, or on entry if under 23 years of age ...						
On re-entry, or on entry if over 23 years of age ...						
Further description if necessary ...						

CM 573—3335—41P—5/1917.

- Exercise
- HMA Ships Ballarat and Sirius take part in Exercise Malabar
 - HMAS Sirius conducts dual replenishment at sea for US Navy
 - HMAS Glenelg conduct an in-company sail with German Navy ship FGS Bayern
 - HMA Ships conduct Replenishment At Sea with US Navy
 - Australian and Canadian Navy-to-Navy Exercises
 - HMAS Gascoyne granted Freedom of Entry to Exmouth, Western Australia
 - Australian and German Navies pay tribute to fallen servicemen
 - Unity celebrated in Perth

NEWS.....

Making the shift to nuclear-powered submarines:

- Safety First
 - Training and Recruiting
 - Technical Skills and Oversight
- Above articles by Peter Briggs

Australians are rightly concerned about tensions in the Indo-Pacific. As we confront a more uncertain region than we have known in decades, new energy and determination is flowing through Australia's defence ecosystem. Defence is getting on with its core business.

The City of Greater Geraldton can today be confirmed as the ceremonial homeport of a supply ship set to be commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy Fleet next month. Minister for Defence Industry and Member for Durack Melissa Price said NUSHIP Stalwart's formalised partnership with the City of Greater Geraldton and the local Yamatji People would strengthen Geraldton's enduring connection with the Navy.

Navy medical officer Lieutenant Commander Lin Hu is currently deployed with his triservice colleagues to the only role 3 hospital in the Iraq area of operations. He is embedded with the US Army's Task Force Med 9 at the

The regulations at the time did not allow civilians to be administered medical treatment on board one of His Majesty's warships. Due to the seriousness of the situation, Sydney's Commanding Officer, Captain Henry Cayley, weighed up the situation and to avoid legal complications and not breach the King's regulations that women were not meant to board Royal Australian Navy warships, he devised a solution.

On 15 November 1920, Nancy was formally enlisted as an honorary member of the Navy. Her service number was 000001 and her official rating was mascot. First-aid was quickly administered

before Sydney transported Nancy to Hobart, where she received further medical treatment. The warship later returned Nancy to Port Arthur.

During her eight days of service and having fully recovered Nancy was formally discharged from Naval service on 23 November 1920 – the reason given "being required by her parents." Nancy went on to live a full life and became Mrs Nancy Jones and lived until 1999 aged 85.

The trophy itself is an amalgamation of several pieces from decommissioned HMA Ships. The voice pipe and wooden base were acquired from HMAS Sydney (IV); the border from HMAS Gladstone; and the corners from HMAS Duchess. The image affixed to the trophy is that of Nancy Bentley, the first female to be 'enlisted' in the Royal Australian navy, albeit under most unusual circumstances.



Seaman Combat Systems Operator Ashley Martin holds the First Lady of the Fleet Trophy, which was first awarded to HMAS Darwin in 2017.

HMAS Darwin was the first recipient of the trophy, which at the time had served continuously for 33 years. Other ships that have received the trophy are HMAS Success (II), who served for 33 years and HMAS Paluma (IV) who served for 32 years. Upon assuming the mantle of first Lady of the Fleet in 2019, HMAS Paluma (IV) transmitted the following poem:

*Baghdad Diplomatic Support Centre.
Born and raised in Fairfield Western
Sydney, Lieutenant Commander Hu, an
anaesthetist, is providing specialist
surgical and medical support to US,
coalition, Iraqi Security Forces,
Department of State personnel and 23
outlying stations within the region.*

*Sailing into Manila Bay during Indo-
Pacific Endeavour 2021 (IPE21) was a
slightly bittersweet moment for two
Navy officers who longed to visit the
country of their birth.*

*The Port of Fremantle and its Indian
Ocean accesses have been blocked by an
adversary's offensive mining tactics.
This is the scenario Exercise Dugong
2021 participants face over the coming
weeks. Exercise Dugong 2021 (DG21)
has kicked off in Western Australia and
will run until November 5.*

*A new ship's library in HMAS
Warramunga is not only providing the
crew with a wide range of reading
options, it has forged a strong
partnership with a bookseller near the
ship's home port in Western Australia.*

*Growing up on a farm outside the
regional NSW town of Trangie, Able
Seaman Maddison Hohnberg would
spend hours tinkering with farm
machinery and trying to understand how
things work. That tinkering and
curiosity now serves her well in her role
as a propulsion maintainer in HMAS
Warramunga, specialising in diesel
mechanics.*

*A new missile system meant to protect
the UK's new aircraft carriers from
attacks by swarms of small boats has
been successfully tested by the Royal
Navy. HMS Defender's Wildcat
helicopter launched the Martlet
lightweight missile against an inflatable
target in the sea during operations in the
Pacific Ocean with the UK Carrier Strike
Group.*

Independence-variant littoral combat

First Lady of the Fleet sends.

*We take the honour, with our heads held high, as
we salute Success on her final goodbye.*

*Your watch is over, so beautiful done, the hearts
of our sailors, you've certainly won.*

*First Lady of the Fleet, and though we're a minor,
you can search far and wide for no vessel finer.*

*The day we commissioned was in Feb eighty-nine,
thirty years going strong, still steering the line.*

*Surveying the coast, to ensure safe navigation,
although not conventional, it's how we serve the nation.*

*Regional engagement, another task at hand, we
maintain foreign friendships, whilst visiting their land.*

*Although a small crew, there is no task too tough,
as we hustle all day, with no oceans too rough.*

*Four hundred thousand miles, in the time that has
passed, with many more years, until we are called to a vast.*

*We will survey the waters, even in danger, if you
see us up north, don't be a stranger.*

*We will hold this trophy, firmly by our side,
everywhere we go, alpha one will display it with pride.*

With HMAS Paluma decommissioned on the 18 September 2021, HMAS Shepparton (II) was awarded the 'First Lady of the Fleet' trophy at HMAS Cairns as part of the decommissioning ceremony.



Commanding Officer Shepparton, Lieutenant Commander Andrew Shiels, said the vessel was in her 31st year of commissioned service and the crew was honoured to take possession of the prized First Lady of the Fleet plaque.

"The previous First Lady, HMAS Paluma, served the fleet with pride until its recent decommissioning and we will aim to continue the tradition as we fulfil our hydrographic role within the fleet," Lieutenant Commander Shiels said.

HMAS Shepparton II was built in Adelaide and commissioned on January 24, 1990.

Shepparton is a 36.6m, 325-tonne catamaran designed for coastal surveying in waters around Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Originally painted white, the ship adopted her Navy grey colours in

ships USS Jackson (LCS 6) and USS Tulsa (LCS 16) sailed with Germany Navy frigate FGS Bayern (F 217) in the Philippine Sea, and Tulsa hosted Bayern crew members for ship tours while moored at Naval Base Guam, Oct. 18 and 21, the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet announced.

Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral Nick Hine led Trafalgar Day commemorations on board HMS Victory marking today's 216th anniversary of the battle. The day started at HM Naval Base Portsmouth, as always, with the daily naval ceremony of Colours at 8am; the White Ensign and the Union Flag hauled up, followed shortly afterwards by the flag sequence indicating Nelson's famous battle message to the fleet: "England expects that every man will do his duty".

Austal Limited (Austal) (ASX: ASB) is pleased to announce Austal Australia has delivered the 13th Guardian-class Patrol Boat (GCPB) to the Australian Department of Defence. The vessel, NUSHIP Francis Agwi, was then gifted by the Australian Government to the Papua New Guinea Defence Force at a certificate signing ceremony held at Austal's shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia.

Six Army health personnel are working on board HMAS Canberra during Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2021 (IPE21), lending a green hue to the maritime-focused deployment. It's not unusual for Army medical staff to work in landing helicopter dock ships such as Canberra as the Royal Australian Navy doesn't employ pharmacists, scientific officers, radiographers or physiotherapists.

The Royal Australian Navy this month joined key partners Japan, the United States and the United Kingdom for the Maritime Partnership Exercise in the Indian Ocean. Anzac-class frigate HMAS Ballarat took part in the complex multi-domain training, held in the Bay of Bengal from October 15-18, with ships and aircraft from the participating

2002 to reflect her role informing maritime warfare through data collection.

The ship continues to play an important role providing maritime environmental data for navigational charts and publications.

The ship also provides hydrographic support to operations and exercises.

In 2000, Shepparton deployed in company with HMAS Benalla to Timor-Leste on Operation Tangar.



HMAS Shepparton's Hydrographic Department proudly displays the First Lady of the Fleet plaque at HMAS Cairns.

As the new First Lady of the Fleet, Shepparton's crew will continue to live up to the ship's motto of 'By Wisdom and Courage'.

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.

- † LME J.J. Gorski, R62754, 29 October 2021. Aged 75.
- † NAMW G.T. Parkes, R103615, 27 October 2021. Aged 73.
- † NA1 M(A) M.M. Stace, R44338, 25 October 2021. Aged 88.
- † AB E.J. Hollingsworth, PM5813, 23 October 2021. Aged 97.
- † NA K.A. Bellert, R39436, 21 October 2021. Aged 90.

nations.

A combination of 10 Russian Navy and Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy ships sailed from the Sea of Japan to the Pacific Ocean through the Tsugaru Strait between Japanese home islands of Honshu and Hokkaido, Joint Staff of the Japan Self Defense Force said in a press statement.

As the high-risk weather season begins, the ADF and the Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) are well-prepared. Commander of the ADF's Joint Task Force 629 Brigadier Mick Garraway said a recent two-day online seminar was designed to help increase readiness for domestic operations.

The mashup of an Australian small boat designed for safety and an American sensors and communications suite that helped Marines secure the Kabul airport during the August evacuation may help fill a capability gap as the U.S. Marine Corps eyes distributed operations in the Pacific.

The first of six Evolved Cape-class patrol boats was recently launched at the Austal Ships' shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia. Head Maritime Systems Rear Admiral Wendy Malcolm said the vessels would replace the Navy's Armidale-class patrol boats and would be used as interim patrol platforms until the commissioning of the Arafura-class offshore patrol vessels.

Navy personnel in North Queensland and the Northern Territory are the first to be issued the new maritime multi-cam pattern uniform (MMPU). The MMPU uniform replaces the disruptive pattern Navy uniform (DPNU), which has been in service for the past 12 years.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee has announced the appointment of independent consultants to overhaul the Department of Veterans' Affairs' claims processing system.

- † SBLT D.E. Shinkfield, PM6052, 20 October 2021. Aged 96.
- † LSETC A.B. Cuming, 20 October 2021. Aged 70.
- † ME K. Bushell, 20 October 2021.
- † LWRCK D.J. Ryder, 17 October 2021. Aged 83.
- † CPOCOXN K.E. Dobbie, R93817, 11 October 2021. Aged 75.
- † CMDR D.T. Read, O.961, 09 October 2021. Aged 82.
- † WRWTR B.K. Gunst (*nee* Jeffrey), R84752, 09 October 2021. Aged 82.
- † SAW J.E. Shaw, R43613, 07 October 2021. Aged 69.
- † AB R.R. Semmler, PA2760, 21 September 2021. Aged 96.
- † CPOCOXN H.L. Godwin, R65554, 09 September 2021. Aged 79.

The following members of the Armed Merchant Cruisers / Landing Ship Infantry Association of Victoria have Crossed the Bar since the beginning of Covid:

- † AB G. Robinson, PM4792, 27 August 2021. Aged 97.
- † Cook N. Nielsen, S7781, 16 August 2021. Aged 96.
- † SBA G. Knight, H2431, 06 August 2021. Aged 97.
- † AB A. Booth, PM5256, 22 July 2021. Aged 96.
- † AB R.A. Dorwark, PA3425, 07 June 2021. Aged 96.
- † AB T.W. Clark, PA3423, 13 May 2021. Aged 95.
- † AB D. Bolton, B4298, 27 February 2021. Aged 97.
- † STD P.M. Phillips, WR/1466, 25 December 2020. Aged 95.
- † LEM N.W.A. Tame, 24472, 13 October 2020. Aged 97.
- † AB K.P. O'Malley, PA5302, 05 October 2020. Aged 93.
- † AB F.E.J. Galton, B4146, 05 October 2020. Aged 95.
- † ERA K.L. Tonkin, PM7716, 11 August 2020. Aged 96.
- † AB G.K. Krause, S8443, 30 July 2020. Aged 95.
- † COXN W. Tattersall, PM4866, 05 June 2020. Aged 96.
- † Stoker W.N. Morris, 34164, 28 January 2020. Aged 91.
- † WTR K.N. Kemp, F4649, December 2019. Aged 94.
- † AB R. Eglinton, PA4824, 19 December 2019. Aged 93.
- † AB R.W. Dixon, PM5419, December 2019. Aged 96.
- † AB C.W. Bayly-Pike, S7370, 25 November 2019. Aged 95.
- † AB D.G. Self, 34539, 19 November 2019. Aged 90.
- † AB T.N.W. Ferguson, B4635, 30 October 2019. Aged 94.
- † AB R.W. Seiboth, PA3211/R39779, 10 October 2019. Aged 95.

Lest We Forget

Our October Hero:

Commander Edward Wilfred 'Jake' Linton BEM MCD RAN



Edward 'Jake' Linton was born on 31 January 1935 in Preston, Victoria. He joined the Navy on the 17th March 1952 and following completion of his initial training at HMAS Cerberus his first posting as a seaman was to HMAS Australia.

It was late 1954, Jake was 19 years old, married, an Able Seaman employed as a Main Gate Sentry at Naval Headquarters

A memorial honouring the selfless service and sacrifice of Australia's Afghanistan veterans has been officially opened at Brisbane's Suncorp Stadium.

Joint Sea-2021, a joint naval exercise between China and Russia, has begun with a ceremony on October 14 in waters near Russia's Peter the Great Bay.

The Royal Australian Navy has lifted temporary restrictions on MH-60R flying operations. A suspension was enacted as a precaution after an MH-60R helicopter attached to HMAS Brisbane ditched in the Philippine Sea on 13 October during a routine flight.

Former Royal Navy (RN) nuclear submarine executive officer, Captain Henry Finnis (ret'd), sees the benefits of Australia acquiring the vessels as he reflects on his career as a submariner.

Three crewmembers of a Royal Australian Navy MH-60R Seahawk helicopter are safe after ditching their helicopter in the Philippine Sea during a routine flight overnight.

A range of commemorative and educational resources will help young Australians understand the history and significance of one of the most important days on the nation's calendar, ahead of next month's Remembrance Day commemorations.

The Russian Pacific Fleet's Varyag missile cruiser and the Admiral Tributs large anti-submarine ship conducted anti-aircraft missile firings in the Sea of Japan on Monday, TASS agency reported.

A search-and-salvage team has located and recovered – from a depth of 5,300 feet – the five crewmembers and MH-60S helicopter that crashed while operating on the flight deck of aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) on Aug. 31, the Navy announced Tuesday.

at Potts Point, not making enough money to pay his wife's medical bills and short on answers to the situation. He spent every second night working in Playfairs freezers in The Rocks and life did not hold a lot of promise.

Then on the notice board at HMAS Kuttabul there was a message calling for volunteers to form the first Clearance Divers Course, and offering tuppence (two pence) or 1 cent a minute for diving time. This was the answer; tuppence a minute translated into 120 pence an hour or 10 shillings (\$1). In short, if accepted, he could give up his job at Playfairs and meet his financial commitments. Naturally he volunteered and was accepted. However, there was just one hurdle and that was a test dive off the wharf at HMAS Rushcutter, using the Salvus Fire Fighting Apparatus rigged for diving, and wearing a suit aptly named 'The Clammy Death'. Jake remembers surfacing and complaining that his throat was burning and was promptly persuaded to go down again by a push from the boot of his Supervisor.

Jake's story is continued at: <https://navyvic.net/heroes/linton.html>

VALE SBLT Desmond Elton SHINKFIELD, PM6052.

On 21st October 1944 a Japanese Kamikaze aircraft crashed into the foremast of the Cruiser HMAS *Australia*, killing 30 officers and ratings, including Captain E.F.V. Dechaineux, RAN, *Australia's* commanding officer. Sixty-four officers and ratings were wounded, including CDRE J.A. Collins, RAN, the task force commander. CAPT C.A.G. Nichols in the cruiser HMAS *Shropshire* reported:

'During the dawn stand-to a low flying aircraft approached from the land between Australia and Shropshire. It was taken under fire and retired to the westward. Observers in Shropshire reported that the aircraft, a Val Aichi 99 dive bomber, was hit and touched the water but recovered. It then turned east again and although under heavy fire, passed up the port side of Australia and crashed into the foremast at 0605. There was a large explosion and an intense fire was started'.

SBLT Shinkfield survived and it is believed he was the last surviving officer.

Des passed away on the 20th October 2021, aged 96, one day before the 77th anniversary of the attack.

The photo was taken at the 2019 Christmas function of the Naval Historical Society (Vic. Chapter) L-R: Laurie Pegler, Des Shinkfield and CN VADM Mike Noonan.



Replenishment ships such as HMAS Sirius play a vital role in the maritime theatre, providing supplies such as fuel, food, provisions and cargo at sea to the fleet, enabling the ships to sail for extended periods of time.

Celebrating 75 years of diplomatic relations, Australia and the Philippines strengthened their defence and whole-of-government ties with a number of activities as part of Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2021 (IPE21).

As HMAS Sirius undertakes her last operational deployment during Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2021 (IPE21), it could also be the end of the seagoing career of Lieutenant Commander Ric Mingramm.

As Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2021 (IPE21) made its way through the Java Sea, foreign personnel from partner nations were given the opportunity to visit HMAS Anzac.

In front of scenic cliffs and an ornamental European-style windmill is a secret People's Liberation Army Navy pier. Here, at a former tourist resort on China's northern coast, is where the PLAN is developing some of its most secretive, and previously unreported, naval programs, USNI News has learned.

HMS Prince of Wales, Britain's second aircraft carrier was declared fully operational and ready for any kind of global missions on Oct.1.

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

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