



Newsletter

Navy Victoria Network

August 2011

Volume 1 Edition 4

Editorial

Welcome to the Navy Victoria Network newsletter for August 2011.

Another month has passed in the State of Victoria and a number of functions and activities (apart from AFL) have occurred, and many believe it or not with a Maritime flavour. A number of these should have been able to provide interest to anyone looking for something to keep "some salt in the veins". In saying this, the calendar has been a bit light on so please anyone with an event or has something that might or could be of interest to members, just send a note to our NVN Webmaster.

It was pleasing to see the Ships HMA Ships Perth, Newcastle and Sirius at Station Pier from 3rd to 8th August. This was most welcome as visits to Melbourne seem to be a relatively rare event of recent times. The open day was extremely well patronised with lengthy queues of families lined up for both ships. It should be noted that for security reasons the NVN cannot publish ship visits on the website more than 48 hours in advance of arrival.

Looking forward to September, a significant event to be held on Friday 16th will be the RAN Freedom of Entry to the City of Melbourne. There will be approximately one thousand uniformed personnel marching through the City and forming part of the ceremony. This Ceremony will be a great sight rarely seen in the City and not to be missed. It should provide a bit of nostalgia for those with pride in the Senior Service.

There continues to be a number of interesting activities and information sessions with well-known speakers at the Shrine, so please take time to look at the schedule. Of particular note for the

Calendar Events

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1st September – Legacy Day

5th September at 14:30 – The Navy League's two RAN "Royal" Centenary Year 2011 "Creswell" projects are:

- Restoration & unveiling the restored Creswell Memorial at St Kilda.

- Gifting a Creswell bronze bust to HMAS Creswell, as Victoria's contribution to the RAN's "Royal" Centenary year 2011.

On Monday 5th September 2011 the Chief of Navy VADM R. Griggs AM CSC RAN will unveil the restored memorial. [More.....](#)

7th September at 11:00 – Battle of Australia Commemoration committee wreath laying at the WW2 forecourt. See Calendar for full details

16th September – RAN Freedom of Entry to City of Melbourne. Details are sketchy at the moment, but as soon as we know more, we'll post it on the website.

Latest News

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Navy News can now be accessed electronically via the internet.

[Click for the latest edition.](#)

RAN, is the wreath laying on 7th September for the "Battle of Australia" to commemorate the significant battles that occurred in the Pacific during WW11.

It is another disappointment with the passing of time and both the folding of the Corvettes Association, and HMAS Mildura having its final reunion 22nd to 26th August. The ABC Australian Story on Teddy Sheehan and Hec Waller was excellent and has created considerable interest. A further ABC documentary is planned including HMAS Armidale and Deloraine's involvement later this year.

Talking of Corvettes, why not visit the WW11 Ship HMAS Castlemaine at Gem Pier Williamstown - beautifully restored, 70 years young, and built in Williamstown. You can't smell the steam but all the machinery still goes around and up and down.

When browsing the NVN also look at the Links Folder which provides details of contacts to Ship Associations and many and varied sites of Maritime or Welfare interest. If you consider any other websites should be added please advise our NVN Webmaster. The NVN is keen to promote ALL activities or issues with a Naval or Maritime flavour.

***Interests.** If you have a specific interest you think would be of appeal to the wider navy community, we would be pleased to hear about it. Obviously, we are focused on our listed objectives at this time.*

Veterans Encouraged to Participate in World-First Research

Some 27,000 Vietnam veterans, their peers and family members will be sent a questionnaire this week to participate in a world-first, intergenerational research project, Minister for Veterans' Affairs Warren Snowdon said today. [More.....](#)

Smoother Transition For Defence Personnel

From October 2011, dedicated staff from the Department of Veterans' Affairs will operate at more than 25 military bases around Australia to provide advice and support on injury, physical and mental health and compensation issues. [More.....](#)

Name of ex RFA Largs Bay to HMAS CHOULES.

Ex Royal Fleet Auxilliary Landing Ship Dock Largs Bay is to commission into the Royal Australian Navy as HMAS Choules. [More.....](#)

Air warfare destroyer keel arrives in Adelaide.

Tightly wrapped in protective plastic but clearly the right shape, the first keel block of the air warfare destroyers has arrived in Osborne. The block was built at BAE Systems in Melbourne and barged to the Port River where it was offloaded at Techport Australia. [More.....](#)

Frankston Naval Memorial Club now has a website.

<http://fnmc.org.au>

The club is open every Friday night and also for the many functions it has throughout the year. Should you wish to have a quite drink and conversation, away from the noise of poker machines, the FNMC is the place to be on Friday nights. Opens at 1900.