

NVN Newsletter

Navy Victoria Network

July 2011

Edition 3 Volume 1

Editorial

Welcome to the Navy Victoria Network newsletter for July 2011.

Happy 100th birthday Navy! Kicking off a wide range of celebrations around Australia this year to commemorate 100 years of faithful service since the Australian Navy received the "Royal" prefix on 10 July 1911, the new Chief of Navy, VADM Ray Griggs opened the "Pride of the Nation" exhibition at Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance on 8 July. Those readers of the NVN who were aware of this important event (and who braved an icy cold day to attend the opening ceremony) were all very impressed with Admiral Grigg's address. It focused on the well-deserved pride that all current serving and retired members of the RAN should feel this year as we celebrate the great traditions, gallant wartime service, the enviable combat capability and the professionalism and sacrifice of many thousands of Australians who served in the RAN over the past 100 years.

Acknowledging the important role that Victoria played in the establishment of the Commonwealth Naval Forces in 1901 (the predecessor to the RAN), Admiral Griggs reminded the audience that "We cannot create the future force without understanding and valuing our past. It is where we have come from, and the values and courage of those who have gone before should inspire us to succeed into the future." Providing a visual reminder of some of the events and people that earned our Navy the "pride of the nation" is a magnificent exhibition (drawn largely from the Naval Historical Collection in Sydney and from the HMAS CERBERUS Museum) at the Shrine of Remembrance. All readers of the NavyVIC website are strongly encouraged to take the time to visit the Shrine and browse through the

Calendar Events

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3rd August at 19:30 – *Soundwaves Concert.*

Featuring the RAN band & Jazz ensemble.

6th August at 14:00 – *Onboard HMAS PERTH. Shrine of Remembrance. Guest speakers to be advised as they reflect on the 100 years of the Royal Australian Navy.*

7th August at 11:00 – *Victorian Association of Jewish ex-Servicemen and women wreath laying at the Shrine.*

18th August – *"Vietnam Veterans Day" march and commemorative wreath laying ceremony at the Shrine.*

21st August - *100th Anniversary of the RAN. As part of this celebration & to commemorate the 2011 Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Day, Upwey-Belgrave RSL will hold a Memorial Service.*

21st August – *"100th Anniversary of the RAN" memorial dedication at the Noble Park RSL*

22nd -26th August – *Unfortunately due to the passing of time, the HMAS Mildura Association are holding their final reunion. Contact details are on the Calendar.*

exhibition at your leisure.... you are sure to come away feeling very proud indeed!

Also advertised in the NavyVIC website's Calendar was the very successful "RAN Centenary Dinner/Dance" which was held at the Frankston RSL last Saturday evening. Featuring music by the RAN Band and speeches by RADM Ken Doolan (retd) and MAJGEN David McLachlan (retd), the event was extremely popular and tickets sold out very quickly. The message that the NVN Editorial Committee wishes to spread to readers of the NavyVIC website is that, if you see an event of interest in the Calendar, quickly check your diary and, if bookings are required, don't wait too long to make the necessary call!

In the right-hand column of this Newsletter is a summary of many events happening in and around Victoria in August which are likely to be of interest to many NavyVIC website readers. May we particularly bring to your attention:

Wednesday 3 August - the "Soundwaves Concert" at HMAS CERBERUS (in the old cinema complex).

Thursday 18 August – "Vietnam Veterans Day" commemorative wreath laying ceremony at the Shrine.

Sunday 21 August – "100th Anniversary of the RAN" memorial dedication at the Noble Park RSL (*and many more events that the organisers would love to see you at!*)

Finally, as the NavyVIC website is still very much in its infancy, the Editorial Committee would truly appreciate any support that any of the current readers of this Newsletter can provide to advertise the existence of the website to your Navy and ex-Navy friends and their descendents, and encourage them to register on line (via the opening page of the website) to receive future Newsletters. Although we now have more than 600 registered 'members' of the NavyVIC website, we sincerely hope that there are many more Victorian-based Navy & ex-Navy personnel 'out there' who nevertheless regularly check the website in an attempt to find out whether there are any events coming up which stoke their interest in "all things Naval"!

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.

Latest News



Gallery Page

We now have a Gallery page on our website. The first photographs posted are of the HMNZS Wellington (built in Melbourne) down in the Antarctic.And just posted are pictures from BAE Systems of the new LHD's up against the Anzac class frigate following the Anti-Ship Missile Defence upgrade configuration. Also, recently the Navy in Vietnam Café and Quarterdeck Art & Model Gallery were official opened at HMAS Cerberus. These photographs are well worth viewing if just to see the unveiling of the huge painting of the USS Enterprise. [Open](#)

DFRDB

If you haven't been keeping up with the DFRDB news and how the Senate let us down, there's plenty of information in our News page. [More.....](#)

Pride of the Nation Exhibition.

This magnificent exhibition is on at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne and runs till 27th November 2011.

***Helen Nash** (widow LCDR John Nash) is seeking assistance with a submission I am attempting to put together regarding the deaths of Navy servicepersons which may be due to time served within Vietnam. [More.....](#)*

***Membership list** is now on the website. We're not giving out any emails addresses or phone numbers, however, if you think there's someone you know / want to contact, let the webmaster know and he'll email them with your details.*