



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

<http://navyvic.net>

Navy Victoria Network

October 2018

Volume 8 Edition 10



Yes, we are now on Facebook, where all our news items, photos etc. will also be published.

<https://facebook.com/navyvictoria>

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1097

With the 19th November rapidly approaching, it is considered appropriate to bring to our members attention the role played by many people in establishing the HMAS SYDNEY 2 Memorial at Geraldton, W.A., and the role played by the Finding Sydney Foundation in finding the Sydney. In particular, Mr Ted GRAHAM, who was ultimately awarded an AM for his dedicated work by the Australian Government after the wreck had been discovered on Sunday 16th March, 2008, at a depth of 2480 metres (207 kms) west of Steep Point, 67 years after it sank in 1941.

There are now only two former HMAS SYDNEY 2 Sailors alive in Australia today:

97 year old Mr Ken BROWN of Berrigan, NSW, who served in HMAS SYDNEY from 29th September, 1938 to 18th May, 1939. Ken joined the RAN at 16 and a half years of age as a Recruit Seaman and left as a Lieutenant Commander some 38 years later. Ken was intending to visit the Memorial in Geraldton this year but has just reluctantly pulled out on Doctors advice due to a recent leg infection. Ken is also a survivor of the sinking of HMAS NESTOR in the Mediterranean on 16th June, 1942.

97 year old Mr Alf "Blue" THORNTON of Melbourne, Victoria, who served in HMAS SYDNEY from 14th May, 1941 to 13th September, 1941. Alf is still very fit and alert and is an active volunteer onboard HMAS CASTLEMAINE based at the Gem Street Pier in Williamstown, Vic. Alf and his grandson will be visiting the Memorial in Geraldton in November of this year.

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

...

26 Oct – Navy Week Charity Golf Day

09 Nov – 104 years ago HMAS Sydney
I sinks SMS Emden

11 Nov – Remembrance Day

18 Nov – HMAS Goorangai march and
service at Queenscliff

19 Nov – HMAS Sydney II service in
sanctuary

20 Nov – On this day in 1940 HMAS
Goorangai was lost with all
hands

26 Nov – NHS End of Year function

27 Nov – On this day in 1941 - HMAS
PARRAMATTA sunk by U559.

01 Dec – On this day in 1942 - HMAS
ARMIDALE sunk by Japanese forces.
Teddy Sheean died a hero.

Latest Videos and News Headlines

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

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

...

LATEST VIDEOS.....

- Maritime Portable Raman
Improvised Explosive Detector
- Military International Drone
Racing Tournament
- HMAS Ballarat arrives home with

On the 19th November 2001, the HMAS SYDNEY II Memorial in Geraldton, W.A., was dedicated. This moving and impressive Memorial designed and erected to honour the brave 645 souls who perished when HMAS SYDNEY II was destroyed in the battle with the German Raider HSK Kormoran, off the Western Australia coast on the 19th November, 1941, owes its origins to the Rotary Club of Geraldton.



After the initial struggles to gain wide support, particularly financial, it became a reality and was dedicated 60 years to the day after Australia's most tragic loss of the Second World War. The Flame of Remembrance was lit on the 19th November, 2001. The Memorial was declared a National Memorial in May, 2009, the only Memorial of National Significance located outside of the Nation's Capital. As a result, it now attracts Federal funding and ensures that the commitment and dedication of all who played a part in Geraldton to have this Memorial created to commemorate the tragic loss of HMAS SYDNEY II with all of its Ship Company of 645 will never fade from the consciousness of this Nation.

The Memorial ensures that those brave 645 brave souls will be forever remembered. The Memorial not only reflects the enormity of the tragedy, it inspires every person who visits this visual tribute to never forget those courageous young men who gave their all for this country.

The Memorial was designed by Joan Walsh-Smith and Charles Smith of Smith Sculptures, W.A. These two gifted sculptors have

rescued solo yachtsman

- *F-35Bs land on HMS Queen Elizabeth for first time ever*

NEWS.....

Ministerial Statement — Veterans and Their Families

I ask leave of the House to give the second annual Ministerial Statement on Veterans and Their Families.

HMAS Warramunga has visited Melbourne for some crew down time and to hold an open day for the public.

The UK and US will be teaming up in the fight against growing cyber threats, UK defense secretary Gavin Williamson announced from aboard the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth which is currently on a port visit to New York.

USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, and its crew headed underway from the ship's berth in Charlestown, Massachusetts, Oct. 19, in commemoration of the ship's launching 221 years ago on Oct. 21, 1787.

The Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) has been relaunched today as Open Arms – Veterans and Families Counselling based on feedback from veterans and veterans' families.

The challenges around veterans transitioning from the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to civilian life will be the focus of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Invictus18 Symposium.

Most Australian military families are resilient, healthy and financially secure, according to a joint Department of Defence (Defence) and Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) study released today.

conveyed powerfully in evocative imagery and symbolism, the emotional impact of that terrible loss in the five integrated Elements that make up the complete Memorial complex. To fully appreciate the Memorial in its entirety it is important to read a description of the symbolism as recorded by the Sculptors Joan Walsh-Smith and Charles Smith. "The Memorial comprises many symbolic elements expressing the tragic loss of HMAS SYDNEY II. The precinct is based on a circular plan, symbolizing totality, wholeness, infinity, eternity. It is approached by a path curving upwards, forming a ceremonial entrance ramp to the dedicated area."

1. THE CENTRAL MEMORIAL BUILDING

- 1.1. Dome of Souls
- 1.2. The Seven Pillars
- 1.3. The Podium
- 1.4. The Altar
- 1.5. The Floor
- 1.6. The Eternal Flame

2. THE WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

3. THE STELE

4. THE BRONZE STATUE: "THE WAITING WOMAN"

5. THE POOL OF REMEMBRANCE

The final element of the Pool of Remembrance could only be installed at a later stage as its sole objective is to symbolize the resting place of the ship and its crew. This final feature was then installed in 2011 and dedicated on the 19th November, 2011, in what was an emotional 'closing' of the commemorative circle.

FINDING SYDNEY FOUNDATION

This came about as the result of the determination of one man, Mr. Ted GRAHAM, a man with an intense interest in the fate of HMAS SYDNEY II and a determination that its loss with all those brave Sailors must never be allowed to fade from this Nation's memory with the passing of time.

In 2001, Mr. GRAHAM contacted two of his friends who agreed with him that a search for the remains of HMAS SYDNEY II must be initiated. This led to the establishment of the "Finding Sydney Foundation". The background of this Foundation and what it ultimately achieved is now folk lore and well documented, as is the story of HMAS SYDNEY II itself. This Foundation, initially consisting of a handful of volunteers, raised millions of dollars to fund a professional search. Eventually, with the final help of the

Former Australian Navy frigate ex-HMAS Darwin will not be turned into a dive wreck off the coast of Tasmania as the island state's government decided not to accept the Commonwealth's gift.

Australia's rapidly deteriorating strategic circumstances have caused me to review my earlier stance on the navy's future submarine requirements and the case for nuclear propulsion.

A Navy member who suffered an amputation as a result of a motorcycle accident has overcome serious challenges to remain active, both professionally and in his down time.

Australia's foreign minister said on Monday her country's alliance with the United States had never been more vital in an era of escalating challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

Australia has assigned a guided missile frigate to the East China Sea to boost international efforts to enforce sanctions against North Korea.

A series of firsts has resulted in Navy benefitting from further flexibility in refuelling options for our Landing Helicopter Docks, HMA Ships Canberra and Adelaide.

The Royal Australian Navy has begun trials of a new corrosion-resistant coating that reduces the build-up of algae and barnacles on ship hydraulic components.

The Australian Defence Force has commemorated the 75th anniversary of Operation JAYWICK, with a wreath laying ceremony on board the MV Krait at the Australian National Maritime Museum.

The recent close encounter between USS Decatur and the Chinese Luyang

Commonwealth funding the search, an international expert Oceanographer, David MEARNs was contracted to conduct the search and he joined the team in 2005. For those interested in a more detailed account of the sinking of HMAS SYDNEY II and the search should go to www.findingsydney.com. This excellent website has been totally funded by Finding Sydney Foundation and is being continuously updated in a joint venture with the Naval Association of Australia.

The "Finding Sydney Foundation" is owed a huge debt of gratitude by this Nation. If it had not been for the Foundation's total dedication and commitment in the face of extreme adversity, the ship would never have been found and the true story of this valiant ship's fate would never have been told.

The Directors at the time of the discovery of the wreck in March, 2008 were:

Ted GRAHAM, AM – Chairman

Bob TROTTER, OAM

Don PRIDMORE

Keith ROWE

Glenys McDONALD, AM, JP

Lest We Forget

Yours Aye!

NVN Team

VALE

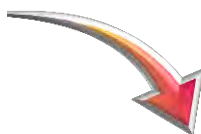
- † LEMWR T. London R58077, 21 October 2018. Aged 77.
- † POUW C.W. Osland R57896, 15 October 2018. Aged 81.
- † CPOMTH J.C. Forte, 02 October 2018. Aged 76.
- † POEC V. Rann, 30 September 2018. Aged 76.

Lest We Forget

Note: 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.**

Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria's newsletter, "Rogues' Yarn" is attached below



II-class guided-missile destroyer Lanzhou has attracted much attention in the media.

The transition from the Collins-class submarines to the future submarine fleet will be longer and more complex than any previous capability transition the Department of Defence has undertaken.

Go to sea or go home! *The Pentagon's get-tough policy on troops who can't deploy took effect on Oct. 1 and it's poised to boot thousands of sailors nationwide from the US Navy.*

The Australian government announced on October 4 the signing of an interim contract with BAE Systems Australia for the Royal Australian Navy's Hunter-class frigate program.

Australia today sees its strategic interests in the South Pacific directly challenged by China

The rate of veterans with medical needs is high. Emergency ID can hold information that is vitally important in an emergency situation.

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

Naval Historical Society of Australia (Vic) President's October musings – [download.....](#)

Visit our [website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for more news articles not included in this newsletter.



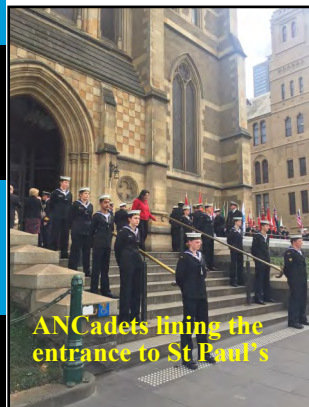
Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

ROGUES' YARN

*HMAS Sydney Service, 1200 Monday 19NOV18, Sanctuary
HMAS Goorangai Service, 1130 Sunday 18NOV18, Queenscliff
Corvettes (HMAS Armidale) Service, 1100 Saturday 1DEC18, Sanctuary*

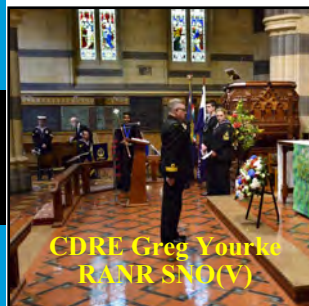
Seafarers

The annual Seafarers service was held at St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday, 21OCT18. This service is held on the Sunday, closest to Trafalgar Day and has been since 1907. About sixty Navy Cadets set the scene as a number lined the entrance awaiting arrival of the Guest of Honour, CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN, Senior Naval Officer Victoria. The service was attended by: CMDR Luke Ryan RAN, Commanding Officer



ANCadets lining the entrance to St Paul's

HMAS Warramunga and the Ship's Warrant Officer Luke McNally, Mr Neil Edwards, Chair – Mission to Seafarers and CAPT Ian French, Branch Master – Master Mariners. Veteran's were also well represented with the Patron – NCCV CDRE Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN Rtd with the President, Navy League LCDR Roger Blythman RAN Rtd with Alison supporting the service and many others. The RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment provided musical accompaniment for the Navy Hymn and other aspects of the service. The service commenced with



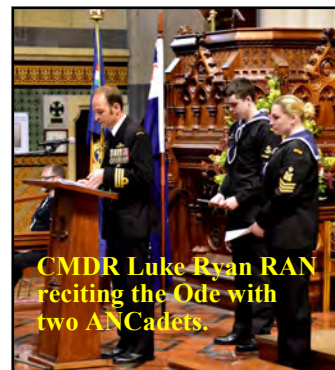
CDRE Greg Yorke RANR SNO(V)



John Bird WW2 Vet & Nigel Porteous CDRE Jim Dickson in the background

marching in twenty shipping company house flags, ten national flags, then four special flags: Navy League of Australia; Merchant

Navy (Red Ensign); Master Mariners and Mission to Seafarers. After the main procession of flags were in place, an unarmed Navy Colour Party marched in the Australian White Ensign. The four special flags and the AWE were passed to the Dean of Melbourne and placed in the Sanctuary during the service. A prominent aspect of the service was the wreath laying by SNO(V), with the Last Post and Reveille highlighting the participation by Serving men and women. LEUT Rebecca Jones RAN, Divisional Officer Recruit School read a prayer for Peace. Chaplain Kate Lord RAN delivered a contemporary sermon linking service and duty to the centenary of signing the Armistice, ending WWI. This service is the only occasion (in Victoria) where the RAN and Merchant Navy recognise the combined effort of all seafarers as they go about their business on the seas of the world. A sailor goes missing at sea very week, somewhere in the world. It behoves us to reflect on the risk of sailing the seven seas and for those whose duty it is to protect Seafarers.



CMDR Luke Ryan RAN reciting the Ode with two ANCadets.



LEUT Rebecca Jones RAN reading a prayer



Andrew Bugler RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment.

Hell Fire

A notorious Thai–Burma railway site was Hellfire Pass. Known for the brutal conditions under which POWs worked and the night scene lit by carbide lights, bamboo fires & hessian wicks in containers fuelled by diesel oil. Initially, POWs had to move one square metre of rock per day, quickly doubled and after a week had increased to three square metres. Southeast Asian labourers, plus Cambodian jack-hammer operators worked alongside POWs. Shifts lasted 18 hrs/day, this continued until the cutting was complete, that took six weeks. Work on the railway continued until 16OCT43 when the two ends of the track were joined. Over 2,800 Australians are believed to have died working on the Railway, some 700 of them at Hellfire Pass. May we be worthy of their sacrifice!



LtoR: Dawn, Greg and with their mother Audrey Banning, Norm Lasslett son of Fred Lasslett with CDE Greg Yorke CSC RAN Senior Naval Officer (Victoria).



Navy Victoria Network

The NavyVIC website is there for all to see, in particular it is for Ship Associations to provide information on their activities to the wider Navy Community. This is an opportunity for all ship/branch associations to broaden their horizons, go to navyvic.net

Disclaimer

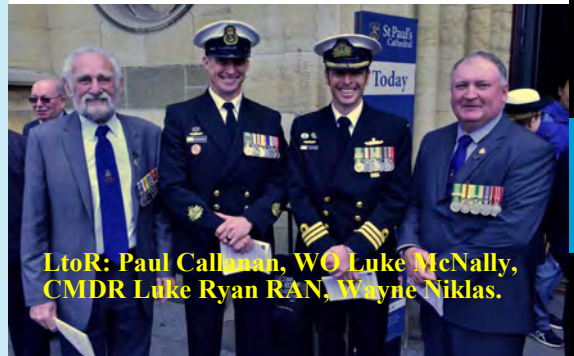
Articles are the Authors thoughts, although may be edited due to space available. No political comments included.

Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC provides funds to support welfare. A venue is available at Mission to Seafarers for like-minded groups, *no cost*. Email MtS daria.wray@missiontoseafarers.com.au or sue.dight@missiontoseafarers.com.au to make a booking.

Warramunga

HMAS *Warramunga* alongside Station Pier highlighted the start of Victoria's Navy Week. With a large pool of RAN Recruits historically joining from Victoria is was a good investment and brought considerable joy to the Veteran community and like minded folk who support Navy. Pictured below is the Captain of *Warramunga* and Luke, Ship's Warrant Officer, with Wayne the President - *Warramunga* Association with a stalwart of the Association Paul, who served in *Warramunga* I. CMDR Ryan and the Ship's Company were heavily involved in many activities around Melbourne and did a great service to the Navy by opening the ship to special visitors and the general public. We are grateful for their participation and look forward to more Visits by our Warships.



LtoR: Paul Callaghan, WO Luke McNally, CMDR Luke Ryan RAN, Wayne Niklas.

HMAS Shropshire Park - Ulverstone, Tasmania

HMAS Shropshire Park has once again been selected as the preferred location for another significant memorial cairn, designed and established by the Naval Association of Australia, Tasmania Section. Ulverstone park is renown for the array of artefacts depicting Navy service and sacrifice. At the unveiling of the new memorial, TS Mersey, the local Australian Navy Cadet Unit provided a well turned out Catafalque Party for the service. The unveiling service was the culmination of years of

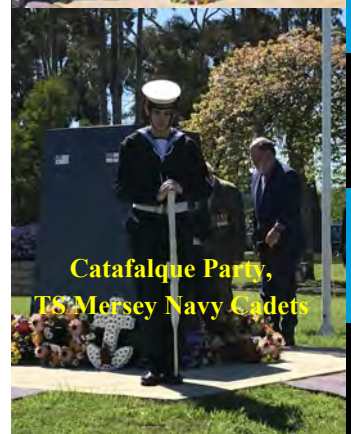
negotiation, fund raising and reinforcement of the need to remember those that have so valiantly served Australia at sea. The Tasmania Section President Alex McNeil, Secretary Gerry Van Eck with Barney Hanson, Derek Tite and Greg Cottre were among the many who attended the service. 95 year old World War Two Veteran Hugh Valentine travelled from Hobart to support the unveiling and remember absent Shipmates. Hugh was accompanied by his son Rob Valentine MLC. The monument is a clear reminder of service at sea, it also highlights the ongoing support of the Naval Association.



The new memorial unveiled at Ulverstone Park, Tasmania



LtoR Gerry Van Eck, Barney Hanson, Derek Tite & Greg Cottre



Catafalque Party, TS Mersey Navy Cadets

Defence Seminar

A Defence Seminar, part of Navy Week Victoria was held in ANZAC House, Melbourne on Saturday, 19OCT18. CAPT Mike Oborn CSM RAN, CO



HMAS Cerberus opened the seminar. He described the need to share information with the wider Navy fraternity. The purpose being to improve how we might support the ADF by being better informed. He then introduced RADM James Goldrick AO CSC RAN Rtd.



The RADM described the origin of the Defence White Paper and its development over a decade or more. A sophisticated presentation and one most worthy of the occasion. CAPT David Garnock CSC RAN Rtd, President Melbourne Naval Committee introduced COL Jason Cooke who



presented on the implementation of the DWP from an Army perspective. He described the complexity of the delivery process and the

need to create frameworks to ensure the appropriate criteria were applied. GPCAPT Carl Schiller OAM CSM RAAF Rtd, National President Air Force Association introduced GPCAPT Jason Lind RAAF, Dir – Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Electronic Warfare and Space who spoke of the need to get it right. He raised the importance of the education standard of members entering the RAAF. The need to determine the effort required by the RAAF to ensure the next generation of Airmen and women are able to manage the highly technical equipment that is yet to be designed and put into service. The forth presenter was CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RANR, Senior Naval Officer Victoria. He discussed the project he has responsibility for, Project Acrux. He described the model devised to calculate the number of men and women needed in all categories across the number of new Warships to be built to defence our shores. There was a lot of interest in all of the material presented and its importance to capability of our future Australian Defence Force.



Remembrance Day - Queenscliff

The Queenscliff - Lonsdale RSL Sub-branch have advised that they consider the imminent Commemoration of Remembrance Day on Sunday 11th November 2018 as not only historic - but a Day that fully encapsulates every Australian - from our earliest times, to our future - a most sacrosanct time for our Nation. The Garrison Towns of Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale are sites in our Military History of primary significance and have been since the 1850's. Both towns have been involved in the ensuing periods of World calamities, from the Boer War, World War 1, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and many other places around the world.

This Armistice occasion is a crucial milestone within the Spirit of ANZAC Centenary of Commemoration, 1100, on Sunday 11th November represents the signing of the document, 100 years ago to the Minute that cease hostilities. The World had endured such horrific loss of lives in the War to End All Wars. The RSL Sub-branch is going to hold a ceremonial

Parade that commences with a March along Hesse Street from Symons Street in the North, to Fort Queenscliff. A commemoration Service will be held on the Parade Ground, at that all important 11th Hour.

The Fort epitomises the practical and active aspects of the war network in Australia. The Fort provides a prominent place to acknowledge the military service and sacrifice that has occurred over 150 years. The Fort remains an active part of our National Security. Whilst it continues as a place of defence significance, it is also a structure of grandeur. The Fort remains a monument to the effort made by many Australians as they have endeavoured to preserve freedom of all.

All veterans, their family and friends are invited to participate on this historic day at Queenscliff Fort. You are asked to wear a Poppy as you join like minded Victorians to recognise the importance of the occasion. The RSL and Borough of Queenscliff ask you to pay due respect to those who Served in the Great War and to all those who currently Serve and those that have served throughout our History.

Special Notes

HMAS *Duchess* Reunion. Registrations are now being called for the 9th reunion of the *Duchess* Crew. The reunion is to be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Adelaide. Diaries the weekend 29th to 31st March, 2019. Cost is \$200 and this will include a light meal or cocktail service on Friday night, dinner on Saturday night and then Brunch on Sunday. To participate, a deposit of \$50 is required to be paid by 31st December 2018. The balance will be required by 15th February 2019. Phone or email for registration form and details to Bruce Bowmaker Ph 0403243795, or email littlefish.in@bigpond.com.

Vendetta Veterans. The Association's annual Christmas picnic is scheduled for 1030 Sunday, 2nd December 2018. Venue will be Decker Park, 25th Avenue, Brighton. Cost for Members and Partners will be \$5, \$10 for non-Members. Lunch will be provided, you should bring your drinks and a chair. RSVP before 28th November by telephoning the organiser 0428 881 702 or 0417 700 531. Alternatively email mkrause@bigpond.net.au

Beyond Blue. Occasionally a Shipmate may need specialist support, such as Beyond Blue. No point waiting, make the telephone call, seek info at <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Annual State Service. The RSL has advised that the Annual State RLS Service of Remembrance will be conducted 1300, on Sunday, 4NOV18 at Springvale War Cemetery, within the grounds of the Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Princes Highway, Springvale. All Ship/Branch Associations are requested to attend this important occasion.

Emergency ID. Advice is that DVA gold and white card holders may be eligible for financial support when purchasing Emergency ID devices. To investigate whether an opportunity exists, go to: <https://www.emergencyid.com.au/medical-alert-id-products/valuepack/dva-pack-customengraved-quality-stainless-steel-emergency-id>

Engineering Reunion. All serving, retired and civilian members of the Royal Australian Navy Engineering branches are cordially invited to Canberra for the Naval Engineering Reunion 2018. Only a few days left if you want to attend Friday, 09NOV18, at Vikings Erindale, Tuggeranong Valley Rugby Union & Amateur Sports Club, Ricardo Street, Wanniasa, ACT, 2903. Map at: <https://goo.gl/maps/6mnRkCPeADM2>. Email RAN.Naval.Engineering.Reunion@gmail.com

NCCV Office Bearers 2018



PATRON: CDRE Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN Rtd

PRESIDENT: Terry Makings
Telephone: 03 9429 9489 [message]
M: 0411 135 163

VICE PRESIDENT: Marty Grogan OAM
Telephone: 0417 377 763

Jnr V/PRESIDENT: Pete Johnston
Telephone: 0419 104 473

SECRETARY: Chris Banfield
Telephone: 0412 832 148

TREASURER: Jan Gallagher
Telephone: 03 9786 5371

PR Officer: Chris Banfield
Editor: Terry Makings

All correspondence to the email address please,
naval.commemoration.committee@gmail.com

or if postal mail is essential, The Secretary at:
316 Nicholson Street, East Fitzroy VIC 3065

Website: <http://navyvic.net>

President's dit

Navy Week Victoria provided an opportunity for the ex-Navy fraternity to demonstrate their support of Navy and Australia's approach to defending our shores. Unfortunately the level of support was minimal and highlighted a need for organisers to re-think what events are relevant and how they are scheduled. The method of communicating events also needs to be reviewed, is the network used to share information effective. Several modes are in use, but these may not be sufficient. Distributing advice to Agencies requesting they share flyers and notices with their members appears to be less than effective. It's important that we have a grasp of the difference channels of information; the Shrine of Remembrance website details every service held there, Navy Victoria Network lists a multitude of events and news items derived from Navy, the Naval Historical Society shares a wealth of data and the Naval Association facebook page shows those events made known, the NAA website is able to advise members of events. It would be helpful if we pushed a little harder to ensure our Shipmates know about events and make decisions that enable greater visibility of events.

Yours aye, Terry Makings