

THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL COUNCIL



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Shipmates in the Naval Association of Australia

Dear Shipmates,

RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD OF POSTHUMOUS VICTORIA CROSS TO ORDINARY SEAMAN (TEDDY) SHEEAN

We have had some fantastic news in the last few days regarding the very positive outcome for the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to Ordinary Seaman Edward (Teddy) Sheean. The efforts of the Sheean family and the wider naval family, over many years, has finally seen the immensely brave act of a young sailor under fire, in WW2, finally recognised.

The Naval Association has, for many years, provided advocacy support for the granting of the posthumous VC for Teddy. We made formal representations to the 2013 Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal (DHAAT) hearing and again in 2019. A significant accolade should be acknowledged to the Honourable Guy Barnett MLA, Minister for Veteran Affairs in the Tasmanian Government. He has worked tirelessly with the Sheean family over many years to get Teddy's valour officially recognised.

The other group who should be acknowledged, are the members of the NAA, across the nation. The signing of petitions to Parliament, speaking to local members of Parliament and to the Media have been cornerstones of the recent campaign to ask the Prime Minister to reconsider the recent recommendation not to grant the VC to Teddy.

Finally, I must also thank the wider ESO family for their support and encouragement. We had ADSO on board, together with key other ESO's and it made all the difference at the national level. I will be writing to the Chief of Navy to thank him for his support and acknowledge this is a momentous day for the Royal Australian Navy.

Yours Aye,

Graham Savage

Graham Savage
National President

ONCE NAVY ALWAYS NAVY