

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

Welcome to 2018:

So, 2017 went out with a bang and 2018 arrived. I entrust that all of you had a great festive season and there were a few cobwebs on New Year's Day. After all you are all former serving members of the senior service and it would only seem fitting to indulge in liquid amber, fermented grape juice or the two cousins scotch and bourbon. 2017 saw a lot of our members in ill health. I am sure that I will say for everyone that we hope you all overcome your illnesses and 2018 will hold a much brighter outlook for you all. Never forget we are all here for you anytime you need assistance.

The Annual General Meeting:

The annual general meeting (AGM) was held on Saturday, 4th February 2018. As standard operating procedures dictates, office holders for the sub ranch were up for nomination and election. The following have either been nominated and elected back into their positions or have been newly nominated and appointed to the positions. Mr Graham Hargreaves retained the office of Sub Section President. Ray Sandford and Ian Cuthbertson (with his timer for Ray) retained the office of Vice Presidents. Colin Saxby remains the "bagman" with Rod Lambert and being nominated and voted in as Secretary (not the sexiest secretary in the world) and Ian's better half and boss, Kay Cuthbertson stepping up as the minute secretary. During the meeting, ladies that were not present at last years dine in night were presented with their membership pins. There are no extended visits at this time. Joe Lee is looking into our days doing the BBQ's at Bunnings Victoria Point this year. Just a reminder instead of the one hour rostered slots, it will be increased to two hours volunteered rostered slots. There have been no births, death and marriages... or divorces.... since last meeting. However, after XMAS and NYE, I suspect a lot of us have given lost a few brain cells from partaking in festive cheer. The State council meeting was held and during the last month. During the meeting the discussion weighed heavily on the 5 pillars of the association. Mick Hamilton, was nominated for State VP. Thumbs up.. Also what was discussed was getting the more isolated sub sections, Cairns and Townsville to video skype into future meetings. It's that time of the year folks to open the wallets and purses and let the moths out for a fly. Annual fees are due for membership to the sub section were due on 3rd February 2018, before the AGM. If you have already paid the dues, please ignore this paragraph. The bank details are: Bank of Queensland, Wynnum ex- naval men and women's social club, BSB 124012, Acc 010122839. Fees are \$27 for individual, \$40 per couple and \$15 for social members.

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

In the farter with the publisher:

Before I start asking other people to open their closets and share with us their experience of service life, I think it is only fair I should contribute. So here goes:

I was born and raised in Lismore and joined the RAN in February 1990. I originally wanted to join the army but the RAN had a better ad in the “no education qualifications needed,” and I wanted out of school fast. My first preference was a Radar Plotter, but the recruiting team saw something in me and said, “Join a branch that Gods Fear, be a QMG,” so I did. My first ship and deployment was HMAS Brisbane and the Gulf War Operation Damask 1990/1991. I transferred category to Combat Systems in 1998 and then NPC in 1990. I qualified as a service police investigator in 2002, working with the single service Naval Investigative Service and Tri Service Australian Defence Force Investigative Service. I did not have a favorite posting as all had their own highs and lows. I am what is known now by the younger sailors as a “ ship whore” meaning I did a number of postings on a number of different class of ships, not just one class. My favorite Commanding Officer however was Big Jim Stapleton who was my CO on Hobart on 94/95. I was medically discharged in September 2016 with PTSD, MDD, and anxiety. My favorite port was and still is Guam with its beach bars and warm evenings.

HMAS WARRAMUNGA ON OPERATIONS AND DOING THE NAVY PROUD:

HMAS Warramunga is currently on operation in the Middle East Region (MER) on Operation Manitou. During the Christmas and New Years period, the crew, under the command of Commander Dugald Clelland, conducted three search and seizures, 27—29 December 2018: 8 tonnes hashish, 69kg heroin, 3 January 2018 3.5t hashish, 7 January 2018, 111kg of heroin and 24 January 2018, 915kg of heroin.” CMDR Clelland stated Commanding Officer of HMAS *Warramunga*, Commander Dugald Clelland said, “the operation was a team effort between close partners. The RNZAF P-3 was able to identify the vessel and direct us to a successful boarding resulting in the seizure of a very significant quantity of illegal narcotics,”¹ The Commander of Combined Task Force 150, Australian Commodore Mal Wise, said the interoperability between nations is key to the success of CTF 150 in enhancing maritime security in the region. CTF 150 has had remarkable success in recent weeks, working with assets from several partner nations within CMF. The close operation between Australia and New Zealand on this interdiction is an example of how nations working together can have a significant regional impact.”² This is Warramunga’s third deployment to the Middle East Area and the RANs 66th rotation since operations began in 1990.

¹ [http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jan2018/Operations/4426/Australia-New-Zealand-Indian-Ocean-operation-nets-AUD\\$274-million-in-heroin.htm#.WnEvRVMRU2w](http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jan2018/Operations/4426/Australia-New-Zealand-Indian-Ocean-operation-nets-AUD$274-million-in-heroin.htm#.WnEvRVMRU2w)

² <https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2018/01/26/ctf-150-nets-an-enormous-drugs-haul-in-the-indian-ocean/>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2



Australian Sailors Amongst Those Honoured With United States Meritorious Unit Citation:

On 6th August 2017, just weeks after Exercise Talisman Sabre, United States Marines were conducting operations off the Shoalwater Bay Exercise Area when an USMC MV 22 Osprey aircraft crashed into the coral sea killing the pilot and two other US Marines. Immediately the RAN sprang into action deploying Maritime Operations, Australian Clearance Diving Team One, Australian Mine Warfare Team Sixteen (HMAS *Waterhen* in Sydney), Navy Hydrographic Ship crew Blue embarked in HMAS *Melville* (HMAS *Cairns*), and members of the Australian Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Task Group, to the sight for search, rescue and recovery. Over the next two weeks the divers from team CDT1 conducted 14 dives on the Osprey, sometime in difficult conditions. On 29 January 2018, on the deck of HMAS Adelaide, the Commanding General of Marine Forces Pacific, Lieutenant General David Berger, USMC, ³ awarded the United States Meritorious Unit Citation to the sailors, soldiers and airmen involved in the recovery. The commendation praises the Australians’ “unrelenting perseverance and unfailing devotion to duty.” ⁴

³ <http://www.marforpac.marines.mil/Leaders/Article/922303/lieutenant-general-david-h-berger/>

⁴ <http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jan2018/Fleet/4428#.WnEypFMRU2w>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2



The Last Great Australian Naval Mystery Found:

For Australia, it means we can put to rest the mystery surrounding the whereabouts of the World War 1 submarine AE1. For the extended family of the crew, it brings closure to their family. The finding of the submarine, brings with it the end to the last great mystery surrounding the what happened to the submarine and its crew.

AE1 was launched in 1913, Barrows- In- Furniss in England and commissioned in Portsmouth, England in 1914. The first of two E class submarines that was built for the new Royals Australian Navy. The other being AE2, which was sunk in the Dardanelles in 1915 during the Gallipoli Campaign. The crew were a mix of RN and RAN Officers and Sailors. At the outbreak of WW1, both the submarines took part in the campaigns to capture German positions in the South West Pacific. On the 13 September 2014, after the surrender of the German surrendered their outposts in the SW Pacific, AE1 disappeared between St George Channel and Duke of York Islands with all compliment onboard.⁵

In December 2017, over 103 years since the AE1 went missing it was found, lying on the sea bed off the Duke of York Islands north of Rabaul. After 12 previous and failed attempts to find the submarine, it was located on the 13th attempt by a combined crew of civilians and naval personnel on the Fugro Equator. During Operation Render Safe 2011, the Mine Hunter group comprising of HMAS Diamantina and HMAS Gascoyne, interrogated an object found on the ocean bed in the vicinity of where AE1 went missing, however, after further investigation it was found to be a Imperial Japanese Navy vessel.

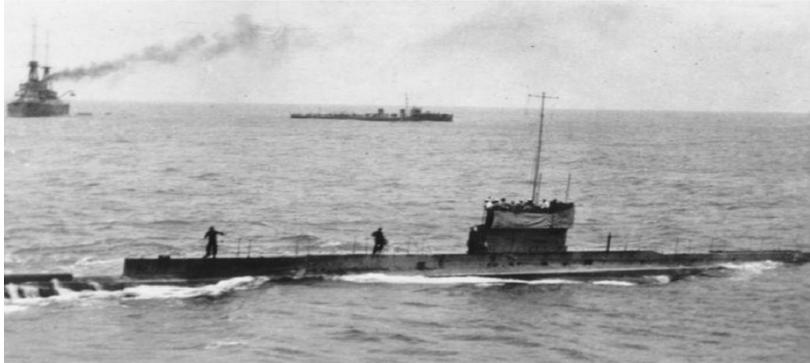
⁵ <http://www.navy.gov.au/hmas-ae1>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2



Book Review:

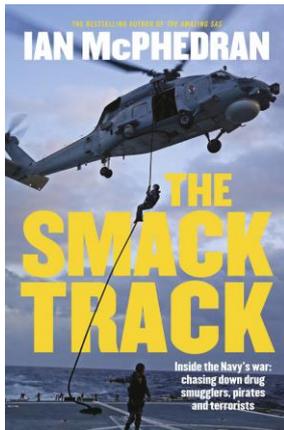
Ian McPhedran, before his retirement was one of Australia's premier columnists writing for several news publications. He has authored a number of books about the military in his career, his latest being "The Smack Track." McPhedran was embedded with HMAS Darwin for a two week patrol in 2016. During this time McPhedran witnessed the officers and crew of Darwin plying their trade by intercepting, searching and seizing illicit drugs, pirates and weapons on the "Smack Track" and "Hash Highway." The book showcases the dangers, the long hours and the unhygienic compartments that the boarding party has to contend with during the boarding and the extremities the smugglers go to, to conceal their cargo. It also identifies the day to day boredom of life at sea while on an operational deployment by those officers and sailors that are not involved in the boarding operations. The excitement that the crew show when they find a large haul of illicit drugs and a weapons cache to the lows of one of their most popular crewmates being found dead in a Muscat, Oman hotel room. The book pulls no punches and it does justice to the men and women that are at the sharp end of the war on piracy and terror. One of the more enlightening passages of the book was when the Executive Officer was disposing of the heroin haul over the side and taking off his overalls in his stateroom only to have copped a good dose through his nose and becoming hi on heroin for 24-36 hours. The book is well worth parting \$25 or visiting the local library to too borrow it. You won't b able to put it down.

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2



Movie Review:

When you put Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep together, what do you get? An epic movie that will have you enthralled from the moment you sit down to watch it. And that's what the movie "The Post" is. Set during the late stages of the Vietnam War, The Post tells the story of the Washington Post, its owner (Streep) Editor (Hanks) and senior journalists (a number of very adept supporting cast) and their decision to publish a report "The Pentagon Papers"⁶ in the Washington Post exposing the lies and coverups about the Vietnam War during a number of presidential administration. Streep puts in a solid performance as the owner of the Post, Katherine Graham, a socialite, whom became owner of the Post after her husband committed suicide. Graham has a lot of friends in the political circles of Washington, including Robert McNamara, who was Secretary of Defence, when the report was commissioned. Graham must fight with her own conscience, her board members, who are all men and do not believe she can chair the newspaper and take it forward, her friendship to McNamara and the knowledge that if she allows the paper to go to print with the paper, she may go to gaol for contempt of court due to the New York Post having a supreme court injunction not allowing them to print the same papers. Hanks stars as the Editor, Ben Bradlee, a career journalist and tough as nails editor that wants to print the story at any cost, citing the 1st amendment and the American people have the right to know that their boys have been sent to a war that the American government called useless and knew they could not win since the French defeat at Dien Bien Phu in 1954. This movie has all the hallmarks of a academy awards. Best Actress, Best Actor, Best Director and Best Movie. Do yourself a favour and get out to see it while it is still on the big screen. 5/5 Stars.

⁶ <http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/pentagon-papers>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

Guess that ship:

Last Editions ship was HMAS WARRAMUNGA (1), A improved tribal class destroyer commissioned November 1942. Decommission December 1959. Battle Honours: NEW GUINEA 1943–44, PACIFIC 1943–45, LEYTE GULF 1944, LINGAYEN GULF 1945, BORNEO 1945 and KOREA 1950–52.

This Editions Ship



Leadership Positions in the RAN:

Warrant Officer – Navy (WO-N):

The Warrant Officer of the Navy is the senior enlisted sailor of the RAN who is responsible to the Chief of the Navy. As the senior Warrant Officer in the RAN he is entitled to exercise command over any enlisted personnel, including other WO's. The WO-N has his office on the same floor at Russel Office, Canberra and sits on CN's Senior Advisory Group. he WON's primary duty is to represent to CN and others the solicited and unsolicited views, concerns and opinions of Sailors, which affect the Navy as a whole. In addition, the WON is responsible for:

- assisting in the overall maintenance of discipline and morale of Sailors in the RAN;
- providing input as necessary to ad hoc reviews/inquiries;
- channelling feedback to Navy Headquarters Directorates;
- representing Sailors on standing committees;
- advising any Officer seeking advice on matters relating to Sailors in general; and
- the management of all Warrant Officer positions as the Rank Sponsor.

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

WON provides administrative advice and input to the CN of any need to review regulations or conditions of service, monitors the effectiveness of the Divisional System, and guides Warrant Officers and Senior Sailors Messes on matters of administration, and protocol. He maintains a close working relationship with the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army and the Warrant Officer of the Air Force.

Either by invitation alone or in company with the CN (or representatives) the WON is the senior non-commissioned representative of personnel at significant ceremonial occasions, appropriate functions and civil receptions. In addition to being a permanent member of formal advisory groups and councils, WON is also a Director on the Boards of Navy Health Pty. Ltd.

The Current WON is WOCIS(SM) Gary Wight. Wight enlisted into the RAN from Liverpool, NSW in 1987. After undertaking recruit, category and submarine training he was posted to HMAS Stirling as well as a number of Oberon and Collins class submarines during his career. In 2006, Wight was promoted to WO and has held positioned in every tier of that rank. Wight has been WON since 2016.



BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

The Fleet of Today – Patrol Boats:

At sometime or rather during our time in service we have either served or maybe had a sea ride on a patrol boat (PB). These small, but vital boats are always on the forefront of protecting our borders. Whether it be enforcing the Australian Economic Exclusion Zone to Bass Strait oil rig patrol or being the integral units of OP Resolute 7or Sovereign Borders.⁸ During the past 50 odd years The RAN has been served by three classes of PB's. The Attack Class, the Fremantle Class and the current in-service Armidale class. These boats, with a crew from 20-25, were homeported around Australia in the early years, however, currently they are all either home ported in Darwin or Cairns.



HMAS Darwin to be sunk as a dive site off Tasmania:

The recently decommissioned HMAS Darwin, could attract 5000 people to the state if it is transformed into an artificial reef and dive site off the North-East Coast, the Break O'Day mayor says. The State Government has submitted a bid to the Federal Government to have the HMAS Darwin scuttled off the East Coast in order to serve as an artificial reef and dive site. In late 2016, the Federal Government decided not to sink the HMAS Tobruk off Skeleton Bay near St Helens for the same purpose, opting to scuttle her in Queensland.

But now Lyons MP Guy Barnett has confirmed that a bid has been submitted to have the 138m HMAS Darwin, which was decommissioned in December, sunk off the East Coast as a tourism drawcard. Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker said he had spoken to Mr Barnett.

The plan is for the ship to be sunk off Skeleton Bay, about 800m offshore and at a depth of 30m. Project manager Peter Paulson said a rough costing to get the ship down from Sydney, prepared and sunk was about \$6 million. There would also be a cleanup. Sinking the ship to a depth of 30m would mean interstate divers would not be able to fly on the same day as a dive.⁹

⁷ <http://www.defence.gov.au/Operations/BorderProtection/>

⁸ <http://osb.homeaffairs.gov.au>

⁹ <http://www.themercury.com.au/news/tasmania/hmas-darwin-tipped-for-new-dive-site-in-tasmania/news-story/c6c3ed05bbb944b9294da45232e371d6?nk=a6d68f4b61c17ee91eaa307fb4820163-1518657797>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

Crossing the Bar

BY ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

Sunset and evening star

And one clear call for me!

And may there be no moaning of the bar,

When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,

Too full for sound and foam,

When that which drew from out the boundless deep

Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,

And after that the dark!

And may there be no sadness of farewell,

When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place

The flood may bear me far,

I hope to see my Pilot face to face

When I have crossed the bar.

New Subsidy from Queensland Education for Child Care:

The Queensland Government provides a range of subsidies to approved kindergarten program providers through the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS) to reduce the out-of-pocket expenses for families. QKFS Plus Kindy Support provides additional support to eligible families to help them access low or no-cost kindy. QKFS Plus Kindy Support is claimed by the service on behalf of eligible families. To be eligible for QKFS Plus Kindy Support a family must meet one of the criteria below: • The family (including foster families), or the child, must present one of the following (calculated per term): – a current Australian Government Health Care Card (HCC). The HCC should be sighted each term and a copy kept by the service. The HCC must name the enrolled child, whether it is the child's own card or a card belonging to their parent/guardian; or – current Australian Government Pensioner Concession Card (automatic HCC entitlements);

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

or – **Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card or White Card**; or – formal communication, such as a letter, from the relevant agency stating the intent to issue a HCC; or • The child identifies as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and the family chooses to identify them as such on their enrolment form (calculated per semester); or • The family has three or more children, of the same age, enrolled in the same year. QKFS Plus Kindy Support is available for each child enrolled in a program (calculated per semester). QKFS Plus Kindy Support can only be claimed once per child regardless of how many of the above criteria they meet.¹⁰

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¹⁰ <https://www.qld.gov.au/education/earlychildhood/programs/pages/about>

BAYSIDE BUZZ



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA BAYSIDE SUB SECTION

EDITION 2

Australia Day Honours : Navy

Twenty serving Navy personnel have been recognised for awards in the Australia Day 2018 Honours List. They are among 895 award recipients approved by The Governor-General and Chancellor of the Order of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd). The Australia Day 2018 Honours List recognises a diverse range of contributions and service across all fields, including professional endeavours, community work, Australia's Defence Force and Emergency Services. "To all recipients, I offer my deepest congratulations, admiration and respect for your contribution to our nation," the Governor-General said. "We are fortunate as a community to have so many outstanding people willing to dedicate themselves to the betterment of our nation and it is only fitting that they have today been recognised through the Australian Honours system. "Since 1975 these awards have helped to define, encourage and reinforce Australian goals and values. They identify role models who give without thought of recognition or personal gain. "Today's recipients now join the company of many women and men whose meritorious and brave actions have enriched our community and our lives. Their qualities – compassion, dedication, generosity, selflessness, tolerance, and energetic ambition – inspire and motivate us. "For over 40 years these honours have helped to define, encourage and reinforce our national aspirations and ideals by acknowledging exceptional Australians. Today, we add a new group of names to those we should all admire. "On behalf of all Australians, I thank them for their contributions. We are a stronger, safer and more caring nation because of them." Chair of the Council of the Order of Australia, Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK AFC (Retd) said the awards recognise service across a broad range of fields. "They are public recognition of people who provide outstanding community service and whose achievements enhance national identity," Sir Angus said. "By their actions they demonstrate the qualities of positive role models. The recipients are not only worthy of respect but encourage emulation. "These awards also recognise the 'quiet achievers' in our midst. They are people who serve the community, but do not seek accolades. "All Australians are encouraged to nominate fellow citizens who have made outstanding contributions to the wellbeing of others for national recognition in the Honours List." The Royal Australian Navy congratulates the 20 Navy recipients listed in the Australia Day 2018 Honours list. The names and their citations for their awards can be read at <http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jan2018/People/4422/Australia-Day-2018-Navy-Honours>.