



The Bosun's Call



Vol 28 No 7

Once Navy, Always Navy

August 2023

HMAS Harman celebrates its 80th Birthday



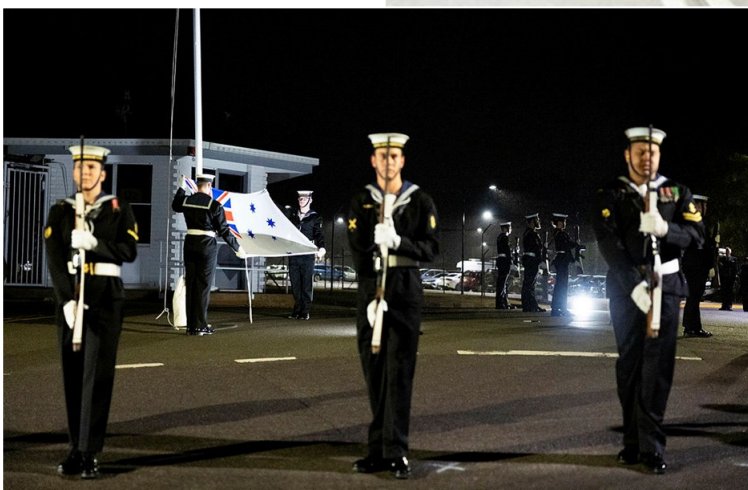
Throughout the week, *Harman* hosted a luncheon for the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service, honouring their contributions.

The base also opened its doors to the public, allowing local residents and visitors from Canberra and Queanbeyan to experience daily Navy operations.

"We've opened up to the public so they can come past and witness and view what happens on a Navy base day-to-day and demystify some of the things we do," Commander Hunter said.

It was *Harman's* fourth march, and Commanding Officer *Harman* CMDR Glyn Hunter said Navy was proud of the connection to the local community in Queanbeyan.

"It's really important that we do these events so that we keep our connection with the community strong," Commander Hunter said.



Top: Fleet Commander RADM Chris Smith, AM, CSM, RAN, and Merle Hare, 103yrs old, who served in the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service during WW2 at the HMAS *Harman* 80th anniversary official reception.

Above: HMAS *Harman* ship's company exercises its freedom of entry to the City of Queanbeyan as part of its 80th anniversary celebrations.

Left: Federation Guard Ceremonial Sunset

Photos: Petty Officer Jake Badior

Events coming up

9 Aug HMAS *Canberra* Memorial Service Kings Park Canberra 1100
28 Aug Last Post Ceremony AWM Teleg George Bennie HMAS *Kuttabul* (Prince of Wales Hospital)



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia

Naval Association of Australia**ACT Section****Founded 1 July 1944**

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

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**General Meetings
Dates and Locations
Programme**
2023

3 Aug	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Sep	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
5 Oct	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
2 Nov	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330

2024

1 Feb	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Mar	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330

Tables are normally booked for drinks and lunch
in the host club from 1200 prior to the meeting.

If you need assistance getting to the meeting
and/or functions, call Alan Masters on 6281 5630
who will try to organise transport for you.

**Committee meeting
Eastlakes Gungahlin
1100 Thursday 3 August 2023**

President's Message

Dear Shipmates,

The following email was sent on 20 July 2023 copied to Jeremy Hansen

Ms Emma Davidson MLA
Minister for Veterans and Seniors

Ms Davidson,

In my capacity as the President of the Naval Association of Australia (NAA) ACT Section, I have just learnt today (20 Jul 23) of the proposed Freedom of Entry (FOE) March for USS *Canberra*'s ship's company, accompanied by members of the HMAS *Canberra* ship's company, scheduled to take place here in Canberra on Sunday 23 July 2023.

Whilst we are now doing all that is possible to alert our members of this very important event, the absence of advance-notice is most disappointing. The NAA ACT Section, as you are aware, conducts the HMAS *Canberra* (I) Commemorative service here in Canberra on the 9th August each year. Therein we have a meaningful interest and association with all that is connected with this ship and the HMAS *Canberra* (III). That interest now extends to her namesake 'sister-ship', the USS *Canberra*. The local and national significance of having a US ship of the same name has rightly been heralded in the national media. To then have sailors of both ships marching through the streets of Canberra is of national importance and interest. We would have welcomed advanced-notice of the FOE March so that we might encourage our members, and those of the other Royal Australian Navy (RAN) Ship and navy-veteran Associations here in the ACT and Canberra Region, to attend. The day of the week and time of day effectively mitigates the possibility of having maximum spectator attendance, particularly in winter. If it is such, that from a public-relations (PR) perspective, we as naval veterans are not be seen as a primary 'target-audience' for a forthcoming naval ceremonial event here in the ACT, that would be most perplexing.

In regard to naval ceremonial events of this nature and significance we would encourage the ACT Government to give consideration to affording those naval veteran associations in Canberra and the surrounding region, the opportunity to participate as spectators, in their naval capacity, so as to maximise participation and visibility of the Government's engagement with veterans.

I leave early in the morning to travel to Sydney to attend the commissioning ceremony for USS *Canberra* on Saturday. I hope all goes well for the FOE activities here in Canberra on Sunday. I am advised, Ms Burch will be attending the HMAS *Canberra* (I) Memorial Service on Wednesday 09 August 2023, representing the Chief Minister. I look forward to speaking with Ms Burch.

Yours aye,

David Manolas
President

USS *Canberra* arrives in Sydney for her Commissioning Ceremony



Above: USS Canberra entering Port Jackson in HMAS Canberra's wake

Below: USS Canberra and HMAS Canberra approaching their berths on Garden Island's extended Cruiser Wharf (was known as the Oil Wharf in pre modernisation days).

Insert. USS Canberra approaching her berth at the northern end of GID. Photo taken from HMAS Canberra

Photos; Defence



USS *Canberra* to begin her commissioned life in Sydney



(L-R) Captain Marc Crawford, Commodore of Littoral Combat Ship Squadron One, Commander Australian Fleet, Rear Admiral Chris Smith AM, CSM, RAN, Commanding Officer USS *Canberra* Blue Crew Commander William Ashley and Commanding Officer USS *Canberra* Gold Crew Bobby Barber, stand with ship's company on the Flight Deck during a visit to the ship after she secured alongside Fleet Base East in Sydney

Photo: Defence

USS *Canberra* arrived in Sydney on 18 July 2023 alongside Fleet Base East ahead of the ship's ceremonial commissioning on 22 July. During the week, the crews of HMAS *Canberra* and USS *Canberra* conducted activities together including playing sport, ship tours and sharing their countries' culture and traditions.

USS *Canberra*'s commissioning emphasises the more than 100 years of mateship built on friendship, history, democracy, and respect. The two countries have fought side-by-side in every major conflict since World War I. *Canberra*'s namesake is a reminder of the shared responsibility the U.S. and Australia have to each other as allies.

Three members of the NAA ACT Section were invited to attend the Commissioning Ceremony, David Manolas, Tiger Lyons with Susie, and Peter Cooke-Russell with Jenny. Despite a cold westerly wind, the ceremony was blessed with a clear sky and the team from HMAS *Kuttabul* ensured that the event ran smoothly and that the aged could get from the GID gates to the north end of Garden Island without too much trouble. A large number of people attended and were given an excellent presentation of the USN order of a Commissioning Service.

Lead by the Governor General of Australia and the Governor of NSW a high level of dignitaries were also present including the Australian Minister for Defence, the USA Defense Secretary, both the USN and RAN Chiefs of Navy, and the Patron of the ship, Senator the Hon Marise Payne.

One Australian naval officer will be a permanent member of the USS *Canberra*'s complement. It was noted that several RAN sailors were also included in the USS *Canberra*'s ship's company during the ceremony and they will most probably remain on board her during Exercise Talisman Sabre 2023.

One hundred members of each ships' company travelled to Canberra for the Freedom of Entry ceremony held on the morning of Sunday 23 July. It was great to see that family members of the USS *Canberra*'s crew had come to Australia to witness the events. We spoke to one couple who were driving to Canberra on the Sunday and they were experiencing a bit of anxiety concerning driving on the left hand side of the local roads.

Hundreds of people braved cold temperatures lining the Civic streets to cheer both crews and give them a very warm welcome.

USS Canberra Commissioning Ceremony 22 July 2023



Left : Australia's Governor General; HE David Hurley addressing the assembly. USS Canberra I's bell in front

Below: USS Canberra's ship's company awaiting the order to man ship

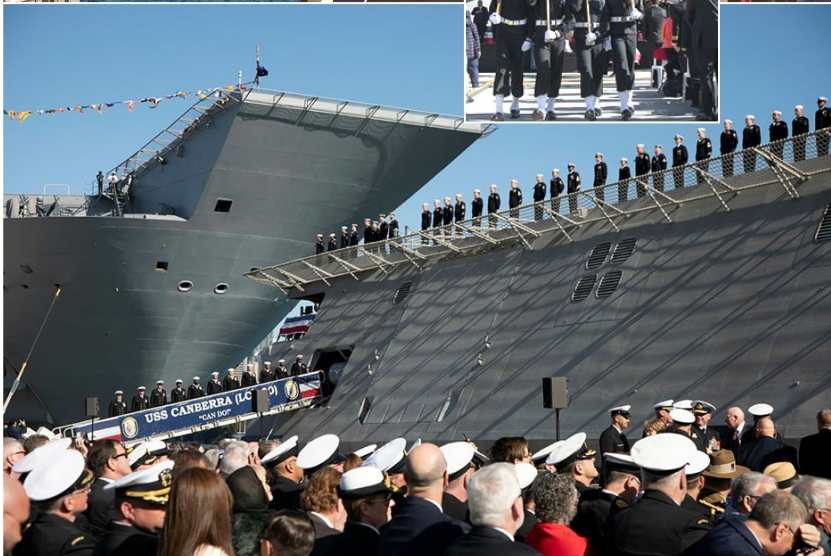
Right below: CN Australia presenting the port side kangaroo symbol to the USN Chief of Naval Operations. and the kangaroo symbol fitted to the Starboard side of Canberra's superstructure

Photos; RAN and David Manolas



Centre: USN Colour Party and USS Canberra's badge

Below: USS Canberra is manned with HMAS Canberra's bow astern.. The ship's motto is "Can Do"



USS Canberra's Freedom of Entry into the City of Canberra 23 July 2023

Right: Commanding Officers of USS Canberra's Blue and Gold crews meeting the challenger ACT Police Chief, for entry into the City of Canberra

Below USS Canberra's crews enter Canberra and march past CN, ACT Chief Minister, US Ambassador to Australia, Caroline Kennedy and ACT Chief Police Officer Neil Gaughan

Bottom left: HMAS Canberra's crew follow the US crew

Bottom Right: USN 7th Fleet Band playing with the beating of its drums

Photos: Defence and David Manolas



Exercise Sea Raider

In July 2023 the Australian Defence Force conducted Exercise Sea Raider across the coast of North Queensland.

Exercise Sea Raider certified the Amphibious Ready Unit and saw the Australian Amphibious Force train closely with the Royal Australian Navy's HMAS Adelaide and HMAS Choules, as well as a beach landing force comprising of infantry, armoured vehicles, artillery, aviation and logistic elements optimised for amphibious raids and assaults.

The Sea Series of exercises enhances joint interoperability of the Australian Army and Royal Australian Navy's amphibious capabilities



Above: An M1A1 Abrams main battle tank is transported via Mexefloat to the beach head from HMAS Adelaide during Exercise Sea Raider 2023.



Left: An M1A1 Abrams main battle tank from the 2nd Cavalry Regiment provides perimeter security in the Raspberry Creek Urban Operations Training Facility during Exercise Sea Raider 2023.

Photo: SCT Andrew Sleeman

HMAS Canberra I Memorial Service 9 August 2023 Kings Park Commencing 1100





Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide

17 July 2023

The Chair of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide said the inquiry continues to uncover evidence that raises "serious questions" about what is being done to prevent past and present Australian Defence Force personnel taking their lives.

The inquiry's tenth public hearing, which began in Adelaide today (Monday 17 July), will focus on safe workplaces – and examine how aspects of military life, such as leadership, postings and promotions, deployment and career management, can impact the mental health and wellbeing of ADF members, and their families.

In his opening address, Commissioner Nick Kaldas said protecting the mental health and wellbeing of serving and ex-serving Defence personnel must be prioritised.

We've heard many contemporary examples of our sailors, soldiers and aviators doing it tough, not just historical accounts – raising serious questions about what the ADF is doing to address the occupational stressors influencing the mental health and wellbeing of its people, as well as their families," Commissioner Kaldas said.

Commissioner Kaldas said Australia's defence capability, primarily, comes from the brave men and women who pull on the uniform of our Navy, Army and Air Force and go to work each day to protect us.

"Each and every one of us has a duty to ensure that Government, Defence and other agencies truly protects the mental health and wellbeing of our veterans. For far too long that hasn't been the case – and it has undoubtedly cost, and continues to cost, many lives," he said.

"The hundreds of billions of dollars to be invested in technically-advanced nuclear-powered submarines, aircraft, weapons and other hardware to defend Australia and its national interests, as part of the Defence Strategic Review, will count for nothing if the ADF struggles to recruit and retain a resilient, psychologically-safe workforce."

Meanwhile, in line with the inquiry's terms of reference, the Commissioners have now visited all Australia's 'Five Eyes' partners – Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States – hearing firsthand how they're responding to similar challenges among their veteran populations.

Last month, Commissioners travelled to the US where they met with more than 100 representatives from government, the military, academia, veterans' groups and charitable organisations.

"While we have sought to learn from our closest allies about how they're tackling these issues, we

also know they're watching with keen interest the outcome of this Royal Commission – and the recommendations we put forward to address the entrenched cultural and systemic issues which are failing our serving and ex-serving members," Commissioner Kaldas told the Adelaide hearing.

Counsel Assisting the Royal Commission, Lonya Sheptooha, said the hearing will explore issues impacting past and present ADF members at a national level – but also examine local issues affecting the more than 100,000 South Australia-based veterans, which includes approximately 6,000 current servicemen and women.

"That concentration of current and former service personnel in South Australia – and their families – provides this Royal Commission with a valuable opportunity to continue its examination of the systemic issues and contributing risk factors relevant to defence and veteran suicide," Mr Sheptooha told the hearing.

The Royal Commission was established in July 2021 to examine the alarming rates of suicide and suicidality among Australia's military community.

During the past two years, the inquiry has received more than 3,800 submissions and heard from 257 witnesses at nine public hearings in Brisbane, Sydney (two), Canberra, Townsville, Hobart, Darwin, Wagga Wagga and Perth.

The eight-day Adelaide hearing will conclude on Wednesday 26 July 2023.

16 July 2023

The impact of postings and relocation on the wellbeing of current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel and their families will be examined at a public hearing of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, which begins tomorrow (Monday 17 July) in Adelaide.

The inquiry's 10th public hearing, held at the Grand Chancellor Adelaide, will also examine issues relating to leadership, career management, promotions, and the effects of physical injury on mental health.

The Director of Veterans SA will give evidence about the effectiveness of the agency's support for ex-servicemen and women and provide an update on its Veteran Wellbeing Centre. The inquiry will also hear evidence from other senior Government and Defence officials, workplace safety experts and lived experience witnesses.

Royal Commission Chair Nick Kaldas said it's critical the inquiry hears from South Australia's defence community, given the strategic importance of the state to Australia's future Defence capability.

There is still time to make your submission – support is available

Historic first for Navy's 816 Squadron

18 July 2023

Exercise Resolute Hunter has long been a cornerstone in maritime warfare training, bringing together allied forces to share expertise and bolster security.

This year, the exercise, stationed in Nevada and San Diego in the United States, witnessed a remarkable and historic new addition – the Australian Navy's 816 Squadron.

The collaboration between the US Navy and Australia's 816 Squadron on the exercise demonstrates the proven partnership between the two forces in an evolving maritime landscape.

Conducted biennially, Exercise Resolute Hunter represents a significant stride in military cooperation and is a testament to the camaraderie shared by the two nations.

The powerful joint maritime warfare training exercise aims at enhancing interoperability and collective capabilities amongst allied nations.

The exercise seeks to enhance and emphasise innovative tactics and technologies where 816 Squadron represents the RAN's commitment to staying on the forefront of maritime defence.

816 Squadron operates the MH-60R Seahawk - a reliable and highly effective combat helicopter that contributes strongly to naval power.

It is designed for both anti-submarine warfare and anti-

surface warfare combat roles across the RAN and US Navy Fleets.

816 Squadron's involvement in Exercise Resolute Hunter 23 reflects Navy's commitment to and engagement with the Indo-Pacific region as well as its integration with partner nations.

The integration of 816 Squadron with the US military during the exercise provided both forces with valuable insights into each other's operations and capabilities.

The exposure to varied equipment, strategies, and environments allowed for the cross-pollination of knowledge and skills.

816 Squadron members returned home from the exercise with invaluable experience, new insights, reinforced relationships and enhanced lethality prowess.

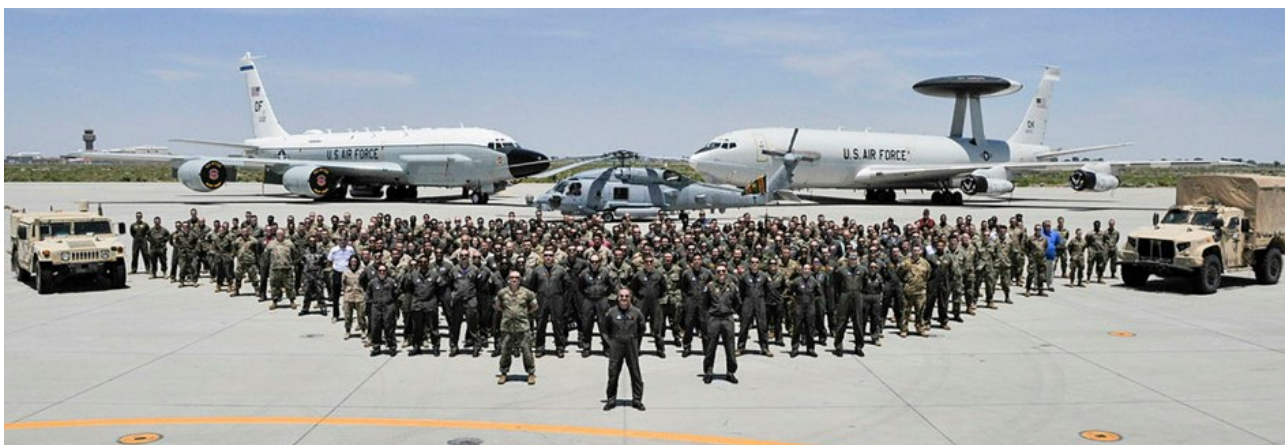
It's expected the RAN Fleet Air Arm will continue to participate in future iterations of Exercise Resolute Hunter, strengthening the ties between the US and Australian maritime combat helicopter communities and making the world's oceans safer for all.

By Sub Lieutenant Marina Riley

Right: RAN participants in the biennial Exercise Resolute Hunter 23. It has long been a cornerstone in maritime warfare training, bringing together allied forces to share expertise and bolster security.

Below: Participants in biennial Exercise Resolute Hunter 23

Photos: Defence



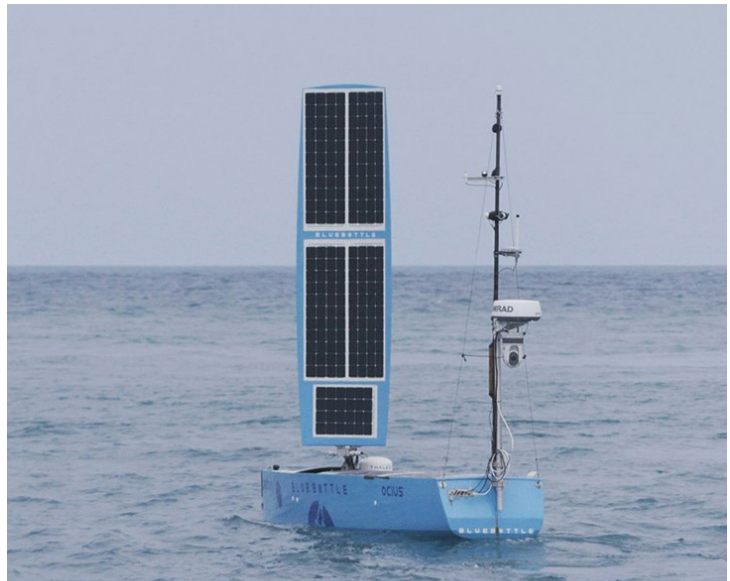
Blue Bottle maritime unmanned surveillance vessel

18 November 2022

From 10-22 October 2022, Australian Defence Force personnel deployed from Darwin to conduct long-range patrols on remote islands off Western Australia as part of Operation RESOLUTE. The patrols searched the islands for foreign fishing vessels and evidence of illegal activities by conducting foot patrols, water patrols, observation posts, and information gathering. Operation RESOLUTE is the Australian Defence Force (ADF) contribution to the whole of government (WoG) effort to protect Australia's borders and offshore maritime interests.

The seventh rotation of Army's Regional Force Surveillance Group (RFSG) used Bluebottles, developed by Ocius Technologies, which can provide a 24/7 on-water surveillance capability, with the flexibility to be readily manoeuvred to respond to emerging surveillance requirements or tasks.

During the two-week deployment in October, the contingent conducted surveillance and reconnaissance on and around remote islands off north Western Australia for foreign fishing vessels and evidence of illegal activities.

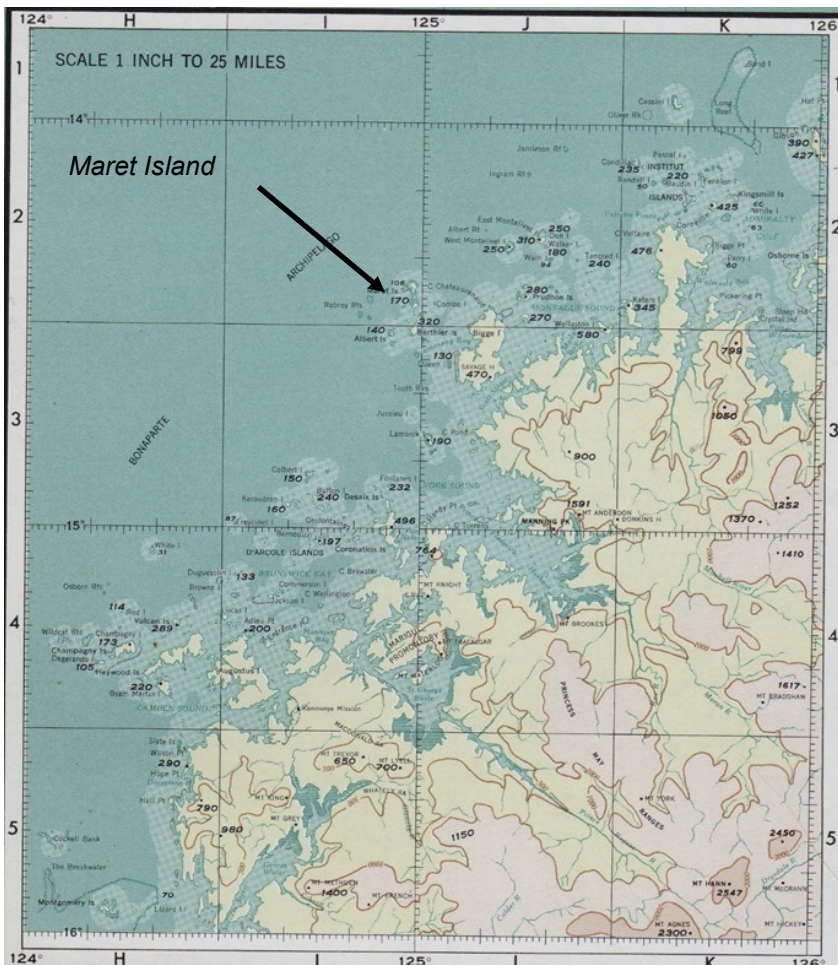


Above: A Blue Bottle maritime unmanned surveillance vessel patrolling on Operation Resolute, in remote Western Australian waters near Maret Islands

Photo: SGT Jarrod McAneney

Below: North West corner of Australia

Readers Digest Australian atlas



The contingent of 18 personnel was drawn primarily from Northwest Mobile Force (NORFORCE) and 10th Force Support Battalion, with attachments from the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment and 1st Combat Signal Regiment.

Major Alexander Brent, the Maritime Border Command (MBC) Liaison Officer to Rotation 7, said the use of the Bluebottles, and the embedding of an Ocius employee within the task unit headquarters, added significant capability to the operation.

"In addition to persistent surveillance, we were able to use the Bluebottles to conduct more specific reconnaissance tasks, such as beach landing site reconnaissance and avenues of approach to specific islands in advance of the ground force," Major Brent said.

"By controlling the Bluebottles remotely, the ground force was free to be able to move independently of the USVs (uncrewed surveillance vessels) and focus on other tasks, such as onshore reconnaissance and patrolling, while still benefiting from what the Bluebottles collected."

By Captain Lily Charles

Are uncrewed surface vehicles the future of naval combat?



GlobalData
@globaldatapl

Uncrewed surface vehicles (USVs) represent an interesting new development in naval warfare



The Ukrainian Navy has recently incorporated the use of uncrewed maritime platforms into its ranks.

Credit: Billy Watkins / Shutterstock.com.

The naval achievements that the Ukrainian armed forces have accomplished over the past year have been substantial given their fleet size. Having sunk 18 ships since the invasion began including the sinking of the Russian Black Sea flagship *Moskva*, Ukraine has denied Russia full control of the Black Sea littoral zone thanks to the resilience of their navy. The Ukrainian Navy has recently incorporated the use of uncrewed maritime platforms into their ranks, using them several times to disrupt Russian naval movements and hinder port access.

Although not the first time uncrewed surface vessels (USVs) have been utilised on the battlefield, these attacks represent the first modern application of the technology that allows USVs to operate remotely up to 500 miles away from the vessel's homeport. The Ukrainian Government has announced its intention to procure 100 of these ves-

sels in order to expand its hold on the Black Sea and deter Russian aggression, as 20% of the roughly 4,500 missiles launched at Ukraine came from Russian naval vessels. Notwithstanding Ukraine's strategic objectives, examining the impact presented by USVs in the Russia-Ukraine conflict is vital to understanding their viability in future maritime conflicts.

Traditional USVs are usually fitted with defensive capabilities like machine guns or mine-laying capabilities so that the USV can return safely from engagement. The unconventional USVs employed by Ukraine are deemed uncrewed surface explosive vehicles and perform kamikaze operations largely at port targets. The Ukrainian Navy employs a swarm strategy by sending the vessels out in groups of 2-6 in conjunction with aerial drone sup-

(Continued on page 12)

Are uncrewed surface vehicles the future of naval combat?

(Continued from page 11)

port. Multiple targets moving rapidly in the air and on the ocean prove harder for Russian ships to effectively counter, often resulting in damage to the ship.

So far, there have been five different attacks mainly focused on the port cities of Sevastopol and Novorossiysk, ranging in effectiveness and scope. The first attack on 29 October 2022 was the most successful, as seven USVs and one aerial drone attacked the frigate *Admiral Marakov*, the mine-sweeper *Ivan Golubets*, and an unnamed ship in Sevastopol. Although none of the ships were sunk, they sustained significant damage causing the vessels to be grounded for an extended period. The USVs penetrated the protected and "safe" harbour, likely resulting in a significant drop in morale and security for the members of the Russian Navy. The breach of Sevastopol's defences caused Russia to implement more defensive measures like anti-USV wires in their ports and increased military presence.

With Novorossiysk being 420 miles away from Odessa, the next attack represented a key target for its oil supply. Several USVs attacked the Sheskhari oil terminal and little damage occurred, however, it demonstrated the expansive range within which USVs could operate effectively. Two further attacks occurred in Sevastopol on 22 March and 24 April 2023, where in both cases multiple USVs penetrated the harbour and exploded shy of the intended target and thus inflicting little damage. The most recent case is unconfirmed, as both sides present a different story. Russia claims that the intelligence ship *Ivan Khurs* was attacked by several USVs 140km away from the Bosphorus strait while the ship was reportedly protecting the Bluestream and Turkstream pipelines. Although they provided video evidence of the attack, Ukraine gave another video illustrating a collision between a USV and a warship. Regardless of what occurred, the effect of USVs on the Russian Navy has led the admirals to be more conservative and defensive with their fleet deployment as the Black Sea fleet scarcely leaves Sevastopol.

Despite not sinking any ships, Ukraine illustrated the operational viability of USVs in future naval confrontations. Even the Russians have adopted a "kamikaze" USV in light of Ukraine's success, employing an explosive USV to blow up a bridge near Odesa in February 2023. The ability to deliver payloads at a high-speed while being autonomous/remote-controlled provides a unique way to conduct naval operations without the cost of human life. USVs can be made smaller than most boats and are relatively cheap, with the vessels in Ukraine costing \$250,000 in comparison to for instance a tomahawk missile at around \$2m each. The vessels found in Ukraine are easy to manufacture, with

many indicating that they can be built in a garage with off-the-shelf civilian components.

The combination of low cost and low risk translates into the ability to sustain a persistent threat to navies in the open ocean and at port through large numbers. There are also benefits to not having a human in control of the vessel, as it can be streamlined and faster. USVs can also be deployed in worse conditions and stay out at sea for longer periods of time. USVs could represent a cheaper alternative to missiles while also being able to carry out more functions if the USV possesses a modular design.

However, there are downsides to USVs as they can often have limited applications once the element of surprise is lost. This effect was demonstrated by the subsequent attacks on the Russian Navy after the primary attack in October of 2022, as none of the other attacks were able to inflict considerable damage. Continued USV attacks on ports would only be countered by a proportional increase in defences. The Russian Navy has limited experience employing defensive capabilities, whereas western governments (specifically the US and UK) have invested in netting and jamming techniques after learning from clashes with Houthi rebels in the Gulf of Yemen in 2021. Therefore, the attacks perpetrated by Ukraine would have a larger effect on Russia than similar attacks on a developed navy. There is also an absence of international regulation on the subject as a warship is defined to be "manned" and require proper oversight from the chain of command, regulations which are difficult to enforce on uncrewed platforms.

Although the UK pledges to use autonomous/ remotely operated military equipment legally and ethically, this may not be the case for other states or allies in times of war. Cybersecurity concerns about the reliability of a platform which is being operated remotely have merit. To summarise, USVs represent an interesting new development in naval warfare. They represent a low-cost alternative to traditional missile strikes and attack-based naval operations, but they also represent a minimal threat currently once the element of surprise is lost. Many would argue, however, that the simple threat of USVs (especially the explosive variants) forces competing navies to be more cautious with their fleets. USV technology will likely improve over the coming decade with GlobalData intelligence predicting that the USV market will grow from \$894m in 2023 to \$1.5bn in 2027, indicating the potential developments in the design of USVs. With the news that Ukraine is developing the world's first combat unmanned underwater vessel (UUV) and have developed a new USV, the *Monobank*, Ukraine will continue to disrupt Russian naval operations with innovative unmanned maritime vehicles.

HMAS Cerberus—BMIET Graduation 104

The Boatswains Mate Initial Employment Training (BMIET) is a six month course beginning with Seamanship for the first 3 weeks, where trainees will learn the basics of ship's husbandry, line handling, and all major evolutions. From there, trainees will move to the battery where they will learn weapon handling and maintenance in depth.

Trainees are instructed on a number of weapons from 9mm through to 12.7mm. Trainees will also learn basics of handling a sea boat in different conditions while also gaining an understanding of how to safely navigate the sea boat with other personnel on board.

As part of the Boatswains Mate branch members will be required to be part of the ship's Boarding Party (BP) team. Trainees will learn the legal aspects that are required to be a part of the BP team as well as a variety of skills, which include Defensive Tactics, the service-issued tactical baton and an overall understanding of all aspects relating to being a member of the BP team.



Above: Deputy Director Maritime Skills Centre, Commander Luke Weston, RAN (right), presents Seaman Gabrielle Avery with the Warfare Medallion and certificate during the Basic Boatswains Mate Initial Entry Training (BMIET) Course graduation, at Maritime Skills Training Centre, HMAS Cerberus, Victoria.

Below: Trainees fall in for the graduation of the Basic Boatswains Mate Initial Entry Training (BMIET) Course at Maritime Skills Training Centre, HMAS Cerberus, Victoria.

Photo: LSIS James McDougall



HMAS Cerberus Base Redevelopment Project completed

Right: Assistant Minister for Defence, the Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP (right), officially opens the HMAS Cerberus Junior Sailors Galley Extensions with Commanding Officer HMAS Cerberus, Captain Ainsley Morthorpe, CSM, RAN marking the completion of the Base Redevelopment Project



Left: Assistant Minister for Defence, the Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP (2nd from end on left) enjoys lunch with sailors and officers in the newly opened Junior Sailors Galley Extension

Right: Assistant Minister for Defence, the Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP (right) is shown the Leak Stop and Repair Simulator by Chief Petty Officer Darren Oke at the School of Survivability and Ship Safety

Photos: LSIS James McDougall



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS38 for 2023

Action to renew membership for 2023 can now undertaken in a number of different ways. The following, in order of preference for the Treasurer, are listed below, but any of them can be utilised.

The use of e-banking provides for ease of payment and your bank records act as your receipt. The annual subscription for 2023 is \$38.

1. **Direct transfer of funds to the NAA (ACT Section).** Using e-bank facilities, transfer funds to Naval Association of Australia –ACT Section Account **BSB: 633 000 . Account Number 162 834 097 Please ensure you have identified yourself as the payer in order that the Treasurer can correctly credit your payment.**
2. Payment using the mail system. Please do not send cash through the mail system. Cheques can be forwarded to Membership Registrar, 4 McEachern Crescent, MELBA ACT 2615. Receipts will NOT be mailed to payers.
3. Direct payment to Treasurer. The Treasurer will gladly accept cheques or cash from members at General Meetings. A receipt will be given to payers.

IF YOU HAVE CHANGED ANY OF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS SUCH AS HOME ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS PLEASE ADVISE THE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR.

Social Program

Fish 'n Chips is on the program, Snapper has reopened . .

20 Jul	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
3 Aug	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
17 Aug	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
7 Sep	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
21 Sep	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
5 Oct	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
19 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
2 Nov	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
16 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
7 Dec	Christmas Lunch

Social Secretary
Joe Slaats

DVA CONTACTS

Information on health services may be obtained from DVA. The contact numbers for health care providers requiring further information or prior financial authorisation for all States & Territories are listed below:

PHONE NUMBER:

Telephone:
1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)

International callers:

+61 2 6289 1133

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES:

Health Approvals & Home Care Section department of Veterans' Affairs

GPO Box 9998

BRISBANE QLD 4001

DVA WEBSITE:

<http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/allied-healthprofessionals>

DVA email for prior financial authorisation:
health.approval@dva.gov.au

The appropriate prior approval request form can be found at: <https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/servicesrequiring-prior-approval>

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

For information about claims for payment visit:
www.dva.gov.au/providers/how-claim



A Happy Birthday to you
August 2023

Joe Slaats

Jim Quick

Toby Selby

Mark Fullick

Peter Guy



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