



The Bosun's Call



Vol 25 No 4

Once Navy, Always Navy

May 2020

Keeling laying of HMAS Eyre (OPV 2)

During the ceremonial keel laying for the second Arafura Class Offshore Patrol Vessel at the Osborne Naval Shipyard in Adelaide, Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan, announced the names of the next five vessels.

In these unprecedented times, observing all COVID-19 restrictions, Vice Admiral Noonan announced the names during the speech delivered virtually, via video link.

"It gives me a great deal of pride to be presiding over the keel laying of our second Offshore Patrol Vessel, albeit remotely. It is nonetheless a significant project milestone and well worth celebration," Vice Admiral Noonan said.

"Keel laying is an important shipyard and naval tradition, where the two groups come together to observe a moment that not only initiates the formal construction phase of the build, but also is thought to bring good luck through the build phase and subsequent life of the ship."

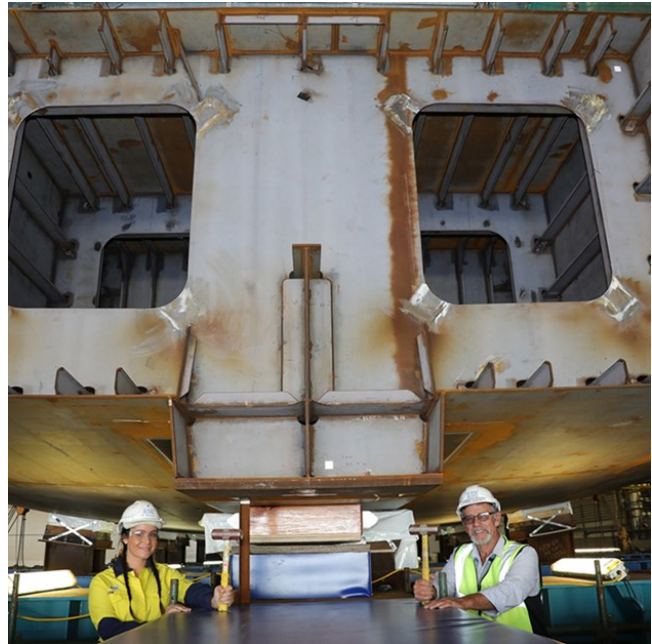
He formally thanked industry partners Luerssen Australia and ASC, who collectively have built and commenced consolidation of the keel blocks of what will be a 1600 tonne Offshore Patrol Vessel.

"The naming of a vessel is also a significant milestone and as you know, the first OPV when commissioned will be named HMAS *Arafura* and thus the class will be referred to as the Arafura Class," Vice Admiral Noonan said.

"Significantly, it will be the first Royal Australian Navy ship to ever carry this name. It also represents a significant coastal land and sea region of Australia."

OPV 2, upon commissioning into the Royal Australian Navy, will be known as HMAS *Eyre*, which will occur in 2023.

Following their respective commissioning, OPV 3 will be HMAS *Pilbara*, OPV 4 will be HMAS *Gippsland*, OPV 5 will be HMAS *Illawarra*, and OPV 6 will be HMAS *Carpentaria*.



Evyenia Kontakos, 4th year apprentice welder and boiler-maker, ASC; and Larry Lavallee, OPV Block Construction Manager, ASC Shipbuilding, after hammering in wedges to secure the Chief of Navy's ceremonial coin into place

"The names encapsulate the importance of these littoral regions around Australia and mark their significance to the nation's security and prosperity," Vice Admiral Noonan said.

"Furthermore, the naming of each vessel is the beginning of a longstanding bond between the named region, communities and centres and that of the Royal Australian Navy, our Navy People and the Men and Women who will ultimately serve in each of these ships.

PUBLISHED ON 09 APRIL 2020 LCDR HELEN WARD (AUTHOR), RUSSELL MILLARD (PHOTOGRAPHER)

The names of the other six OPV's will be announced at a later date.

**Events coming up
In abeyance until further notice**



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia

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Naval Association of Australia ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

Office Bearers

President	Vacant	
A/President	David Manolas	0427 504 564
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Alan Masters	02 6281 5630
Treasurer	Alan Masters	02 6281 5630

Committee Members

Welfare	Vacant	
Membership	Peter Cooke-Russell	02 6258 6892
	John Small	02 6258 1216
	JJ Harrison	02 6258 4512
	Tiger Lyons	02 6254 3453
Editor BC	Peter Cooke-Russell	02 6258 6892
Social Sec	Bev Joce	0412 732 768

Contact Details

The President ACT Section
0427 504 564
stbdstayportgiveness@gmail.com

The Secretary ACT Section

NAA ACT Section
26 Nelson Place,
CURTIN ACT 2605.

secretary.naa.act@gmail.com
Tel 02 6281 5630

Membership Registrar/BC Editor

peter.cookerussell@gmail.com
02 6258 6892

General Meetings Dates and Locations Programme

Should the pandemic be lessened over the next two months the following provisional meetings are advised. The Committee meetings are also in abeyance unless they can be done by email or phone.

4 Jun Kaleen Sports Club	1330
6 Aug Kaleen Sports Club	1330
3 Sep Kaleen Sports Club	1330
1 Oct Kaleen Sports Club	1330
5 Nov Kaleen Sports Club	1330

Tables are 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.

A/President's Note

Shipmates,

My very best wishes to you all. Though it does seem to be such a long time since we last saw each other, when I think of the joy and fellowship we share whenever we do gather together my spirits are lifted.

As time passes there is an increasing number of very promising developments in the campaign against coronavirus though we know there is great sadness and anxiety for those who have lost a loved one or are standing by a friend or family member suffering from the virus; our thoughts and prayers are with them.

I am sure we will speak of how we observed Anzac Day this year, whether it was in quiet contemplation, perhaps standing at our front gate holding a candle or in some other way, we pray that we can gather again next year under our NAA ACT Section Banner and in the company of Shipmates.

As I watched the televised Anzac Day National Commemorative Service, my attention was drawn to these words at the outset of the service quote: 'we commemorate those who gave their lives and those who gave their good health'. I thought of those who returned, those veterans who have had to bear so much, perhaps in silence, and not shared with those close to them. I am sure that the decision by Alex Goodieson's family to have an 'Ode to the Naval Veteran' in the order of service for his funeral earlier in April also caused me to think some more about returned veterans.

On Anzac Day and at all commemorative services, our thoughts are also of those in all Services who lost their lives in the defence of our nation and the ideals we all hold so dearly. To those who did not return the whole nation is so very much indebted, we salute them and pay homage.

When we gather together at a Navy Commemorate Service we bear witness to the deeds and hardships of those who have and are serving at sea, ashore and in the skies above and at such times it is fitting that we should recite the 'Naval Ode' for those who did not return to their family and friends:

*They have no grave but the cruel sea
No flowers lay at their head
A rusting Hulk is their tombstone
A fast on the ocean bed*

"I wonder on such occasions would it not be appropriate to add an 'Ode to The Naval Veteran'?"

*In naval service their duty done
At sea and ashore in peace and in war
Wounds seen and unseen, deeds known
and unknown
Now at rest we pray, the memories with us
stay*

I dearly hope that on your Anzac Day you found the time and means to commemorate and, despite the limitations we are currently experiencing, you may have had the opportunity to make some form of contact with family and friends.

(Continued on page 3)

Gold Card Services and Support

Services and support

Mention that you have a Gold Card when you request services and support. For further details on how to access services, see:

- [counselling](#)
- home help — [Veterans' Home Care](#)
- [aids, equipment and modifications](#)
- travel — [booked transport](#), [claim travel expenses under VEA](#) and [claim travel expenses under MRCA or DRCA](#)
- care services — [respite care](#), [convalescent care](#) and [community nursing](#)

Things you should know

- You can use your Gold Card anywhere in Australia.
- You cannot use your Gold Card overseas. If you incur medical expenses for an accepted service-related injury or condition while overseas, you may be able to [claim reimbursement](#).
- Always check with your medical provider that they will accept your Gold Card.
- If you are entitled to compensation or damages from another party for an injury or condition, we will not cover treatment for that injury or condition.

If you get a bill for medical treatment, do not pay it. Please [contact us](#). If you have paid for medical treatment, you may be able to apply for a one-off [reimbursement](#).

- If prior approval is required for your medical treatment, your medical provider will contact us directly to ask for approval.
- If you choose to be treated as a Medicare or private patient, we will not pay you for any out of pocket expenses.
- When a veteran, former member, cadet or reservist passes away, their Gold Card is not transferred to the surviving partner or any other dependant. If the surviving partner or any other dependant is entitled to the Gold Card, they will receive their own.
- It is possible to lose your entitlement to the Gold

Card if your eligibility depends on your income and assets, living arrangements, age, impairment rating or the payments you receive.

- If you lose eligibility for the Gold Card, you will be notified in writing and your Gold Card will be recalled.
- If your eligibility for the Gold Card depends on having income and assets below certain limits, and your income or assets increase above those limits but not by more than 50%, you may be able to keep using your Gold Card for up to 13 weeks.
- If your income and assets increase above the limits following the death of your partner, you can keep using your card during the 98-day bereavement period. The Gold Card will be recalled at the end of the bereavement period.
- Your Gold Card's expiry date is shown on the front of the card. You will receive a replacement card approximately 1 month before the expiry.

If your Gold Card is lost, stolen or damaged you can order a new one through [MyAccount](#) or by calling us on [1800 555 254](#). You should receive your replacement card within 2 weeks of ordering. You can request a Gold Card confirmation letter while you wait for your replacement card.

What to tell us

If anything changes that could affect your entitlement to the Gold Card, you need to let us know within 14 days (or 28 days if you receive the [Remote Area Allowance](#) or live overseas). These changes may be to your:

- payments
- income or assets
- impairment ratings
- living arrangements

You should also tell us if:

- your Gold Card is lost or stolen
- you change address

A/President's Note

(Continued from page 2)

Though the NAA was not mentioned during the televised service, the National Executive were afforded the opportunity to have a wreath delivered on behalf of the members, to the AWM for the AN-ZAC Day Service. We thank Peter Cooke-Russell for making the necessary arrangements for this to be done.

May I also take this opportunity on behalf of the ACT Section to express our gratitude to Graham Savage, the National President and all the members of the National Executive for their tireless efforts in keeping the NAA on an 'even keel and a steady course' in these troubled times. I do also want to convey my personal thanks to our Committee and the members of the ACT Section for your

ongoing support and consideration for each other.

I do freely admit that when I heard Vera Lynn singing 'that song' (NO, not in person - I have a copy of my service record somewhere that proves I am not of that era!) I couldn't help but smile a little as '*I know we'll meet again don't know where don't know when, but I know we'll meet again*'. It does make you smile doesn't it, go on admit it! You will probably not be able to get it out of your mind now. Until I get to see you all again, please take good care of yourselves and each other.

Yours aye,

David Manolas

Acting President

NAA ACT Section

Arafura Class OPVs



Type	Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV)
Roles	Maritime border patrol Maritime constabulary roles including interdiction Fisheries patrol Humanitarian and disaster relief
Builder	Luerssen Australia and Cvmec
Displacement	1640 tonnes
Length	80 metres
Beam	13 metres
Draught	4 metres
Propulsion	2 x 4250KW diesel engines
Speed	20 knots (maximum)
Range	4000 nautical miles
Boats	2 x 8.5 metre Boomeranger FRB 850 RHIBs (davit-launched) 1 x 10.5 metre Boomeranger C 1100 RHIB (stern-launched)
Weapons	40mm gun 2 x 50 calibre machine guns
Company	40 crew with accommodation for up to 60 personnel
News Articles	Navy Daily

Australia's current Armadale Class and Cape Class patrol boats are planned to be replaced with a single class of Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV), under Project SEA 1180 Phase 1, to be built in Australia by German shipbuilder, Lürssen's subsidiary, Luerssen Australia partnering with Australian shipbuilder, Cvmec in the joint venture, Australian Maritime Shipbuilding & Export Group (AMSEG).

The twelve Australian vessels are based on the PV80 design with the first two vessels to be built at ASC's Osborne ship yard in South Australia before production moves to Cvmec's Henderson ship yard in Western Australia.

On 15 November 2018, the Chief of Navy, VADM Mike Noonan, announced that the OPV will be known as the Arafura Class with construction commencing at the Osborne ship yard.

The primary role of the OPV will be to undertake constabulary missions, maritime patrol and response duties. State of the art sensors as well as command and communication systems will allow the OPVs to operate alongside Australian Border Force vessels, other Australian Defence Force units and other regional partners.

The OPV design will support specialist mission packages, such as a maritime tactical unmanned aerial system, and into the future, rapid environmental assessment and deployable mine counter measure capabilities.

The lead vessel, HMAS *Arafura* is planned to enter service in 2021.

Cape Class Patrol Boats are operated by Australia's Border Force

HMAS Toowoomba Interdicts thousands of Kilos of narcotics

HMAS Toowoomba has interdicted over 3000 kilograms of illegal narcotics including hashish and heroin in the Gulf of Aden.

The Anzac Class Frigate is deployed under Operation MANITOU, Australia's contribution to support international efforts to promote security, stability and prosperity in the Middle East Region.

This is the first seizure by HMAS Toowoomba since arriving in the Middle East over a month ago.

Commander Joint Task Force 633, Major General Susan Coyle, commended the personnel onboard Toowoomba.

"The smugglers' ingenuity in hiding the sizeable amount of drugs was overcome by hard work and lateral thinking from these well-trained teams," Major General Coyle said.

"Sailors used specialised search techniques and equipment to discover the drugs which were contained inside void spaces, and all of the narcotics were subsequently destroyed at sea."

The seizure took place on 19 March 2020 in support of the Combined Maritime Forces, an enduring multinational taskforce of 33 nations committed to disrupting terrorist organisations and illegal activities in the maritime domain.

During her deployment, HMAS Toowoomba is also working with international partners to monitor and deter destabilising activity and support the safe passage of commercial and civilian shipping under the International Maritime Security Construct.

This is the Royal Australian Navy's 68th deployment to the Middle East Region since 1990 and the sixth mission for HMAS Toowoomba.

Published on 30 March 2020 Royal Australian Navy (author), LSIS Richard Cordell (photographer)



Lieutenant (LEUT) Maree Altham (left) and LEUT Shan-nen Rowe from HMAS Toowoomba conduct tests on a parcel discovered after boarding and searching a dhow in the Gulf of Aden on the 19th March 2020.

HMAS Toowoomba is currently providing support to the United States led International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) in the Middle East Region as part of the ship's six month deployment on Operation MANITOU.

Imagery is available on the Navy Image Library: <https://images.navy.gov.au/S20201210>.



Above The boarding party from HMAS Toowoomba boards a dhow carrying a large amount of illicit substances during a patrol in the Gulf of Aden as part of Operation MANITOU on 19 March 2020



Left: 150 parcels of illicit drugs including hashish and heroin are made ready for destruction on the flight deck of HMAS Toowoomba after a successful boarding as part of Operation MANITOU on 19 March 2020.

Navy introduces a new way to manage its most valuable asset People

March 5, 2020 was a significant date in the Royal Australian Navy's calendar as it heralded the official launch of the Navy's Maritime Human Resource Officer category.

The newly created Maritime Human Resource Officer (MHRO) professional qualification has been designed to bridge the gaps identified by the Personnel Efficiency Review, enabling Navy to better manage its people.

What will become a 155 strong team, allows MHROs to be a sea-going deployable workforce onboard every Major Fleet Unit, as well embedded in various bases, Force Command, Navy People Career Management Agency and other areas.

Lieutenant Kristy Hoffman is currently posted to HMAS *Canberra* as the ship's inaugural MHRO, enabling her to transfer skills and knowledge from her previous role within the Gap Year Cell as the Chief Maritime Logistics Personnel Manager into the MHRO PQ.

"I really enjoy working in the personnel space and providing a service to people, ensuring that things get done.

"As an MHRO, I can enhance the capability that Navy already has," Lieutenant Hoffman said.

During the recent Fleet Certification Period 2020, *Canberra* also had Lieutenant Brendon Davies embarked as part of Fleet Battle Staff - as an MHRO.

His role on board was to oversee the personnel functions of the Command Task Group (CTG).

Lieutenant Davies was the Chief Maritime Logistics Personnel Manager at HMAS *Stirling* before transferring to MHRO. He said he has quickly learned during the transition that his former role is very different to that of an MHRO.

"The 'PERS' space is more customer focused, supporting divisional matters, whereas MHRO marries up personnel and operational functions, lining up what is going on tactically and strategically within the operational world," Lieutenant Davies said.

Lieutenant Hoffman said there were some great benefits of the new MHRO PQ, and the potential to make a difference in both the way Navy supports its people and the way it supports operations.

Both LEUTs Hoffman and Davies encouraged anyone thinking of transferring to MHRO to step forward. Expressions of interest are currently open for transfer into the new PQ.

Published on 01 April 2020 SBLT Nancy Cotton (author), ABIS Jarrod Mulvihill (photographer)



Left: Maritime Human Resource Officers Lieutenant Brendon Davies, seated, and Lieutenant Kristy Hoffman in the ship's office onboard HMAS Canberra during Fleet Certification Period 2020.

2 x FFG For Sale

On 27 December 2019, it was announced that Newcastle and Melbourne would be sold to Chile..

Newcastle and Melbourne were commissioned into the Chilean navy on 15 April 2020 as Chilean ships *Capitán Prat*, pennant number 11. and *Almirante Latorre*, pennant number 14. respectively



HMA Ships Newcastle and Melbourne sold to the Chilean Navy

ABC News 24 April 2020

Chile's Navy is preparing to sail two recently retired Australian warships out of Sydney after purchasing them in a deal believed to be worth more than \$100 million.

Former Adelaide-class frigates HMAS Melbourne and HMAS Newcastle were quietly commissioned into their new service this month during a formal handover ceremony between both navies.

Both ships entered service with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in the early 1990s and since being retired last year Defence has been examining various options for their disposal.

Their recommissioning, which until now had not been publicly revealed by Defence, was attended by Australia's Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mick Noonan.

Defence has confirmed the ships, renamed *Almirante Latorre* and *Capitan Prat*, will remain in New South Wales until next month "while training is completed, and preparations are made for them to sail to Chile".

The ABC has been told the deal with Chile is worth \$110 million, comprising of \$45 million for each warship and the remainder of the purchase price going towards stores, data and training.

In a statement the Department declined to confirm the final figure saying: "As the ships are now formally owned by a foreign Navy, Defence will not be providing further comment".

Sources familiar with the deal claim the Chilean Government did not want to widely publicise its purchase given recent political unrest over cuts to public services in the South American nation.

Top: HMAS Newcastle

Right: Australia's Chief of Navy Vice-Admiral Mick Noonan at the handover ceremony in the hangar of one of the two ships (Facebook The FFG Yard)

The former RAN vessels are intended to replace two recently decommissioned Chilean warships which were acquired second-hand from the Netherlands in 2004.

Almirante Latorre and *Capitan Prat* have both undergone a basic refit at Sydney's Garden Island and Chilean crew members are completing training at Sydney's HMAS Kuttabul.

Last week the Defence Department strongly rejected a television report claiming six visiting Chilean sailors had tested positive to COVID-19, forcing a lockdown of HMAS Watson Naval Base.

Before departing Australia, a weapons system known as CIWS will be removed from the ships, while other equipment will be refitted once the vessels arrive in Chile.

Defence officials have told the ABC that the recent warship deal is part of an effort by Australia to build a good relationship with the Chilean military.

"They are pretty well equipped, well trained and capable — good partners in the Pacific," one insider said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.



NUSHIP Sydney arrives in her home port

Sydney residents had a first glimpse of their city's namesake ship with the arrival of NUSHIP *Sydney* at Garden Island on 27 March 2020

The last of the three Hobart Class Destroyers NUSHIP *Sydney's* Commanding Officer, Commander Edward Seymour, said the arrival of the warship was a proud moment for all involved.

"*Sydney's* arrival into her homeport is the result of 15 months of hard work by her ship's company and the product of years of Australian shipbuilding," Commander Seymour said.

"The Hobart Class Destroyer is the most lethal warship operated by the Royal Australian Navy and will provide capability including air defence to task groups as well as land forces and coastal infrastructure," he said.

The arrival of NUSHIP *Sydney* comes exactly 36 years to the day that the people of Sydney saw Guided Missile Frigate HMAS *Sydney* (IV) arrive for the first time.

This will be the fifth ship to bear the historic name 'Sydney.'

For Petty Officer Maritime Logistics – Support Operations sailor Dion Georgopoulos, HMAS *Sydney* (IV) was the first Royal Australian Navy ship that he served in, and he is proud to be a commissioning crew member of *Sydney* (V) 19 years later.

"It is a surreal feeling knowing that this is probably the beginning of a new legacy where thousands of sailors for years to come will have the privilege of being *Sydney* crew."

NUSHIP *Sydney* was brought into harbour under a Red Ensign and delivered under the direction of

civilian contracted mariners, with the ship's company providing the personnel to operate and maintain necessary systems for safe steaming.

On board were Defence personnel from Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, members of NUSHIP *Sydney's* ship's company, as well as contractors from Teekay and the Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance.

One of the Navy personnel on board was Leading Seaman Naval Police Coxswain Sue Rochford, who has been looking forward to this moment for over 12 months.

"I'm over the moon, I'm so excited. This is the posting of my career. I'm pretty proud to be part of this historic occasion of driving the ship into Sydney for the first time," Leading Seaman Rochford said.

The 147-metre warship sailed from Osborne, South Australia, where she was built by the Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance and has been undergoing sea trials before she is commissioned later this year.

Imagery is available on the Navy Image Library: <https://images.navy.gov.au/S20201221>.

Published on 27 March 2020 LEUT Geoff Long and LCDR Kristen Russo (author),

Below: The Air Warfare Destroyer NUSHIP *Sydney* prepares to berth at Fleet Base East in Sydney for the first time, on 27 March 2020.



HMAS SYDNEY II 80th Anniversary

To all please find below our latest update to our planning progress, next goals to achieve and attached proposed program.

This event is certainly gaining a lot of pace Australia wide and with some international interest as well. Over the past 12 months we have established a great team to bring the most memorable project to fruition. I have a full support an amazing team and events coordinator in Geraldton along with an outstanding 2IC of Geof Irvin Ex RAAF No: 9 Squadron and Vietnam Veteran.

We have the full support of many including the Senator the Hon. Linda Reynolds CSC, WA Premier - Hon. Mark McGowan MLA BA, LLB, WA Tourism Minister Hon. *Paul Papalia* CSC, MLA, Finding SYDNEY Foundation Ted Graham AM, CDRE Bob Trotter OAM Rtd, Chief of the Navy VADM Mike Noonan AO RAN, Fleet Commander RADM J.D. Mead AM RAN, Commissioning CO HMAS SYDNEY V CMDR Ed Seymour RAN CO along with all HMAS SYDNEY Assn's Australia and Naval Associations Australia wide with the list going as we progress.

We have conducted several meetings in Geraldton over the past 12 months and continue to do so whilst tabling a basic outline for the weekend's program. It will be a busy few days ensuring that there is time to catch up with old shipmates from past posting and deployments including meeting many other people linked to the great name of HMAS SYDNEY.

Through persistence we have achieved a first for the HMAS SYDNEY Anniversary in Geraldton, we have confirmation from Fleet Command that we will have an RAN Warship in the Port of Geraldton to coincide with the Anniversary (**alas this will be depending on any operational requirements that may arise**) all going well we will see a ship in Port which is wonderful news.

Covid-19 is impeding our proposed cruise plans at the moment, Geof is working vigorously to secure a vessel to accommodate our requirements and with the full assistance and support from myself when needed to ensure this comes through. We have decided to keep in contact with relevant companies and plan to make better progress come Oct/Nov of this year as I'm positive this will be a better time to gauge our efforts of success.

Our next meeting in Geraldton is scheduled for May but with the Covid-19, Geof and myself are unable to drive to Geraldton so we will arrange our meeting via video link such as Zoom. This will be a very important phase of our Anniversary and attention to detail is definitely required. We need to establish



the amount required, where funds need to be allocated, control, justification of spending and accountability. We have confirmed the grant we wish to use and I have confirmation from the Defence Minister that the grant we are seeking applications will continue throughout the year which is a major positive for us.

I've attached an outline of the program for the Anniversary and how it will pan out. Obviously there may be changes but I am sure that they will be minor. One of our main challenges is coordinator the march in

Geraldton with the visiting Warship as our Lead followed by the HMAS SYDNEY (V) contingent then all Ex HMAS SYDNEY crews, RAAF No:9 Squadron contingent, descendants and relatives. I'm really hoping to achieve 645 of us in the march, Yes, a big ask, but I'm positive we will get the numbers if not more. This will be an amazing site to see and it will give the greater audience a much better appreciation of the significance of the loss of all those fine men. For the march I will have the assistance of the local Sea Cadets CO and his cadets but will also need about 12 Ex HMAS SYDNEY Gunnery Jacks to volunteer their assistance to help with the parade. Please email me at: hmassydney280@gmail.com

Merchandise

Attire for the FOE march for Ex HMAS SYDNEY crews, RAAF No:9 Squadron contingent, descendants and relatives ONLY. It is my intention to design a sublimation polo shirt and ball cap which will include the memorial gift pack that is on sale by the Geraldton Tour Guide Association this includes the Sweatheart pin and pamphlets. **The polo shirt and ball cap are to be worn by all members that nominated themselves for the march** the shirts will be **limited addition and strictly for only those that march**. I intend to keep the cost of this package as low as possible which will include postage pricing Australia wide. All profits from these sales will go back to the Geraldton Tour Guide Association.

The distance for our march is approximately 1km due to health and safety reason **only those that are capable of walking the required distance unaided will be able to participate**. I know this will disappoint some but we cannot afford any injuries to our older veterans, descendants or relatives and the option of vehicle assistance is not available for us to look at, my sincere apologies.

Additionally, I will be designing a general sublimation polo shirt to commemorate the Anniversary that will be available for everyone and anyone to

(Continued on page 10)

HMAS SYDNEY II 80th Anniversary

(Continued from page 9)

purchase along with the ball caps and memorial gift pack. These will be priced individually. Again all profits to go towards the Geraldton Tour Guide Association and a 2nd recipient of a veteran's program that my 2IC Geof Irvin is in planning will be proposed.

All orders for the merchandise will be pre-ordered and paid this will be done via a website that will be designed, I'll advise more on these details later in the year as we progress. My intention is to have the merchandise up and running in November of this year 2020.

Facebook page. This will be generated in the later part of this year.

Apologies for the long winded update but is well overdue, I wish to take this opportunity to personally thank all involved my 2IC Geof Irvin and our outstanding team in Geraldton for the generous time, assistance and commitment in helping me bring the memorable anniversary together.

We ARE HMAS SYDNEY – THOROUGH AND READY

Yours aye,

Adrian Burns (Radar)
Lead Contact and Liaison
HMAS SYDNEY II 80th Anniversary 2021
Mob: 0406 359 477
33 Pastrana Crescent
Port Kennedy WA , 6172
Email: hmassydney280@gmail.com



Draft Proposed Program

1. **Saturday 13 Nov 2021.** 1200—1600 BBQ Port Kennedy RSL
Contact point: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1571986536431011/?ref=group_header
2. **Thursday the 18th Nov** Fremantle departure cruise vessel passengers to board vessel time tbc and overnight sail to Geraldton -
3. **Thursday 18th Nov 2021** 11:00 – 14:00hr (timing TBC) Meet and Greet for fly in and drive in
4. **Thursday 18th Nov 2021 if operational requirements permit** approx 09:00hr Expected arrival of RAN Warship port visit (name TBC)
5. Friday the 19th Nov 2021 Cruise Vessel arrives Geraldton approx. 09:00/10:00hr
6. Friday 19th Meet and Greet foreshore for Saturday's March
7. Friday twilight memorial service, possible RAAF fly over HMAS SYDNEY V Contingent crew, WA Navy
8. Saturday morning 20th Nov 2021 – (09:30 time TBC) Freedom of Entry march - RAN ship in port will lead the march WA Navy Band then the HMAS SYDNEY V Contingent along with all 645 members comprising of all **Ex HMAS SYDNEY crew, RAAF No:9 Contingent, descendants and relatives ONLY to march.**
9. On completion of the march there will be an alcohol-free community memorial concert at the Geraldton Multipurpose Centre on the foreshore available for all and the Geraldton community.
10. Saturday Evening at approx. 19:00hr RAN visiting Warship; Cruise ship will depart for a slow overnight sail in company to the resting site of HMAS SYDNEY II.
11. Sunday 21st Nov 2021 Dawn service at the resting site of HMAS SYDNEY II and scattering of ashes for those that wish to, and requests are encouraged, on completion sail over to the Kormoran to pay respects.
12. On completion of Sea Service RAN visiting warship carries on with her respective duties
13. Cruise vessel sails back to Fremantle via planned voyage 2nd vessel returns to Geraldton Port disembarks local passengers

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2020

Action to renew membership for 2020 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 2020 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

In abeyance until further notice

These are retained in the hope that Australia will be on the road to recovery by then.

18 Jun Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

9 Jul Christmas in July lunch

16 Jul Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

20 Aug Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

17 Sep Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

15 Oct Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

19 Nov Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

3 Dec Christmas lunch

17 Dec Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

Bus trip program is in abeyance

Bev Joce
Social Secretary

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:

1800 550 457 (Select Option 3, then Option 1)

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

Claim Enquiries: 1300 550 017
(Option 2 Allied Health)



A Happy Birthday to you in May 2020

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 4 | Ken Cartwright |
| 7 | Don Joce |
| 8 | Stewart Gordon |
| 8 | Brian Warren |
| 10 | Louis Wallington |
| 10 | JJ Harrison |
| 15 | Alex Mc Gown |
| 16 | Tiger Lyons |
| 16 | Lofty Greig |
| 18 | Ric Hannan |
| 22 | Tim Holt |
| 23 | Robin Herron |
| 24 | Alan Masters |
| 25 | Richard Waring |

Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS)

The new Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS) is a specialist service within Legal Aid ACT offering flexible legal assistance to older people. OPALS can help in many situations, such as if you:

- have concerns about your safety
- are being pressured to change your living arrangements, sign documents, or provide details of your finances
- are having money taken from you without your permission
- owe money and are not sure how you will pay
- are being abused, threatened or bullied
- are being denied access to grandchildren, other members of your family or support services
- are being discriminated because of your age

OPALS has a strong community legal education and outreach component and provides information and referral services to concerned family, friends and workers. OPALS draws on the expertise of other practices in Legal Aid ACT when providing advice and representation services.

OPALS is a **free** service and all cases are treated in confidence. We can also help make referrals to other specialist services if you choose not to take legal action.

If you think you need legal advice, please feel free to contact OPALS:

Address: 2 Allsop Street, Canberra, ACT; or

Telephone: (02) 6243 3436 or 1800 353 374

Email: opals@legalaidact.org.au

www.legalaidact.org.au/opals



If undeliverable return to
NAA ACT Section
26 Nelson Place
Curtin ACT 2605

POSTAGE

PAID

AUSTRALIA

Paste Address label Here