SBLT Jovilisi Kalonbisa, of the Republic of Fiji Navy, takes a bearing under the instruction of SBLT Callin Watkins on the bridge of HMAS Glenelg while entering Darwin Harbour.

Photo: PO1S James Whittle
Excitement builds for Brisbane crew

SGT Max Bree

THE crew of NUSHIP Brisbane took control of most departments during their delivery voyage from the shipyards of Adelaide to their new home port of Sydney on September 10.

A composite crew of Navy, Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance and Teck Kay Shipping merchant mariners took the ship on her five-day journey.

CO Brisbane CMDR Josh Wilson said his sailors mostly crewed the ship, with civilian workers on hand to assist.

“We were basically running the ship, for all intents and purposes,” CMDR Wilson said. “Because we’re transitioning to care and custody for Navy, it was an opportunity for the ship’s company to establish their working routines ahead of commissioning.”

“It’s got incredible manoeuvrability and placement in the water; it’s a pleasure to drive. Plus it’s a comfortable ship to live in.”

“The crew are really enjoying the opportunity to get to know the new systems and opportunities the latest technology brings. “Being in a new warship is interesting and exciting; they’re all tagging each other in the media hits we’ve been getting.”

CMDR Wilson said he was most excited about Brisbane’s warfighting abilities.

“The combat system is just an incredible leap forward in capability and ability to interact across the ADF,” he said.

“Plus it handles like an absolute dream.”

Brisbane is due to commission on October 27 and will then take on more crew.

“We have enough crew to drive the ship. Once we’re commissioned we need to continue the process of training additional crew,” CMDR Wilson said.

“We’ll be working with NUSHIP Sydney’s crew when they begin their training next year. We really benefited by training on board HMAS Hobart to gain a better awareness of damage control and overall systems knowledge.”

“The effort and lessons learned in Hobart have paid an increased dividend for us. We want to do that for Sydney.”

LEUT Anthony Martin

AGAINST the backdrop of a glorious spring day in Sydney harbour on September 10, family and friends gathered at HMAS Waterknot to farewell HMA Ships Gascoyne and Huon on a three-month north-east Asian deployment.

COMAUFLGTL RADM Jonathan Mead said it was a great Navy day.

“The ships’ crews are looking forward to the trip and these mine hunters are the first of their type to deploy to the region in over 70 years,” he said.

“It is a great opportunity to showcase our skills and work closely with regional navies.”

Both vessels will take part in international mine warfare exercises. Among the many well-wishers for the ships’ departure none were more excited than the parents of Gap Year sailor SMN Bailey Henderson.

“I am excited and proud for him and the opportunities he has as a sailor,” his mother, Kim Henderson, said.

SMN Henderson said joining Gascoyne was thrilling and he was enjoying learning the various facets of mine warfare and more about life at sea.

He said he was fortunate to be selected from among his Gap Year class to deploy on such a trip and was looking forward to visiting ports in Asia and the Pacific.

This is a long deployment for minehunters, with average assignments usually no more than 10 weeks.
Regions rally to cause crime

LEUT Geoff Long

AUSTRALIAN and Fijian patrol boat crews conducted joint boarding operations on a simulated illegal fishing vessel as part of Exercise Kakadu.

Armidale-class patrol boat HMAS Glenelg and the Republic of Fiji Navy ship Kikau conducted the joint exercise outside Darwin Harbour.

"Illegal fishing is a major issue faced by all nations in the South Pacific and one where regional cooperation has proved beneficial," LEUT SGT Josh O’Toole, POB Kemueli Kalitoni, LSMT Chris Greenwood and PO Peri Nagata said.

Participants against crime

CMDR Fenn Kemp

AUSTRALIA’S largest maritime exercise wrapped up in the Top End on September 13 after an intensive two weeks of realistic and challenging engagements from the air and the sea.

Held every two years, Exercise Kakadu is hosted by the RAN and supported by the RAAF.

COMAUSFLT RADM Jonathan Mead said the success of the 14th iteration of Exercise Kakadu – conducted off the coast of Darwin – was thanks to the significant combined efforts made by all involved.

"When Kakadu 2018 began, I mentioned that this was the chance to improve confidence, cooperation and capability," RADM Mead said.

"I am delighted to report that this has been achieved. The success of Exercise Kakadu is due to the combined efforts of those members at sea and in the air who carried out their mission effectively and safely. I also acknowledge the efforts of supporting organisations, from our international friends, the RAAF and the broader Fleet Command, particularly the Navy’s Force Generation Directorate."

Split into three task groups, more than 3000 personnel participated in Navy’s most important regional engagement of the year.

HMAS Glenelg under the instruction of LEUT Lisa Blakiston while entering Darwin Harbour.

Members of the joint boarding parties of HMAS Glenelg and FNS Kikau after a successful training exercise, from left, POB Stephen Chapman, LEUT Cagilaba Wetealagi, LSBM Joshua O’Toole, POB Kemueli Kalitoni, LSMT Chris Greenwood and PO Peri Nagata.

Constable Peletasio Filemoni, of the Tuvalu Police Maritime Wing, takes a bearing from the bridge of HMAS Glenelg under the instruction of LEUT Lisa Blakiston while entering Darwin Harbour.

"The joint exercise enhances our interoperability and allows us to test and develop our capabilities," LCDR Tunidau said.

"The joint exercise enhances our interoperability and allows us to test and develop our capabilities," LCDR Tunidau said.

The relationships built here further strengthen Australia’s reputation as a reliable and professional regional partner.

More coverage – Region

QUEENSLAND SECTION
Once Navy - Always Navy

We have 22 Sub Sections across Queensland!

The Four pillars that underpin our mission are:

- Care (welfare) |
- Commemoration |
- Navy Cadets |
- Camaraderie

Join online: www.navalassoc.org.au

Travel the Queensland NAA!
Joint Health Command has developed over the past decade into a crucial player in the

As it marks its 10th anniversary this year, Joint Health Command (JHC) is celebrating its growth into a trusted source of care for members and a key enabler of the ADF’s fit-to-fight capability. JHC was born after a series of reviews into Defence Health Service’s command and control arrangements, and has continued to mature as an organisation. Much of the early focus was on garrison health services and reforming Defence’s approach to mental health. Commander Joint Health and Surgeon General ADF AVM Tracy Smart said JHC was now a major enabler of ADF operational capability, managing about a million patient health service interactions each year through health units in Australia and overseas.

“We are continuing to provide technical oversight, advice and support across the Defence organisation,” she said.

“Our achievements have directly contributed to ADF preparedness and ensuring that members have access to the highest quality, evidence-based health care wherever they serve.”

AVM Smart said JHC had moved into a new phase in which it was also planning for the future and broadening its influence across the Defence health system. Joint Health Command is a trusted source of care for our members, which is enabled through our team of dedicated health professionals, who provide the best holistic health care in Australia,” she said.

Fit to fight

JHC entered a new era in July 2017, when it moved into the new Joint Capabilities Group.

Chief of Joint Capabilities AVM Warren McDonald said JHC’s core business supported the group’s For the Warfighter motto.

“As our health system is at the core of our military effectiveness, Joint Health Command plays an integral role in ensuring the warfighter is fit to fight and fit for life,” AVM McDonald said.

As well as providing support and ensuring preparedness at garrison level, JHC plays a key role in operations. It helps to prepare ADF health personnel, advises on force health protection, determines health risks associated with deployment, and provides technical oversight.

Minding mental health

JHC conducts world-leading research into the complex issues of military mental health. The Defence Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2023 implements a whole-of-organisation approach that recognises the needs of an integrated workforce.

The ADF Health and Wellbeing Portal (known as Fighting Fit) and the Work Health Safety Mental Health Portal provide access to the services

**Big decisions, clear rewards.**

Take out a home loan with eligible insurance by 21st Dec 2018 and receive $1,500 into an Online Saver account*. $1,500 cashback on home loan with eligible insurance. T&Cs apply.

Apply in branch, online or call 1800 739 347 today.

Australian Military Bank

australianmilitarybank.com.au/cashback

Terms & conditions, fees & charges apply. To receive $1,500 cashback, applicants must apply for a Home Loan (excluding Home Equity loans) with minimum new loan borrowings of $150,000 by 21 December 2018, be funded within 90 days from loan offer date, and purchase an eligible CGU insurance policy through Australian Military Bank by 21 December 2018. Australian Military Bank reserves the right to vary, cancel or extend this offer at any time. Offer Terms and Conditions apply and are available in full at australianmilitarybank.com.au/cashback. Australian Military Bank Ltd ABN 48 087 649 741 AFSL and Australian credit licence number 237 986. Insurance issued by CGU Insurance Limited ABN 27 004 478 371 AFSL 238291 (CGU). Consider the Product Disclosure Statement available at australianmilitarybank.com.au/insurancecds in deciding whether to acquire, or to continue to hold, the product.
Joint Health Command has developed over the past decade into a crucial player in the ADF’s operational capability. 

JHC is working with the Red Cross Blood Service to develop deep-frozen blood products that can be used in the field.

Frozen blood is a red-hot lifesaver

Said the project had made Australia a world leader in frozen blood research and paved the way for trials of feasibility for civilian use. “Fresh blood supply can be challenging to keep — particularly in remote or austere environments — due to its short shelf life,” Brig Schramm said. “Using cryopreservation and thawing technology and techniques developed by the Netherlands Military Blood Bank, the Red Cross Blood Service has safely increased the shelf life of fresh red cells up to 10 years and for plasma and platelets up to two years. "The ability to use the ADF’s current systems of fresh blood along with deep-frozen blood components will provide a viable, safe, fully tested and readily available Australian blood supply. "Not only does the project have significant implications for the treatment of our battle casualties, it may also save Australian lives by offering a solution to overcome the logistical and geographical challenges of providing and storing blood in remote and rural areas."
Nowra takes the cakes

Dallas McMaugh

NAVY’S home of aviation has celebrated the 70th anniversary of the establishment’s commissioning.

On August 31, Albatross CO CAPT Fiona Sneath shared cake-cutting duties with the establishment’s youngest member, SMN Kimberley Carter, and two custodians of our history, Fleet Air Arm Museum curator Terry Hetherington and RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam veteran LCDR Bob Kyle.

CAPT Sneath said there was much to celebrate. “I’m proud of our ship’s company, proud to be associated with our Fleet Air Arm and all of our resident units,” CAPT Sneath said. “We all carry out important functions in support of Navy and wider Defence.”

Earlier in the week, 816SQN also marked their 70th anniversary with a cake-cutting.

CO 816SQN CMDR Anthony Savage said it was a privilege to be head of 816 for the milestone. “The anniversary provided us with the opportunity to celebrate the rich history of 816,” CMDR Savage said.

This includes battle honours for Norway, the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, Malta convoys, the Arctic, Malaysia, East Timor, Persian Gulf, Kuwait and Iraq. Also, 816 is the only unit that has been on every RAN deployment to the Middle East since the first Gulf War.

“We also celebrated the successful transition to the full MH-60R capability with 816SQN Flight 8 due to embark in HMAS Adelaide soon,” CMDR Savage said. “I am blessed to have such a wonderful team here in Nowra but also in the 816SQN flights at sea.”

PHOTOS: POIS Justin Brown

You’ve made your commitment.
We’ve made ours.

For over 25 years, NAB has helped countless members of the Australian Defence Force with home loan expertise and discounted rates. We’re committed to serving those who serve.

Talk to a NAB Defence Force Home Loan Expert today.

To find out more visit your local NAB branch or nab.com.au/defence

Benefits and discounts only apply to NAB Defence Force Home Loans. Annual package fee may apply. Only available to eligible Defence Force Members. Current as at 3 July 2016. Terms, conditions, fees, charges and lending criteria apply. H2017 National Australia Bank Limited ARN 12 086 046 937 AFSL and Australian Credit License 230666 A123104-6157

NAB
DEFENCE
FORCE
HOME
LOANS
THE first intake of Navy and Army pilots, aviation warfare officers and aircrew has graduated from the Joint Helicopter School at HMAS Albatross.

CO 723SQN CMDR Bruce Willington told the graduates at the August 31 ceremony that it was a historic day.

“In the space of just over three and a half years, the Capability and Acquisition Sustainment Group, along with Boeing, Thales and Defence, have delivered training outcomes to ensure we have professional, resilient helicopter aircrews with sound decision-making and teamwork skills,” CMDR Willington said.

“This is helping to underwrite Navy’s ability to effectively fight and win on land and in the marine environment.”

A Unit Citation for Gallantry pennant was also raised for the first time at the graduation ceremony. Recently awarded in a ceremony at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, the pennant recognises the heroic work undertaken by the 196 Navy members of the combined Australian and United States helicopter unit RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam.

The pennant provided a fitting backdrop as 28 graduates across the three courses were presented with their wings by COMFAA CDRE Chris Smallhorn.

CDRE Smallhorn congratulated the graduates on their achievements.

“You are now off on the next phase of your careers where you will be tested even further,” he said.

“Always push for excellence in whatever you do.”

Dux of the Pilot Rotary Course was LEUT Rob McBeath; Aviation Warfare Officer Dux was SBLT Ashley Hill; and the Aircrewman Dux was LS Simon Zammit.

Day of note at flight school

Training vessel teams up with Seahawk Romeo

LEUT Jeff Topping

NAVY’S new multi-role aviation training vessel MV Sycamore took part in its first interaction with a Seahawk Romeo on August 23.

Under the supervision of qualified flying instructor LEUT Luke Mein, of 723SQN, the MH-60R crew, which included COMFAA CDRE Chris Smallhorn and CPO Aircrewman Cody Berg, of the United States Navy, completed deck landing practice currency training.

After the sortie, CDRE Smallhorn said there was little doubt the capability offered by the Sycamore established an efficiency in embarked aviation training not previously enjoyed.

“Offloading our frontline warships and front-loading aviators’ experience in deck landings not only offers this efficiency dividend but far better prepares our naval aviators for the deck environment before posting to their ship,” CDRE Smallhorn said.

Two days before the deck landing serial CDRE Smallhorn stayed the night aboard Sycamore.

“Spending a night aboard Sycamore, having been delivered by one of 723SQN’s EC-135s, I was able to spend some quality time with the ship’s master, Lee Weldon, the aviation liaison officer, CMDR Andrew Rohrsheim, along with many other crew members,” CDRE Smallhorn said.

“Clean and tight, the ship was totally focused on service provision to the job at hand, a truly professional team. I was impressed at every level, from the hotel services on arrival to the skills displayed on the bridge by the helicopter control officers and the deck teams. A truly impressive capability for our Navy, the Sycamore will serve us well for decades to come.”

COMFAA CDRE Chris Smallhorn inspects the graduating officers and sailors of the Joint Helicopter School.

COMFAA CDRE Chris Smallhorn with Dux of the Pilot Course LEUT Rob McBeath, Dux of the Aviation Warfare Officer Course SBLT Ashley Hill, Dux of the Aircrewman Course LS Simon Zammit and CO 723SQN CMDR Bruce Willington.

Photos: POIS Justin Brown
GET $1,200 CASHBACK*

Apply for a Home Loan before November 30 to get $1,200 back!*

1800 033 139
defencebank.com.au

Approved Lender

* To be eligible to receive a $1,200 cashback, your new Defence Bank Home Loan must be applied for between 01 September 2018 and 30 November 2018 and be funded by 28 February 2019. You must also make a salary or equivalent income credit of at least $1,500 to a Defence Bank transaction account at or prior to the funding of the loan. A limit of one cashback per member is available during the promotion. The cashback will be paid to either a nominated Defence Bank Visa Credit Card or Defence Bank transaction account accessible by a Visa Debit Card held in the nominated member’s name, after the loan has been funded. The cashback is applied per successful Home Loan application. Applications received in more than one name are treated as one member and will only receive one cashback. Defence Bank may vary, cancel or extend this offer at any time. The minimum loan amount for this offer is $250,000. Defence Bank employees are not eligible for this promotion. Total borrowings must increase by $250,000 or more when refinancing and increasing limits on existing Defence Bank loans to be eligible. Loans for construction purposes are excluded from this offer. For current rates, refer to defencebank.com.au. Loan type, loan purpose, and other eligibility criteria also apply. Please refer to defencebank.com.au for current rates. Terms and conditions, fees and charges apply and are available upon request. Approval subject to Defence Bank’s lending criteria. Defence Bank Limited ABN 57 087 651 385 AFSL / Australian Credit Licence 234582.
LEUT Gary McHugh

HMAS Toowoomba returned to her home port of Fleet Base West on September 1 after the ship’s longest deployment to date, successfully contributing to seven task groups in seven months.

CO Toowoomba CMDR Mitchell Livingstone said the ship achieved many milestones while supporting an extensive series of exercises, international engagements and training activities.

“I’m extremely proud of my ship’s company and the professionalism they displayed over the course of this highly successful deployment,” CMDR Livingstone said.

“Toowoomba has participated in three exercises, the gruelling Principal Warfare Officer Assessment Week and two regional deployments to engage with our regional partners and further Australia’s interests abroad.”

Toowoomba sailed 40,125nm, equivalent to 1.85 times around the world.

“The commitment shown by the ship’s company has allowed us to do much this year, with highlights being our role as Commander of the Exercise Bersama Shield task group maritime component and the multiple weapons and missile firings we conducted at Exercise RimPac,” he said.

“We have undertaken active roles within every sphere of maritime warfare and we have honed our skills in a real-time environment to ensure we are prepared to respond to any contingency.”

During the deployment, the ship visited various ports around Australia, Guam, Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei, Singapore, Vanuatu, the United States and Solomon Islands.

ABCIS Nikolai Gunn-Brockhoff is welcomed home by wife Rachel, daughter Kiara and 11-month-old son Leon.

Photo: LSIS Richard Cordell

The family of ABBM Shane Challis – his father Brad, daughter Ayla, partner Ashleigh and mum Kerry – wait excitedly on the wharf for his return.

Photo: LSIS Richard Cordell

The signs said it all

Karina Czakilew, centre, with her arm stretched high, waves as HMAS Toowoomba returns to Fleet Base West surrounded by family and friends.

Photo: LSIS Lee-Anne Cooper
COOPERATION NAME OF THE GAME

Used as an opportunity to improve cooperation and capability, this year’s exercise involved more than 3000 personnel from 28 countries.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- 23 fleet units, 21 aircraft, and more than 3000 personnel participated.
- They spent 3500 hours at sea.
- Covered 42,000nm.
- Took part in 103 activities.
- Spent 54 hours hunting submarines.
- Participated in 11 live gunnery serials.
- Used more than 1000 rounds of large-calibre ammunition.
- Used more than 4500 rounds of small arms ammunition.
- Ate 80,000 meals.
- Air assets spent 140 hours on air surveillance operations.

RAS GOES WITHOUT A HITCH

LEUT Gary McHugh

REPLENISHMENTS at sea are business-as-usual in the RAN but new ground was broken when HMAS Stuart took on fuel from Canadian tanker MV Asterix for the first time on September 7.

CO Stuart CMDR Chris Leece said despite not having worked with Asterix before, the RAS went off without a hitch.

"Refuelling at sea is always a challenging evolution but the fact that we’ve never operated with Asterix before added another level of complexity to the event," CMDR Leece said.

"Every Navy has its subtle differences so working in a multilateral environment requires close cooperation between ships to give both commanding officers the confidence to carry out such an evolution.

"I’m happy to say, thanks to the professionalism shown by the personnel of Stuart and Asterix, that the refuelling was a complete success and further strengthens the ties between the RAN and the Royal Canadian Navy."

While Stuart was taking on 50,000 litres of F76 diesel fuel on Asterix’s port side, United States Navy destroyer USS Michael Murphy was topping up her tanks on the starboard side.

LEUT Gary McHugh

A GROUP of sailors and officers from HMAS Stuart were given VIP treatment when they conducted a cross-decking of personnel with Indian Navy Ship Sahyadri.

CO Sahyadri CAPT Shantanu Jha said multilateral exercises such as Kakadu presented an excellent opportunity for the Indian Navy to operate in close company with its regional allies.

"The Indian Navy is one of the fastest growing navies in the world and in our operational philosophy we have a very strong element of being able to exercise with all the major navies of the world," he said.

"On this deployment we participated in our first bilateral exercises with the Vietnamese Navy, also with the Japanese and US Navies in Exercise Malabar, then came Exercise Rim of the Pacific."

He said Exercise Kakadu provided another chance of operating with the leading navies of the world and to carry out valuable training exercises.

"The professionalism shown in both the harbour and sea phases of Kakadu by all participants was a credit to the exercise planners. We had a great Harbour Phase where we had a large variety of training exercises, much so that all participating ships had a fair idea of what to expect when we went to sea," he said.

"The past few days at sea and the huge variety of training exercises we have conducted, have provided fantastic training value to my crew."

"We are very grateful to the Royal Australian Navy for committing so many assets to Kakadu and in particular to HMAS Stuart, the Australian frigate that provided the professional preparation to put so much hardware into one exercise."
A pair of sailors saw a problem with protective gear and found a way to fix it, Dallas McMaugh writes.

A CONCEPT came to life for LS Brad Watson and AB Ben Price when they were advised their portable breathing apparatus had been cleared for release and were ready for collection.

This news meant an idea they developed to improve the way Navy uses harmful chemicals had come to fruition. Their concept has provided a safer way of conducting maintenance while helping to reduce operating costs.

LS Watson and AB Price first presented their proposal for a new positive breathing apparatus at the Fleet Air Arm (FAA) Shark Tank in August 2017 as part of the Fleet Air Arm Innovation Program.

The program encourages Navy aviation personnel to present their innovative concepts for improved capability.

Previously the FAA used a facemask respirator fitted with disposable filters to protect against harmful substances in the workplace. These filters were discarded after a single use and there were issues with the facemask, which provided reduced protection for personnel with facial hair.

FAA compared the cost of an annual supply of disposable filters to the outlay for 22 of the positive breathing apparatus units.

Business manager Dave Robinson said despite the initial cost of the new units, there would be savings over the longer term and increased protection for maintenance staff.

After identifying ongoing issues and potential costs, LS Watson and AB Price researched the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act and the Australian and New Zealand standards on the selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment to come up with a solution.

Their research identified a company that could construct a portable unit containing multiple types of filters capable of eliminating harmful vapours and particulates.

“The machine receives pressurised air from any type of air compressor and purifies it to safe, clean breathable air in accordance with WHS standards,” LS Watson said.

“The clean air is made available to a user wearing a hood, allowing successful operation even if the operator has facial hair because of the positive pressure delivered by the unit.”

The use of this positive airflow hood also eliminated the requirement for annual fitment checks.

“The unit can provide air to multiple users at the same time, or one user operating a pneumatic tool.”

The machine was modified slightly during the trial period to improve storage on board ships and to make the machine more durable. Small adjustments, such as flexible air ports, improved storage bags and recessed gauges, were made.

AB Price said initial comments about the unit during the trial were positive.

ABAVA Mitchell Sama, of 808SQN, said the apparatus was a big improvement on full-face respirators.

“The biggest change is the addition of an oxygen bottle that immediately takes over as a redundancy should you lose air from the lines to the machine,” AB Sama said.

“This is reassuring in cases where you are in places or positions that don’t permit you to leave quickly. It also allows operators to stay composed and remove themselves from an unfavourable situation in a timely manner.”

The apparatus can be used when priming, painting and sealing – processes employing chemicals that may be hazardous if inhaled.

For the two innovators, the 12 months from Shark Tank to trial and ultimately acceptance has been an interesting journey.

AB Price described it as eye-opening.

“It was quite an experience learning the processes involved for Defence to obtain products from external companies and incorporate them into our working environment,” he said.

“Along the way we presented the unit to other RAN establishments in order to gain insight into how the machine could be used outside of the FAA.”

It has also been great meeting different personnel in numerous roles and gaining an understanding of what their jobs are and how we are working on improving the FAA.”

The program encourages Navy aviation personnel to present their innovative concepts for improved capability.

The program encourages Navy aviation personnel to present their innovative concepts for improved capability.
Get into the car you love for less!
You could save thousands with a novated car lease

$465* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $206 OF RUNNING COSTS

Prices include:
- Finance
- Running costs
- Rego+Insurance
- Fuel
- Maintenance+Tyres

Mazda CX-5 Touring
Auto 2.5i AWD

Hyundai i30 Active
2.0i Auto

Mazda CX-3 Maxx
FWD Auto

Hyundai Tucson Active X
2.0i FWD Auto

Subaru Outback Premium
2.5i Auto AWD

Kia Sorento GT-Line
2.2DT AWD Auto

$326* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $198 OF RUNNING COSTS

$340* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $182 OF RUNNING COSTS

$403* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $216 OF RUNNING COSTS

$505* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $218 OF RUNNING COSTS

$600* PER FORTNIGHT
INC. $213 OF RUNNING COSTS

Looking for a different car?
Request a quote on a car you love to see how much you could save!

Find out how much you could save with a novated car lease.
1300 115 947 | navyleasing.com.au

*Based on the following assumptions: living in NSW 2560, salary: $85,000 gross p.a., travelling 15,000 kms p.a., lease term: 60 months, using the Employee Contribution Method for FBT purposes. All figures quoted include budgets for finance, fuel, servicing, tyres, maintenance and re-registration over the period of the lease. Also includes Vero by Suncorp comprehensive motor insurance, 2 year extended warranty (except for all Mitsubishi, Honda, Hyundai, Kia and Skoda models) and Hydro Platinum Pack (incl Driver Safety Kit & Window Tint), as part of the offer. Vehicle residual, as set by Australian Taxation Office, payable at the end of lease term. Vehicle pricing is correct as of May 2018, and may be subject to change based on availability.
Family time’s a bonus

HMAS Newcastle sailors AB Thomas Ketchell, second from left, and AB Jack Nona catch up with family and friends during an unexpected visit to Thursday Island.

Defence sponsors should advise visitors if it is an open base.

They need to read the induction information and complete a registration form. Once acknowledgement is complete, a confirmation email will be sent. The induction confirmation email (electronic or printed) must be presented on arrival at the base with a valid photo ID, except if it is an open base.

E&IG is trialling the web-based National Base Induction system until the trial.

A&BMs Thomas Ketchell, Kuru Savage and Jack Nona, who are of Indigenous heritage, were treated to an unexpected homestay visit to Thursday Island.

While conducting a navigation exercise in the vicinity of the Torres Strait Island group, Newcastle played a part in reuniting the three sailors with their families and friends.

The sailors reacquainted themselves with familiar faces at Uncle Frankie’s, a cafe locals refer to as home of the island’s best fried chicken.

It was the first time in two years AB Savage, who followed in the footsteps of an uncle who serves as a CPO in HMAS Cairns, had been on home soil. The chance to see his parents and siblings was greatly appreciated.

It was no less emotional for AB Ketchell, whose parents were happy to see their eldest son. AB Ketchell has a sister serving on board HMAS Melbourne and quality time with family is often difficult to coordinate.

Although he originally hails from Badu Island, AB Nona was glad to be in the company of extended family and friends as he recollected the simple lifestyle of island living.

With an average of one visit home a year, family reunions are cherished, especially with much of the Nona family serving as marine technicians, communicators, boatswain’s mates and hydrographic sailors in the fleet.

Both ABs Ketchell and Nona enlisted in 2014 through the Navy Indigenous Development Program. AB Savage joined a year later.

Credit cards tested August 1 to August 31

The sample testing of credit card transactions during August has resulted in nil transactions being referred to Audit and Fraud Control Division for further investigation. Defence Finance Group is working with Audit and Fraud Division to refine this testing program and implement more targeted tests.

The sample of transactions tested across the ADF indicated are of trials across the ADF.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defence Group</th>
<th>Number of transactions sampled</th>
<th>$ value of transactions sampled</th>
<th>Average value of transactions sampled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$2434</td>
<td>$122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$2515</td>
<td>$101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$5772</td>
<td>$289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Executive Support</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$851</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Finance Group</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$1182</td>
<td>$118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Science and Technology</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Capabilities Group</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$341</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$5402</td>
<td>$540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$3106</td>
<td>$207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$718</td>
<td>$144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Capabilities Group</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>$26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP&amp;G</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$8225</td>
<td>$1645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;IG</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1341</td>
<td>$268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>$31,947</td>
<td>$246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sample testing of credit card transactions during August has resulted in nil transactions being referred to Audit and Fraud Control Division for further investigation. Defence Finance Group is working with Audit and Fraud Division to refine this testing program and implement more targeted tests.

The E&IG is trialling the web-based National Base Induction system until the trial.

July and August trial results

The sailor’s reacquainted themselves with familiar faces at Uncle Frankie’s, a cafe locals refer to as home of the island’s best fried chicken.

It was the first time in two years AB Savage, who followed in the footsteps of an uncle who serves as a CPO in HMAS Cairns, had been on home soil. The chance to see his parents and siblings was greatly appreciated.

It was no less emotional for AB Ketchell, whose parents were happy to see their eldest son. AB Ketchell has a sister serving on board HMAS Melbourne and quality time with family is often difficult to coordinate.

Although he originally hails from Badu Island, AB Nona was glad to be in the company of extended family and friends as he recollected the simple lifestyle of island living.

With an average of one visit home a year, family reunions are cherished, especially with much of the Nona family serving as marine technicians, communicators, boatswain’s mates and hydrographic sailors in the fleet.

Both ABs Ketchell and Nona enlisted in 2014 through the Navy Indigenous Development Program. AB Savage joined a year later.

Credit cards tested August 1 to August 31

The sample testing of credit card transactions during August has resulted in nil transactions being referred to Audit and Fraud Control Division for further investigation. Defence Finance Group is working with Audit and Fraud Division to refine this testing program and implement more targeted tests.

The sample of transactions tested across the ADF indicated are of trials across the ADF.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defence Group</th>
<th>Number of transactions sampled</th>
<th>$ value of transactions sampled</th>
<th>Average value of transactions sampled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$2434</td>
<td>$122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$2515</td>
<td>$101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$5772</td>
<td>$289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Executive Support</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$851</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Finance Group</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$1182</td>
<td>$118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Science and Technology</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Capabilities Group</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$341</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$5402</td>
<td>$540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$3106</td>
<td>$207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$718</td>
<td>$144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Capabilities Group</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>$26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP&amp;G</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$8225</td>
<td>$1645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;IG</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1341</td>
<td>$268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>$31,947</td>
<td>$246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sample testing of credit card transactions during August has resulted in nil transactions being referred to Audit and Fraud Control Division for further investigation. Defence Finance Group is working with Audit and Fraud Division to refine this testing program and implement more targeted tests.

The sample of transactions tested across the ADF indicated are of trials across the ADF.
Making better connections with employers

NEW fields have been added to ForceNet with the aim of strengthening relationships between Defence and the civilian employers of ADF reservists.

Reservists are encouraged to populate the new civilian employer fields so the information can be used to improve Defence’s understanding of these employers and better target employer engagement efforts.

Head Reserve and Youth Division RADM Bruce Kafer said positive engagement would enable civilian employers to help reservist employees balance their civilian and military work commitments.

“There is a need to understand which companies are employing reservists to enhance the Defence Reserves Support Council’s and Defence’s ability to educate civilian employers in the benefits of reserve service and to determine where we need to focus our collective efforts in liaising with civilian employers,” RADM Kafer said.

The pathway in ForceNet for reservists to insert their civilian employer details can be found at forcenet.gov.au/viewprofile/editskills

Retention benefit review

LEADING Seaman CIS sailors are now eligible to receive the MSBS retention benefit after a review of eligible categories.

Members who wish to apply to receive the retention benefit must submit form AB867 within the 90-day period immediately before they complete 15 years of continuous eligible full-time service.

Applications are to be emailed to adf.delegations@defence.gov.au.

The full list of specified categories and ranks is available in chapter three, part five, division one and annex 3.5A of the ADF Pay and Conditions Manual.

Inquiries should be directed to the Navy People Career Management Agency at npcm.rosimps@defence.gov.au.

WO Ian Daley

HMAS Penguin officers and sailors once again hit the wharves in Sydney to sell badges for Legacy Week.

Penguin members were on the ferry wharves at Mosman, Cremorne and Neutral Bay to support Legacy during the week of September 2-8.

One of the many volunteers from the base was PO Steve Swanson.

“It is always great to get out and about in the local community,” he said.

“This ongoing support of Legacy each year by the men and women of HMAS Penguin is a great example of the dedication and professionalism shown by all of our officers and sailors.”

The Legacy charity has its origins in WWI and was set up to assist returning servicemen in business.

By 1925, Legacy turned its attention to caring for the children of deceased servicemen.

Legacy now assists more than 60,000 adults who have lost a spouse or partner, and children who have lost a parent.

Assistance comes in many forms and is available to families of veterans of conflicts and peacekeeping operations, including those where a parent has been injured or is dealing with mental health issues as a result of their service.

Any death that is deemed service-related qualifies a family for assistance.

The organisation supports families through practical programs, such as providing relief from financial hardship, advocating for entitlements, assisting with children’s education and development, and promoting social inclusion through group camps and social outings.

Bear necessities

HMAS Penguin members, from left, PO Steve Swanson, SMN Abbey Hegyi, SMN Olivia Bariatti and SMN Lloyd Asimus gear up for Legacy Week.
ABATA Courtney McVeigh conducts quality control checks on the engine of an 808SQN MRH-90 Taipan at HMAS Albatross.
Photo: PO1S Justin Brown

Not all Novated Leases are created equal
Get all the numbers straight up

Get a quote on 1300 131 050
stratton.com.au /defence

PONPC Kate Taylor gives plasma at the Red Cross Blood Donor Centre in Rockingham, Queensland, as part of the Defence Blood Challenge.
Photo: LSIS Kylie Jagielo

LSML-C Kahlie Hinds and ABML-C Matthew Lonie prepare the main dish during the Nestle/Broadpectrum Cooking for the Masses competition at William Angliss Institute in Melbourne.
Photo: PO1S Nina Fogliani

HMAS Stirling Historical Display Curator ABEW-SM Brittany Alexander demonstrates the new quick response scanning system (QR Code) at Fleet Base West.
Photo: LSIS Kylie Jagielo

From left, ABBM Sean Harding, MIDN Demi Williams and LSML-SC Ross Currie sell badges in North Sydney during Legacy Week.

CPCMT Todd Newman is briefed by Associate Professor Scott Wade, of Swinburne University of Technology, during the installation of a corrosion prognostic monitoring system in the gas turbine room on board HMAS Parramatta in Sydney.
Photos: ABIS Tara Byrne
Complete your AFR and Inventory

Go to www.tollgroup.com/movemaestro/defence to access and complete your AFR and Inventory. If you have moved with Toll previously, you will be able to access your previous Inventory of household goods and personal effects at www.tollgroup.com/movemaestro/defence and can update and edit it as required for your new move. Call Toll Transitions on 1800 819 167 if you require assistance.

Don’t delay, complete your AFR and Inventory online today.

What is a Pre-Removal Visit (PRV)?

The purpose of the PRV is to clarify all of the particular needs of your removal, such as access conditions, whether items need attention and confirmation of the size of your move and your unpack election. If your move requires a PRV your Toll Case Manager will let you know and a Toll Transitions Consultant will call you to arrange a suitable time to visit your home.

It is important to make yourself available for a PRV should your move require one.

The Toll Move Plan App

The Toll Transferee Move Plan App for Defence Members gives you easy access to the details of your relocation itinerary. Download the Toll Move Plan App today and logon using the same valid username and password you use to access Toll Transitions’ website www.tollgroup.com/movemaestro/defence. It can be downloaded from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes App store by searching for Toll Move Plan.

Toll Move Plan App - easy access to details of your relocation itinerary.

Rookie makes a racquet

NAVY won the interservice honours and AB Rachel Hall featured among a raft of newcomers who competed against a deep field of experience in this year’s ADF Squash National Carnival.

Talent in the ADF could be seen in the bumper number of entries in the A-grade competition and in an open field featuring five previous champions.

Players from all over the country gathered at RAAF Base Williamtown from August 26-31 to vie for honours in a range of events, including singles, doubles, masters, veterans and an interservice competition.

In the women’s open final, MUSN Toni Maxfield defended her 2017 title against AB Rachel Hall.

Playing in her first event, AB Hall held her own, but MUSN Maxfield’s experience and shot-making proved too much.

“It was a big week. I was knackered by the end of it, but I had a lot of fun,” AB Hall said. “It was a lot more competitive than I thought it was going to be, but I learnt a lot from my first competition.

“Some of the blokes were unreal and they watched our games and coached us during the week. “I’ll definitely be back next year.”

In a closely contested interservice competition, Navy narrowly defeated Air Force 3-2 to regain the title it lost last year.

Each service provided a team of its five strongest players, including one woman, and needed to win three or more matches to finish in the top spot.

The ADF’s top player, LAC Aaron Fyfe, beat out Army’s CAPT Elliot Geddes in the final, winning three games to nil.

Both players defeated Navy opponents in the semi-finals, setting the stage for a tough final.

Air Force’s CPL Stephen Gailer won the masters event, while CMDR Max Muller took the honours in the veterans event.

The 2018 encouragement award for the carnival went to AB Hall, who competed in multiple events and, in some cases, played back-to-back matches in an outstanding debut performance.

ADF Squash conducts competitions in each state throughout the year and is open to players of all levels. Members interested in participating should contact adf.squash@
Moving to Canberra?

Looking for a School who understands and supports Defence families?

The Vision of Brindabella Christian College is to advance a community of Wisdom, Integrity, Service and Excellence in and through Christian Education.

“They understand the unique nature of Defence service and how this can effect our children. The support the school and Defence Liaison offer is outstanding.” Michael Kilham

6 months to Year 12 • Lyneham • Charnwood

www.bcc.act.edu.au 02 6247 4644

SPORT

LEUT Ryan Zerbe

IT MIGHT have been icy outside, but that didn’t stop the HMAS Cerberus ship’s company from hitting the pool with gusto for the annual whole-of-base swimming carnival.

Seven teams representing the various training faculties and Command and Recruit School tried to outdo each other in 15 events, including individual races and relays.

The August 22 competition was run according to International Swimming Federation rules to ensure swimmers were adequately challenged.

The Championship Cup went to Maritime Warfare South, which beat the Electronic Technicians component of the Technical Trades Faculty (TTF) for the top position by just four points.

Last year’s winner, Maritime Logistics and Health (MLH), finished third.

SMN Jandre Van Der Walt won the open men’s Catterall Cup and the open women’s Cerberus Cup went to SMN Kassidee Smith.

The Veteran Cup for men and women went to CAPT Mike Oborn and PO Sabrina Nitsche.

POPTI Joe Carroll said the carnival gave the students and staff from the training faculties a chance to come together in a different setting.

“Everyone can voice their support for their teammates, regardless of their rank or standing within their normal training environments,” he said.

“As an event like this is a great equaliser, when the best swimmers from each faculty just compete.

“A base-wide sporting event proves everyone must be fighting fit and able to perform and win in a competitive environment, even if it’s just in the confines of a swimming carnival.”

“I am sure the sight of our ship’s company of Defence personnel in the pool making a splash has brought a smile to the faces of our families and friends,” he added.

Dive, dive, dive

Participants in the women’s 50m freestyle make a splash during the HMAS Cerberus swimming carnival. Photo: POIS Nina Fogliani
A BLIZZARD couldn’t defeat Navy’s team at the annual Australian Defence International and Interservices Alpine Snow Sports Championships (ADISCS), but Navy could.

Despite putting up a fight, Navy fell just short of Army in the overall points tally during the championships held at Perisher Valley in the NSW snowfields in late August. The ski teams for both men and women placed first while both snowboard teams finished a close second.

CMR Dan Crocker took out the slalom and giant slalom and won the overall points score for the men’s ski events. SBLT Kate Milward was runner-up in the overall ski standings after finishing second in the slalom and giant slalom and second up in the overall ski standings after finishing second in the slalom and giant slalom.

Skiers and snowboarders took part in a range of events, including slopestyle, giant slalom, slalom, and boardercross.

Director ADF Sport COL Phil Langworthy said the event was not just about skiing and snowboarding, but helped develop skills and qualities relevant to the military.

“The courage, leadership and teamwork that competitors display throughout the week is quite extraordinary,” COL Langworthy said.

“Operational tempo these days is very high and this is one small way the organisation and chains of command can recognise the contributions of their members by allowing them to compete.

“The bonds developed between athletes and the sentiment they show towards the organisation is such a positive experience that it has you coming back year after year.”

Before being selected to represent Navy, Army or Air Force at ADISCS, competitors must qualify at the single-service championships the week before the national event. COL Langworthy said ADISCS competitors were the ADF’s “best of the best” and it could take years to achieve the high level of skill required to compete.

“Tons of people would not be a deterrent for those aspiring to participate, however.

“During both the single-service and interservice competitions, participants are divided into skill-level groups and undertake daily lessons with qualified instructors and we see great improvement.”

COL Langworthy encouraged members with an interest in snow sports to consider taking part in their respective future single-service events, regardless of experience or skill level.

SMN Holland, 19, has been competing in cross-country events since primary school.

“When I was 14, I made it as far as the state championships in my first year of high school so started to take it more seriously,” he said. “In the lead-up to the Australian championships I do three hard sessions a week – which might be a fartlek, threshold run or hills – and two easy runs of about 8km in 30 to 40 minutes. He said it was easy to fit his training regime around his work schedule because Navy encouraged fitness and health.

“What I enjoy about cross-country is the physical fitness and challenge of it, to push yourself past your limits even when you want to stop. “I also enjoy the friendships you make as you get to know your competitors quite well over the years of competing with each other.”

INDIGENOUS service members are encouraged to nominate for the ADF Australian Rules Indigenous program of events to take place in October.

A men’s team is scheduled to play in the Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association’s Senior Aboriginal Football and Netball Carnival in Ballarat from October 13-14. A training camp will be held at Simpson Barracks the week before.

A women’s side is also being assembled and will play at the “Around the Campfire” community event in Alberton, South Australia, on October 13.

This will be combined with involvement in the Tiwi Islands youth girls’ leadership and mentoring program at Keswick Barracks from October 10.

Interested members should inform their chain of command and contact WO2 Mark Mahoney on 0408698918 or SGT Rhiannon Bush on 0448849022.
LEUT Andrew Thistleton tackles the slalom course at the Australian Defence International and Inter-services Alpine Snow Sports Championships at Perisher, NSW.

Photo: CPL Chris Beerens

Navy braves the blizzard
Page 19

POWDER POWER

We are proud to be an official supporter of the Invictus Games Sydney 2018