

Sampling sea life



By Graham Davis

Fifty ANC cadets and their officers were given the opportunity to “feel the sea” when they were invited to searide in one of the hydrographic ship, HMAS *Melville*.

The opportunity came during the July school holidays in Queensland when the Australian Navy Cadet organisation centred in the Sunshine Coast /Cooloolo region of Queensland, conducted its annual continuous training program at Caloundra’s TS *Onslow*.

The program spanned eight days and saw 47 cadets and 12 staff in attendance.

The participants were drawn from TSs *Toowoomba*, *Onslow* and *Centaur* and the new TSs *Noosa* and *Cooloolo* (Tin Can Bay).

During the training schedule cadets honed their skills in sailing and power-boating.

They also learned weapons safety and handling at North Arm.

They visited the local Coast Guard station and attended the Queensland Maritime Museum, home of HMAS *Diamantina 1*. (She sits in the museum’s dry dock and looks resplendent after extensive restoration work on her hull.)

Defence Recruiting also visited the training venue.

A mess dinner and a parade under the stars concluded the vital training program.

The *Melville* sea ride was an additional activity and undertaken after the training course.

TOUGH BREAK: Cadets hit the water at TS *Onslow* on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast, in an opportunity to ‘feel the sea’.

Photos: POANC Penny Gardner



PROFILE

Dynamic duo lead in Tassie

Story and pic by AB Carolyn Docking in Hobart

From award winners to Reserve leaders, two of Tasmania’s finest are working hard in their roles.

CMDR Dario Tomat has been Director of Naval Reserve Support Tasmania for the last four years.

“I have a liaison role with local command (NHQ-Tas) and through that, I provide advice on reserve matters to the CO,” he said.

“The DNRS Tas can assist in providing information linkages within the navy command chain to help resolve non routine matters in a more expedient fashion for reserve matters.”

Tomat is a consultant in the project development area in his civilian life.

He is currently working on the project management of two new rotary peel veneer mills in Tasmania and has been providing advice to Tasmanian Government on the establishment of a pulp mill in northern Tasmania.

And he is currently the national president



AT THE HELM: L to R, LCDR Iain Weir and CMDR Dario Tomat, who head up the Directorate of Naval Reserve Support in Tasmania.

of the Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers Australia.

Tomat said he is looking forward to working with LCDR Iain Weir as his new Deputy Director of Naval Reserve Support Tasmania.

Weir’s civilian job is business manager of St Michael’s Collegiate School, an independent girls’ school with more than 900 students.

His role includes acting as chief financial officer and providing corporate support to human relations which involves looking after 170 staff members.

He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute

of Company Directors and is immediate past chairman of the Association of School Bursars and Administrators Ltd Tasmania.

Weir said he hoped to bring his own knowledge and experiences to his new role.

“Having had over 25 years experience with aspects of the reserves, I’m looking forward to playing an important part in the reserve support,” he said.

Both Tomat and Weir were former Prince of Wales Award winners and both played pivotal roles in the organisation of Exercise Executive Stretch.

Melbourne meeting for medicos

By Graham Davis

More than 150 medical professionals both uniformed and civilian are expected to attend this year’s Australian Military Medicine Association Conference in Melbourne.

A large proportion of the uniformed delegates are expected to be Reservists, led by patron of AMMA, Surgeon-General of the ADF RADM Graeme Shirtley.

The conference will be held from October 19 to 21 at the Sebel Albert Park Hotel.

It will open with a workshop on the first day.

A number of highly qualified speakers including Professor Simon Wessely from London’s King’s Centre for Military Health Research, will attend the conference.

Organisers hope he will facilitate the workshop.

The topics the organisers hope will be covered by abstract papers include, aero medical evacuation, psychological health, aviation medicine, ethics, tropical medicine, bioterrorism, military medical history and military nursing.

Other abstract papers might cover operational health support, medical logistics, medico-legal aspects, medical fitness, battlefield surgery, underwater medicine, clinical practice, operational health and safety, human factors, disaster health, military density, field hygiene, medical equipment, veteran’s health, nutrition and trauma.

Further information can be found on the conference website <http://www.amma.asn.au/amma2007/> or by phoning the secretariat on 03 6234 7844.