Navy’s new DPNU issued to Attack 4 in Darwin

By Tim Herne

DARWIN-based ACPB crew Attack 4 (LCDR Viktor Pilicic) made Navy history on December 2 when they were the first of RAN’s 16,000 Permanent and Reserve personnel to officially step out in Navy’s bold new working dress – the Disruptive Pattern Navy Uniform (DPNU).

LCDR Pilicic said his crew was flattened to be the first to wear the official version.

“It’s not often that you get to be part of such a first. Attack 5 and ourselves have been trialling a prototype of the DPNU since this time last year so the crew knows it’s a good practical rig. With many suggested improvements incorporated into the finished product design we were very much looking forward to getting the real thing,” he said.

The two-piece outfit with its distinctive disruptive grey, green and black pattern is a significant change from the one-piece grey overalls that are presently worn across Navy. The DPNU is designed to be more comfortable and practical for Navy personnel, especially in warmer climates.

“万户 appropriate for what they are doing onboard, the crew really appreciates being able to relax the two-piece uniform to the t-shirt and pants,” he said.

continued Page 3
GREAT PRIVILEGE: Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon climbs the ladder from the Machinery Control Room in HMAS Anzac on his visit during Exercise SUMITAN 2008. Photo: CPL Ricky Fuller

Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon

G’DAY. It’s been a busy year for the Australian Defence Force and I thank you all for your work and accomplishments during 2008. It’s a great honour and privilege to serve as Australia’s Defence Minister. But it brings heavy responsibilities for me. For the key responsibility is making sure we maintain a force structure and capability levels that the ADF is able to do all the things it needs to do to defend the nation and its people. And that also means ensuring that our men and women in uniform have all the capability, training and protection they need to do the job as effectively and as safely as possible.

To make sure we get that right the Government and a team from Defence have been working on a new White Paper. In addition to calibrating our investment in people and capability, the White Paper will drive reforms at Defence to ensure it is operating as efficiently as possible. This will be crucial to making sure that every dollar spent in Defence is a dollar well spent. Amongst other things, that means trimming the fat to free up money for investment in higher priorities – the things our troops need to do their job effectively and safely.

Tragically, this year we lost a number of our finest in Afghanistan. This Christmas, we think of them and their families, and we reflect on their courage and their dedication to our nation. They’ve paid the ultimate sacrifice in defence of freedom and democracy and we will never forget their deeds.

Afganistan will remain a huge challenge for the partners next year and I thank those who are currently deployed or will deploy during 2009. I also thank those deployed elsewhere – in East Timor, Iraq, the Solomon Islands, the Sudan, Darfur, the Sinai, Lebanon or Israel. You are all doing us proud.

Of course, all those deployed are supported by a very professional and dedicated team here in Australia and in our Embassies around the globe. I thank all of them. Merry Christmas to you all. To those who will spend Christmas separated from family and friends I extend a special thanks and best wishes for a good 2009.

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Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon
Tragic loss
SBLT killed in swimming accident near Cairns

By LEUT Sally Hoskin

THE Navy lost one of its own on November 30 when SBLT James Bennett was tragically killed in an accident at Devil’s Pool, Babinda Boulders, 70 kilometres south of Cairns.

SBLT Bennett went missing on November 30 when he fell victim to strong currents while swimming at the popular tourist destination. He could not be reached by the other members of his party.

An extensive search involving the Queensland Police, the North Queensland Fire and Rescue Service and an Emergency Services special-ist dive team located a body on December 2, which was confirmed as SBLT Bennett on December 3.

Chief of Navy VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSM, RAN, said he was deeply saddened by the loss.

"This is a tragic accident that has touched many of our Navy family. James was a promising young junior officer full of potential and he will be sorely missed."

SBLT Bennett was serving in the Mine Hunter Coastal HMAS Norman, which was visiting Cairns before returning home to Sydney.

"Norman was returning from a very successful South East Asian deployment, during which they participated in Exercise Bersama Lima in the South China Sea and the Minor War Vessels Fleet Concentration Period in the North Australian Exercise Area."

SBLT James Bennett

Navy's new DPNU issued in Darwin

From Page 1

"We are also looking forward to being able to wear the new rig to and from work and doing personal admin ashore.” LCDR Pilicic said.

The new uniform will be easier to move around in, especially during boarding stations.” Attack 4’s ABBM Skeen West said.

The uniform will also clearly identify Navy personnel as Australian through the traditional AUSCAM pattern. It is not, however, intended to be used in a camouflage role.

Remaining ship’s crews homeported in Darwin and personnel posted to shore in HMAS Conowarra have also been issued with the DPNU as part of a Navy wide distribution that will take over six months to complete.

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December 11, 2008
Song battle heroes

The Navy has an uplifting new anthem thanks to New Empire, a four-piece pop-rock band from Sydney who have been announced winners of the Navy Song Battle for their inspiring song Hero.

Deputy Chief of Navy, RADM Davyd Thomas, said Navy put the call out to musicians across the country to create a new anthem for its members.

“Australians from all corners of the country responded with 149 songs that attracted more than 11,400 votes from music fans,” he said.

“I was delighted with the response. We’re going to work closely with Defence Force Recruiting to make the best use of Hero”

Hero was one of 20 songs voted the most popular by MySpace members, which then went on to win over the panel of industry judges.

New Empire, from Cronulla on Sydney’s southern beaches, is made up of Jeremy Fowler, Kale Kneale, Pete Gillies and Sam Walker. The band of childhood mates formed in 2005. Lead singer Jeremy said the band was proud and excited to have had their song chosen by the Navy, saying he felt Hero symbolised the spirit of the Navy.

“Hero speaks of a selfless attitude, a sense of service for a greater cause and the idea of working and achieving as a team,” he said.

“Waiting for the day that there is more to life than just looking after ourselves. The Navy is about self-sacrifice and the song Hero really sums that up.”

CAPT Mark Hill, Director Navy Personnel Policy, said he had been impressed by the level of enthusiasm Australian musicians had shown and the quality of entries.

“There were a number of excellent entries and the judging panel had a hard choice in choosing a winner,” he said.

“The Navy is overwhelmed and touched by the effort all those who entered went to and the obvious talent of all participants.”

STUDENTS undertaking work experience at the Royal Military College Duntroon have helped launch the Defence National Work Experience Program and website.

The program marks the start of a coordinated Defence-wide approach to provide work experience opportunities for students. It builds upon and complements existing work experience opportunities and other programs Defence has made available to young Australians, such as the ADF Gap Year and the ADF Cadets.

Work experience provides an opportunity for Defence to contribute to developing and educating young Australian students, along with generating interest in the wide variety of careers available in Defence.

By the end of 2008, over 150 students will have undertaken practical work experience at Defence bases and establishments around Australia.

This coordinated approach will allow for an expanded range of work experience placements to be offered in 2009.

Defence Minister Joel Fitzgibbon said the program offered young people the chance to experience what a career in Defence is like.

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Further information on the program is available at www.defence.gov.au/workexperience.

GOOD WORK: CPOMT Damien Dingle watches on as Senior Sergeant Harold Reggie tracks the movements of registered fishing vessels from the new Solomon Islands Police Maritime Unit Operations Centre.

INSET: The RAN maritime surveillance advisory team posted to the Solomon Islands Police Maritime Unit on board a Pacific Patrol Boat. CPOET Matt Quigley (left), LCDR Scott Mason (centre) and CPOMT Damien Dingle.

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WELL DESERVED: Chief of Navy VADM Russ Crane, CAPT Walter Wright and the Governor-General Quentin Bryce presented CAPT Walter Graham Wright (Rtd) with the King’s Medal at a ceremony at Navy House on December 4 for the presentation of the King’s Medal. Photo: LSPH Phillip Cullinan

The replacement of the King’s Gold Medal presented to CAPT Wright was minted by Buckingham Palace on the approval of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

The Medal, now the Queen’s Medal, is awarded to the ‘Cadet Midshipman who during his [or her] period of training exhibits the most exemplary conduct, performance of duty and good influence among his [or her] fellows.”

CAPT Wright joined the Navy as a Cadet Midshipman in 1937 and went on to serve with distinction for more than 30 years, including stints as the CO of HMAS Calypso, Senior Naval Officer Western Australia and CO of HMAS Leeuwin.

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By LEUT Peter Bounty

A NAVY team of three led by LCDR Scott Mason with technical advisers CPOMT Damien Dingle and CPOET Matt Quigley has provided much-needed training, mentoring and advice to the Royal Solomon Island Police (RSIP) Maritime Unit staff, overseeing vital upgrades.

The Australians were responsible for the project management, which included a new operations room and improvements to the wharf at the RSIP Maritime Unit base.

The Aussie team is pleased with the progress made during their posting but aren’t ready to come home yet.

“We’re all really enjoying it – we were initially posted here for two years but we’ve all taken up the option for an additional year,” LCDR Mason said.

The RSIP Maritime Unit operates two Pacific Patrol Boats (PPB) that target illegal fishing, transnational crime and can conduct search and rescue at sea.

LCDR Mason is impressed with the RSIP Maritime Unit’s mariner skills.

“They’re good ship drivers and they’ve been doing some great work on recent patrols,” he said.

The RSIP Maritime Unit’s PPBs and the recent facilities upgrades were funded as part of the Australia Defence Cooperation Project, which has also delivered PPBs to 11 other Pacific island nations.

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By MIDN Venetia Whitley

At a fitting ceremony at Navy House on December 4 the Governor-General Quentin Bryce presented CAPT Walter Graham Wright (Rtd) his replacement of the King’s Gold Medal to substitute the original stolen in 1990. VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSM, RAN, hosted the rare and historic event.

“This is a culmination of the careers that I have had,” CAPT Wright said.

“This ceremony has given the Navy community an ability to recognise CAPT Wright’s significant contribution during his 30 years of service,” VADM Crane said.

“A reception of this sort is one of the more pleasant tasks I perform as Chief of Navy.”

Further information on the program is available at www.defence.gov.au/workexperience.

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Navy family gathers in bereavement

MORE than 1,200 family members have received a Navy Bereavement Pin since its launch on November 19.

The pin may be worn by any family member of permanent or reserve Navy personnel who have passed away during their period of Navy service.

Eligibility extends beyond immediate family and may include members of an extended family.

“There’s been a very positive response,” said CMDR Andrew Schroder, manager of Navy Bereavement Pin verifications.

To date we have received a wide spread of nominations which range from descendants of Navy personnel who passed away in 1917 through to some very recent deaths.

“It’s all about people’s pride in the Navy, their pride in the job their relative did when in Navy uniform, and recognition that, despite the passage of time, their relatives remain part of the greater Navy family,” he said.

To apply for a Navy Bereavement Pin people may complete a Navy Bereavement Pin nomination form, which can be found at www.navy.gov.au (and follow the links to Navy Bereavement Pin) or email navy.bereavementpin@defence.gov.au or phone (02) 6266 2285, fax (02) 6266 3779, or write to:

Director Military Administration – Navy, CP4-7-040, Campbell Park Offices, Canberra 2600

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GET UPDATES: If you use Defence child care make sure you register your email details. Photo: ABPH Morgana Salabert

MEMORIES: RADM Steve Gilmore, CNOSC, presents Mr Alf Tabor with the Bereavement Pin. Mr Tabor is the nephew of ALS Frederick Tabor who served in HMAS Sydney II. Photo: CPL Ricky Fuller
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WATERHEN’S WELCOME

IT WAS ‘swords drawn, drums beating and colours flying’ when the CO of HMAS Waterhen, CMDR Larry Menon, paraded his ship’s company through the streets of North Sydney on November 27.

“Waterhen is very much a part of the community here in North Sydney and the Freedom of Entry granted today will only strengthen those ties,” said CMDR Menon.

The CO was initially escorted to the steps of North Sydney Council by Waterhen’s Coxswain CPONPC Paul Blaik where the Mayor of North Sydney Genia McCaffery presented Waterhen with her Freedom of Entry scroll.

“On behalf of the people of North Sydney we thank you for your contribution to Australia,” said the Mayor.

On receiving the Freedom of Entry the CO then marched his ship’s company down the main street of North Sydney, Miller Street, led by the NSW Police VIP Cycle Unit.

Following the CO on parade was Waterhen’s Colour Party: CPOCD Brett Leis, POPT Griz Adams, LSBM Robert Filzer and LSBM Peter Smith.

Next came the armed guard led by Waterhen’s FSU Ops Manager, LEUT Mark Bewsher, followed by the main contingent of the ship’s company. The parade was kept in step by the Sydney Detachment of the RAN Band led by its Musical Director LEUT Andrew Stokes and Drum Major CPOMUSN Brian O’Kane.

Waterhen was given the traditional challenge by the ‘Town Sheriff’, Superintendent Belinda Nolan of the Harbourside Local Area Command.

Among the crowds that lined the street were students from North Sydney Demonstration School, St Mary’s Primary, and Monte Sant Angels of Mercy College, waving flags as the parade passed by.

The Reviewing Officer for Waterhen’s FOE was RADM Steve Gilmore, CANSC, who received an ‘Australian idol reception’ from the children.

“It’s a wonderful recognition of Waterhen over the decades and her interaction with the community,” said RADM Gilmore.

This is the first time that the FOE has been granted to HMAS Waterhen, commissioned into the RAN on December 5, 1962. Prior to this the site it was used as a quarry for the construction of Captain Cook dock at Garden Island and during WWII for the storage of anti submarine boom nets.

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FINE FORM: More than 160 officers and sailors from HMAS Waterhen took over the streets of North Sydney during a traditional Freedom of Entry parade on November 27.

Photo: ABPH Justin Brown

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Proud of his people

SINCE October 17 CDRE Bruce Kafer has led a contingent of RAN officers and sailors – Task Force 158 – responsible for the security of Iraq’s oil export infrastructure and sea lines of communication in the Northern Persian Gulf.

CDRE Kafer is also responsible for Theatre Security Cooperation and Maritime Security Operations in the Northern Persian Gulf, and assisting with Iraqi Navy training.

He has hoisted his broad pennant on the Khawr al Amaya Oil Terminal, which is one of Iraq’s two working oil export terminals, however, his diverse responsibilities see him travelling regularly.

During his first weeks in command he has made it a priority to visit the ships of Task Force 158, racking up many small boat miles and regularly taking the helm on the return journey.

“I have been continually impressed by the quality and enthusiasm of the personnel of Task Force 158,” CDRE Kafer said.

There is recognition of the importance of our role up here and an immense pride in doing it well. Without exception, the ships and patrol boats safeguarding these oil platforms are dedicated and steadfast, even though many of the personnel on board have been away from home for many months,” he said.

Task Force 158 contains units from Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States and Singapore, who work alongside Iraqi Marines, and Iraqi Navy patrol boats.

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By LCDR Mick Gallagher

AT THE HELM: CDRE Bruce Kafer in the Northern Persian Gulf at the helm of USS Nitze’s seaboat with Khawr al Amaya Oil Terminal in the background.

Photo: CMDR Boulton

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Naval News

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The Navy Video Unit (NVU) at Garden Island has been recognised by its industry peers at the Australasian Television Awards.

The Navy Video team won the award for the best animation and effects in the Training/Education category with the DVD: An Introduction to Celestial Navigation, sponsored by the Navigation School at HMAS Watson.

The RAN requires all ship navigators to learn the skills of celestial navigation — navigation using celestial bodies. However, NVU’s trainers had particular difficulty in teaching the subject because of the complex 3D nature of the sun, earth, moon, planets and stars. The training DVD was commissioned to solve this training need.

Before navigators can grasp the basics of celestial navigation, they need a broad understanding of the 3D dynamics of the solar system and the stars, as well as how these celestial bodies are mapped into the simplicity of the celestial sphere.

Previously, instructors taught using 2D static media, which created cognitive challenges for some students. An Introduction to Celestial Navigation uses 3D graphics and moves students through three steps — the solar-geocentric system, the geocentric system and the mor-phing of the planets, moon and stars into the geo-centric celestial sphere.

OIC Navy Personnel and Training, CMDR Pat O’Brien, said that, while it was an Australian festival, the contenders were very clearly international, with animators and effects specialists from movies like Iron Man and Kung Fu Panda finalists in their categories.

“NVI were one of only three finalists to make the cut in the Training/ Education category and were competing against some amazing animation from Sea World,” he said.

“Jon Sarvis was the DVD producer, however, the real star was Peter Townley-Jones who developed the animation and effects that won the award.”

The estimated cost of production of An Introduction to Celestial Navigation using a commercial production house would be in excess of $150,000, but the Navy Video budget was just $10,000. The $140,000 gap in production costs reflects the market value of the skills of Navy Video personnel.

OIC of the Navigation School, LCDR Ben Hissink, said the DVD was a very effective learning tool.

“Prior to its use the pass rate for the first exam was 70 per cent,” he said. “Since the DVD’s introduction the pass rate for the first exam has increased to 95 per cent. The DVD is comprehensive and facilitates understanding of the necessary concepts.”

Several members of HMAS Cerberus’ ship company took part in the ‘Movember’ campaign during November, raising over $11,000 in the ‘Movember’ campaign during November. The estimated costs of producing five-inch cartridge to thank the racing organisation for their continued support to deployed ADF members and for the opportunity to tour the cars and garages.

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HMAS Cerberus is currently stationed in the North Persian Gulf as part of Operation Catalyst. The ship departed Sydney in August to take up its patrol duties. This is the second time that Patarnottas has been deployed to the Gulf, and the Navy’s TPG rotation since September 2001.
The establishment at Jervis Bay was originally founded in 1913 and opened in 1915 as the RAN College.

The College moved to Flanders Naval Depot (HMCS Cerberus) in 1930 because of funding shortages during the Great Depression. Throughout this period the College buildings, including the messes and some residences, were leased as hotels and guesthouses.

The College moved back to Jervis Bay in 1958 and the base was commissioned HMAS Creswell in the name of Admiral Sir William Creswell who had championed the establishment of the College since Federation.

By LEUT Kate Mathews

CHIEF of Navy, VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSC, RAN, receives literally dozens of letters every day, but one letter in particular caught the attention of his staff recently, who broke protocol and walked it into his office for his immediate personal attention.

The letter was one of congratulations from Mr Keith May, of Toowoomba, who served as a Seaman in the RAN from 1946–1956, and was delighted to read in the Sun Herald that VADM Crane had been appointed CN on July 4 this year. Mr May was delighted that, for the first time in the Navy’s history, a former sailor had been appointed to the top job.

"It was a great pleasure to receive a letter of congratulations from Mr May," VADM Crane said.

"The Navy that we serve in today is a legacy left to us by the men and women who came before us, so to receive such a lovely letter from a former Serviceman was very touching indeed. For that reason I wanted to take the time to write to him myself."

VADM Crane penned a letter by hand in the distinctive green ink that, in keeping with naval traditions, only the CN is permitted to write in.

In a gesture symbolic of the link between the past, the present and the future Navy, the letter was hand delivered on November 27 by a member of the local Toowoomba Australian Navy Cadet Unit, Training Ship Toowoomba.

By LEUT Janelle Stewart

HMCS Creswell (CAPT John Vandyke) opened its gates to the public on November 23 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its commissioning.

The open day, despite the inclement weather, was a great success with the major draw cards of the Brumbies Rugby team, helicopter displays and a range of seamanship, fire fighting and ceremonial displays drawing 1500 visitors.

The open day culminated with a daylight Ceremonial Sunset performed by members of the New Entry Officer Course and the RAN Band.

TRI-SERVICE POLICE GRADS: (L-R) LAC Scott Tasker, LCPL Teagan Grimm, LS Brett Katsoools and ACW Rebecca Wenham.

Photo: Bill Cunneen

On Show: Amy Kruij, 10, from Bowral has a go at flying using one of the Naval Aviation Prospects Scheme flight simulators with SBLT Brett Sinclair giving her pointers on how to fly.

Photo: ABPH Craig Owen

Have your say!

It is again time for the annual Defence Attitude Survey (DAS). If you are one of the lucky 30% of Defence members selected to participate, please use this opportunity to voice your needs, opinions and attitudes and HAVE YOUR SAY!

The DAS is a voluntary survey which provides a comprehensive picture of the Department’s organisational climate by capturing, analysing and reporting on the current attitudes and opinions of its workforce on a number of employment-related matters. It is issued annually and provides data that enables us to assess and maintain a picture of the Department's organisational climate by capturing, analysing and reporting on the current attitudes and opinions of its workforce.

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By SGT Brian Hartigan

TWENTY new Service police from across Australia graduated from October 31 from the first tri-Service Police Basic Course at the Defence Police Training Centre (DPTC) at Holsworthy in Western Sydney.

Family and friends of the graduates watched a march-out parade to mark the completion of more than 40 days of demanding and intensive training in a joint-Services environment.

Training included defensive tactics, investigations and general policing duties designed to equip the newly-qualified Service police men and women with the basic skills and knowledge they will require to undertake duties in support of military operations at home and abroad.

ACDRE Dennis Green, Headquarters Air Command, reviewed the parade and said the graduation was about the future of policing across the ADF.

“This class is the first step towards the rejuvenation of the ADF Service police community that is being formed to meet the challenges the ADF faces today and into the future,” he said.

Graduating Service policeman LS Brett Katsoools, who is posted to HMCS Stirling, said he joined the Navy because his grandfather was in the Navy and he wanted to follow in his path.

“I have enjoyed this course because it has given me a wider range of qualifications,” he said.

“I have always been keen to become a police officer of some sort. “In this job, I will be laying down the values of the Navy and keeping good order and discipline.”

DPTC is the focal point for Service police training in Australia and provides those who may be thinking about pursuing a career in policing with the prospect of serving on operations at home and overseas.

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➤ Controls – throttle snaps shut on release, clutch and front brake levers unbend and operate correctly, cable locknut secured, gear and brake pedals correctly.
➤ Correct fitment of approved number plate, reflectors, rear view mirrors, chainguard, mudguards, rider/pillion footrests.
➤ Tyres & Brakes – minimum tread depth over entire tread area 1.5mm, general condition, pressure, brake pad wear.
➤ Suspension, frame, drive chain – no excessive wear, damage or maladjustment, alignment.
➤ Fluid leaks from engine, gearbox, brakes and chassis components.
➤ Wheels, suspension, bearings – free to rotate/move, spokes, no excessive free play.
➤ Helmet AS1698 compliant, visor, chinstrap.

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Motorcycle safety checklist

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Congratulations to each of the members recognised for their potential at a higher rank, which has been recognised by their promotion, and to each member recognised for their outstanding achievement, which has been recognised by the receipt of an award or commendation. I welcome the public recognition of individuals that have significantly contributed to our Navy. The continued recognition of excellence and adherence to our values is critical and it is an important responsibility of all leaders, managers and supervisors to capitalise on the opportunities to both formally and informally recognise the efforts of our men and women. Congratulations to all.

Latest awards and promotions in the Royal Australian Navy

**PROMOTION TO WARRANT OFFICER**

- CPOCs Nixon, Jason Andrew HMAS Albatross
- CPOTMNS Chapman, Jonathan HMAS Streaming

**PROMOTION TO CHIEF OFFICER**

- PSIA Buitrist, Simon Timothy HMAS Albatross
- POA Johnston, Trevor Neil HMAS Albatross
- POA Pickering, Christopher John HMAS Albatross
- POA Carr, Simon Peter HMAS Albatross
- POATG Gratain, Darren John HMAS Albatross
- POB Shields, Warren Robert HMAS Albatross
- POA Knight, Paul Anthony HMAS Albatross
- POA Mclean, Jason Patrick HMAS Albatross
- POA Taylor, William Ashley HMAS Albatross
- POCS Barker, Michelle Lyndey HMAS Albatross
- POA Irving, Tara Leigh HMAS Streaming

**PROMOTION TO OFFICER**

- LSCOs Schulz, Daniel Robert HMAS Albatross
- LSCOMs Howell, Shane Leslie HMAS Ratherine
- LSET Bradney, Lorne HMAS Sydney
- LSET Hollingsworth, Mark Francis HMAS Streaming
- LSET Milas, Andrew David HMAS Karrathal
- LSET Turner, Scott William HMAS Torrens
- LSMt Birch, Jonathan Christopher HMAS Cresswell
- LSMt Cresswell, Robert John HMAS Coonaawarra
- LSNPC Goldsack, Belinda Jane HMAS Corroboree
- LSNPC Wainman, Peter Uwe ATACK 3
- LSPt Cahill, Levi Adam HMAS Albatross
- LSSN Black, Neil William HMAS Corroboree
- LSSN Wainman, Jason Thomas HMAS Success

**PROMOTION TO LEADING SEAMAN**

- ABAta Adams, Kent HMAS Albatross
- ABAta Neider, Daniel Gary HMAS Albatross
- ABAts Nunawadu, Brendon Charles HMAS Albatross
- ABIm Godden, Shayne Paul HMAS Streaming
- ABIm Summers, Brooke Louise HMAS Success
- ABIm Turner, Lee Gavin HMAS Corroboree
- ABIs Johnson, Reannon Elizabeth HMAS Mansura
- ABIs Lewton, Anita Gail HMAS Farncomb
- ABIs Sharp, Jacinda HMAS Albatross
- ABIs Watson, Adam Anthony HMAS Mansura
- ABIs Wise, Alexandra HMAS Stuart
- ABK Davey, Jonathan Peter HMAS Sydney
- ABK James, Calen Jason HMAS Success

**BRONZE COMMENDATIONS – COMAUSFLT**

- LEUT C. V. Lavers 723 SQN
- CPOET R. R. Schauer GRPRFQH

**BRONZE COMMENDATIONS – COUS**

- LCDR C.G. Cross FLFSC
- LCDR S. A. Alchini HMAS Sirus

**COUS COMMENDATIONS**

- LEUT S. Harper 817 Squadron
- LEUT J. N. Robertson MAN TRNG
- CPO A. D. Copeland Attack 4

**PROMOTION TO LEUTENANT**

- ABMT Pereira, Lawrence Wayne HMAS Manoora
- ABMT Robinson, Scott Kenneth HMAS Ballarat
- ABMT Sarler, Brad Robert HMAS Jesus
- ABMT Sellkirk, Scott ATACK 4
- ABMT Snap, Rodney Darren HMAS Farncomb
- ABMT Stern, Adrian Michael HMAS Coonaawarra
- ABIN Burnett, Aaron Lee HMAS Streaming
- ABIN Hansen, Luke Daniel HMAS Coonaawarra
- ABIN Kaill, Gregory Charles HMAS Streaming
- ABST Clarke, Andrea Christine HMAS Corroboree
- ABSTD Gich, Ramona Kanil HMAS Warrawonga
- ABSTD Match, Duna Louise HMAS Karrathal
- ABSTD Page, Todd Leonard HMAS Streaming
- ABWTR Byrne, Jaylene Tara HMAS Coonaawarra
- ABWTR Freeman, Brenda HMAS Success
- ABWTR Mann, Kirby Loreen HMAS Streaming
- ABWTR Schonock, Jessica Elizabeth HMAS Harman
- ABWTR Sheehan, Ingrid Ann HMAS Harman
- ABWTR Tanzer, Lauren Joy HMAS Manoora

**SILVER COMMENDATIONS – COMAUSFLT**

- LEUT G. D. James 724 SOQ
- LEUT J. D. Drury 724 SOQ
- COMS I. R. Beaumont GRPRFQH
- COMS S. I. Beaumont GRPRFQH

**SILVER COMMENDATIONS – COUS**

- LCDR S. J. Cannell HMAS Blantern

**CPO’S COMMENDATIONS**

- LCDR C.G. Cross FLFSC
- LCDR S. A. Alchini HMAS Sirus

**PROMOTION TO LTENANT**

- LEUT M. Johnson HMAS Albatross
- LEUT L. Haynes NHQ-Toi

**PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP COMMUNITY AWARDS – ROTATORY**

- CPO K. E. Whipple
- CPOA AB P. Jones

**REWARD & RECOGNITION**

- WO D.J. Grineley HMAS Parramatta
- WO T. D. M. Cheffett HMAS Toorak
- PO S. A. Rowe HMAS Newcastle
- LCDR J. M. Scott HMAS Coonaawarra
- LEUT K. Thompson HMAS Toorak
- LS J. A. Walter HMAS Darwin
- LS W. R. Sanders HMAS Toorak

**SILVER COMMENDATIONS – COMMENDATION – DFC**

- LCDR C. S. A. Luckith HMAS Sirus
- LCDR H. D. Boast HMAS Harman

**COUS AWARDS – COMMENDATION**

- LCDR R. F. Whillock 817 Squadron

**SILVER COMMENDATIONS – COMMENDATION – DFC**

- LCDR R. F. Whillock 817 Squadron

**SILVER COMMENDATIONS – COMMENDATION**

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HIGH AMBITIONS: SGT Lance Purdon and fiancée Jodie Barker are hoping to compete the Hawaii Ironman race next year.

Photo: AC Terry Hartin

Out and about at Cerberus

IT'S common knowledge that HMAS Cerberus is a bit off the beaten track.

So, in order to combat the isolation, Cerberus’ CO CAPT Sheldon Ballard, activities have included horse riding, paintball challenges, a tour of Philip Island, DFO shopping, skiing at Mt Buller, theatre nights, a Great Ocean Road tour, the Rugby League World Cup, Werribee Zoo and a surf camp.

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Harry Adams was posted off HMAS Sydney II just before it sank in November 1941. Harry lived to see the Sydney II wreck discovered in March, passing away in April this year. At the memorial service held over the Sydney II site in November, Harry was reunited with his lost mates 67 years after last seeing them alive ... ABPH Andrew Dakin reports from WA.

**AT REST:** Harold Adams' son, Allan, scatters Harold's ashes over the HMAS Sydney II site in November. Photo: LSPH Phillip Cullinan

**INSET:** Harold Adams and LSCDT William Westbrook met after the National Service of Remembrance for those lost on HMAS Sydney II on April 24, 2008. Photo: ABPH Jo Diloerono.

**BELOW:** Harold Adams in WWII.

The loss of a close mate in HMAS Sydney II filled Harry Adam's soul with emptiness. Losing 645 of his other mates was hard to swallow, let alone fathom. The bereavement and emotion of Harry and the few remaining people associated with the sinking of Sydney II in 1941 is a feeling that many could never comprehend. "I was the one last off Sydney II before she sailed," he said. "It was due to medical reasons, so I came ashore in Fremantle. I had come to know a great number of sailors on the ship after almost two years abroad it, and can recall the parting words of one of my shipmates, Doug Burrows, who said to me as I departed, 'Bad luck about going ashore, Harry, we're going on leave when we get back'. I watched my ship sail away – I was not to know it would never return."

Harry served in Sydney II in a variety of positions. He manned the .50 cal machine gun mount in cruising stations and was a gunner in 'A' turret during action stations. He was also a Captain's runner for both CAPT Collins and later CAPT Burnett. If the Captain wanted to launch the ship's aircraft, Harry would run down to the catapult, don his headphones and pass the order to launch.

Harry found himself in action in the Mediterranean in June 1940, at Bardia and in a series of firefights with Italian destroyers. He'd joined the Navy Reserve in late 1939 and served in Sydney II as an AB from 1940 to late '41. After her loss he didn't go to sea again – he served in naval stores for the rest of the war.

Harry lived to see Sydney II found in March this year and attended the memorial service at St Andrew’s Cathedral in April, a moment of great pride – he could feel the presence of his lost mates during the service.

Harry died in April this year and his son Allan sailed in HMAS Manoora for the moving tribute over the site of the sinking in November. With him he took his father's ashes. "Having the opportunity to scatter my father's ashes over the site of HMAS Sydney II adds closure to my life, as well as Dad's," he said. "Dad’s twin brother, Bill, served in HMAS Manoora during World War II, and to see HMAS Manoora and HMAS Sydney together during the memorial was unforgettable."

With Australia's most enduring maritime tragedy finally answered after 67 years, Harry Adams was finally laid to rest and reunited with his shipmates in the silent waters below.

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These unique memorabilia tributes shown below have been produced to allow all past and present RAN members the opportunity to own a lasting memory of their Naval career. Don't miss out on collecting one of these high quality framed prints of your favorite ship or ships. We are constantly growing our range of available ships and submarines, so be sure to check our online catalogue regularly for the latest releases.

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- HMAS Collins
- HMAS Manoora
- HMAS Melbourne
- HMAS Brisbane

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The spectre of Sydney II, easily Australia’s greatest maritime disaster, continued to unsettle the psyche of much of the nation during 2008. The year began with a bang with 200 officers and 2000 crew members of all 645 on board – were a seismic shock to the new world. The dimensions of the loss – disappearance of Cape Spada (Crete) in July 1940 had been wiped out and the Defence Maritime Service and sub-contractors were enabled them to put to sea ahead of 130kph winds, the Defence Maritime Service and sub-contractors to find the wreckage of Sydney II lying in 2468 metres of water about 112nm off the WA coast.

Perhaps the most astonishing activity was the search for ex-ship Sydney II, missing off Western Australia’s coral coast when it was sunk by the German raider, HSK Kormoran, in November 1941. LCDR John Quinn (Rtd) and LCDR Quinn were Manoora while in transit and patrols of our littoral approaches were pursued over the horizon or beneath the waves.

The poignant services to remember those lost were a stark warning to all. LCDR Quinn was the flight deck of HMAS Manoora while in transit and patrols of our littoral approaches were pursued over the horizon or beneath the waves.

The year concluded on a sombre note with the commissioning of HMAS Glenelg and the commissioning of HMAS Glenelg and the commissioning of HMAS Glenelg.

By LCDR Anonymous

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By LCDR Anonymous
Shorncliffe in Brisbane has not gone unnoticed when the training ship conducted its annual presentation parade on Saturday, November 22. Many of the 25 cadets received awards.

Several returned service branch members also came forward to present cheques to the ship to help with the purchase of vitally needed equipment.

**ENCOURAGEMENT:**
President of the TS Paluma support committee, Greg Vellano, presents CDTSM Martin Sinclair, with his Encouragement Award. Photo: Graham Davis

It was not, however, a one-way street with the CO, LEUT Edgar, presenting certificates of appreciation to the many people who support the unit.

**GORS approved**

**DEFENCE Science and Personnel Minister Warren Snowdon announced on November 17 that the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal (DFRT) had approved the Graded Other Ranks Pay Structure (GORS).**

Essentially, GORS better recognises the trade skills of different employment groups and provides greater reward for rank and skill progression. Many sailors, both Permanent Navy (PN) and Naval Reserve (NR), will receive pay increases as a result.

The DFRT considered the Reserve-only divers category and approved a restructure and pay grade increase for many in our Reserve dive teams. This will be good news for the majority of around 100 Reserve divers in Dive Teams 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 around the country.

“The ADF now has a robust, contemporary and flexible pay structure for its enlisted members that can respond to military workforce requirements,” Minister Snowdon said.

He said that the implementation of the reform is expected to take about eight months, which will ensure that each member is placed correctly and that no one will be disadvantaged financially.

Reserve sailors can expect increases through CENRESPAY in the latter half of 2009 but these will be backdated to September 4, 2008.

Apart from this new arrangement, the final ADF pay rise of 2.8 per cent of 2009 but these will be backdated to September 4, 2008.

The pay rise is designed to bring ADF members to a level comparable with other public sector employees who have had pay increases of 15 to 20 per cent in recent years. It also includes changes to the basic living allowance, the General Service Allowance and the Family Encouragement Allowance and is expected to take about eight months to implement.

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CDRE Helyer completed 35 years service in two navies – four in the Royal Navy and 31 in the RAN.

CDRE Helyer served as a watch keeping engineer officer in HMNZS Sydney II – the Waipapa Ferry’ – in 1971/72 during Vietnam troop operations and also served on the staff of the Maritime Commander Australia during the first Gulf War in 1990/91.

His final appointment in the Permanent Navy was as Naval Training Commander in 1999/2000.

He completed seven years as managing director and advisor with Thales Australia last December.

CDRE Helyer is a former President of Sydney Legacy and currently represents NSW on the National Legacy Coordinating Council, and Sydney Legacy on the ‘Future of Legacy’ review team. CDRE Helyer is a former President of Sydney Legacy and currently represents NSW on the National Legacy Coordinating Council, and Sydney Legacy on the ‘Future of Legacy’ review team. CDRE Helyer is a former President of Sydney Legacy and currently represents NSW on the National Legacy Coordinating Council, and Sydney Legacy on the ‘Future of Legacy’ review team.

CDRE Helyer is also active in the NSW Royal Fire Service.

**Honouring sacrifice**

**SPEAKING OUT:**
CDRE Nick Helyer at the Cenotaph in Sydney on Remembrance Day. Photo: LCDR Mick Gallagher

Executive Officer of the Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust, which administers the Long Tan Bursary Scheme on behalf of the Commonwealth Government and other organizations, including the RSL and the RSL’s Women’s branch.

Without that contribution and the sacrifices made by veterans and their families, the scheme would not be possible.

**DG’s HEADS UP**

**Best wishes for Xmas**

CDRE Ranford Eisey

**WE CLOSE on 2008 as a very full and challenging year when one considers what has transpired in Navy and the world.**

VADM Russ Crane, AM, CSM, RAN began his watch as CN on July 4, handing over the responsibilities of DCDN to RADM David Thomas.

There was no time to ease into the roles with the demands of the White Paper, the ongoing operational tempo and personnel matters, and the financial meltdowns, the likes of which countries have not seen since the Great Depression of the ‘30s, all of which have an impact.

CN launched his New Generation Navy – a plan to transform and invigorate Navy through reform and leadership initiatives.

With the Naval Reserve (NR) being an integral part of the RAN, I would like to wish pay tribute to the outstanding contribution NR members make to Defence.

Over the past four years, the number of continuous full-time service (CFTS) contracts written has increased steadily by more than 30 each year and by this FY there were 493 Reservists on CFTS (as at September 30) with projections for considerably more growth this FY.

Likewise, the number of part-time positions has steadily increased. Of particular note, the NR Capability Enhancement Program (NRECP) position in force element groups (FEGs), headquarters and commands with the Patrol Boat FEG leading the way.

CFTS, NRECP and FRC contributions are up by around 25 per cent on figures for the same period last year – an outstanding effort by any measure.

The NR is providing genuine and measurable capability and contributing to outputs in Navy and other programs. Without that support, doing business in some critical areas would be extremely difficult. Reserves are contributing increasingly in either a full or part-time capacity and no longer seen just as a contingency measure.

The professionalism, commitment and dedication of Naval Reservists is impressive. They currently provide around 10 per cent of Navy’s output.

My sincere thanks go not only to members, but also to those employers and family members who make this possible.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas, a safe and enjoyable holiday, and a 2009 that brings both challenges and rewards, particularly in this difficult financial atmosphere.

May I encourage you to continue to serve in Navy as a Reservist or even consider the concept of the 360 service, or to consider whether you may wish to make a permanent commitment to full-time service? Either way, Navy appreciates your contribution.
MAJOR FAN: One of the more avid readers of Navy News in South Australia is the Governor, RADM Kevin Scarme, who also happens to be SA’s most senior Reservist. RADM Scarme came to the post after a distinguished career as an RN (L-R). Navy News’ SA Correspondent CDRM Steve Dunnig, Aide-de-Camp to the Governor FLTLT Guy Bowering and RADM Scarme. Photo: POH Steve Coates

Seagoing education

By SBLT Carolyn Docking

LEUT Amanda Brennan and SBLT Kate Moncrieff were the first two students from the REOC 02/08 class to undertake their phase four sea training.

The two Reserve officers have managed to complete three of the four required phases in just eight weeks.

They joined HMAS Toorak in Melbourne and travelled to Hobart where the ship had a four-day visit before departing for Sydney.

The sea training had special significance for SBLT Moncrieff. “I called my grandfather while I was in Toorak and he told me that his first training sea run was from Sydney to Tasmania so that for me was something that made the trip very personal,” she said.

Joining Toorak was so daunting as it was so far away from anything I had ever done and I had no idea how the REOs’ would fit into the daily happenings on the ship.

“We were welcomed by the ship’s company straight away. What really struck me was how welcoming everyone was and how much pride they had in their ship.”

“We had from the HODs to the new seaman asking us if we were having a good time and was there anything we needed to see or do that we hadn’t done.”

LEUT Brennan and SBLT Moncrieff spent time in each department over the two weeks ticking off activities in their task books.

They spent time in the galley learning about the cooks’ daily routines, did lifebuoy duty and watched a 50 cal machine gun fire.

SBLT Moncrieff got to see a whale while on lookout and thoroughly enjoyed a ride in the RHIB.

“We viewed officer of the watch exercises with HMAS Ballarat, which was amazing despite terrible weather,” said SBLT Moncrieff.

SBLT Moncrieff described the weather to Hobart as very calm and the Bass Strait crossing was excellent, however, the seas became choppy from Eden onwards.

“I didn’t sleep much at all for my last night at sea and even woke up half way out of my rack. Going to sea really complemented my training with the Navy Reserve and has encouraged me to do much Reserve time as possible,” she said.

SBLT Moncrieff, who also happens to be SA’s most senior Reservist. RADM Scarce, came to the post after a distinguished career as an RN (L-R). Navy News’ SA Correspondent CDRM Steve Dunnig, Aide-de-Camp to the Governor FLTLT Guy Bowering and RADM Scarme. Photo: POH Steve Coates

LEARNING EXPERIENCE: LEUT Amanda Brennan and SBLT Kate Moncrieff on board HMAS Toorak during their sea training deployment. Photo: SBLT Carolyn Docking

By SBLT Carolyn Docking

NAVY Headquarters Tasmania (NHQ-TAS) Reservists made an impact at the recent V8 Supercars round at Symmons Plains.

The Superca round was probably the largest event in Tasmania at which the Navy has had a presence during the last three years.

The RAN Band Tasmanian Detachment kept patrons entertained during breaks in racing with a wide variety of music.

Singers CPO Greg Hince and AB Anita Cairns were popular with the car enthusiasts and attracted a large crowd.

The band was also a hit with the Jack Daniels track girl who stayed for quite a while enjoying the music.

Navy Community Engagement Program assistants LEUT Nick Ashley-Jones and AB Cherie Fyfe were kept very busy talking to the public about their experiences in the Navy.

They were both popular with the car enthusiasts who found knot-tying-lessons a break from the racing.

The lure of a Navy cap when a perfect clove hitch was tied made the younger crowd very competitive and children were kept up to have a go.

Defence Force Recruiting was also at the track and attracted potential recruits as they handed out information leaflets and lots of freebies to the passing crowd.

An additional attraction was the team from the RAAF Central Flying School complete with a basket from a hot air balloon.

FLTLT Michael Bananeman described his job as travelling around and engaging people and creating a positive image of the Air Force.

They had intended to give the public tethered flights for about five minutes in the basket of their RAAF balloon.

“Unfortunately we can’t fly as the wind is just too strong,” he said. “We got to fly earlier in the week for about three and half hours at a school south of Hobart.”

There were six crew from the flying school including Gap Year participant OCĐT Corwen Morgan.

NHQ-Tas CO CDRM Tony Vine said events such as the superca round were a great forum for Reservists and permanent Defence staff to all work together to promote the ADF image.

“The Reservists have done a great job manning the stand for three days and working so well with Defence Force Recruiting, and the Central Flying School,” he said.

“It creates a cohesive and very positive image of the ADF as a whole.”

Getting Hitched: Kate Scully-Garter is shown how to do a clove hitch by AB Cherie Fyfe. Photo: SBLT Carolyn Docking

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December 11, 2008
The first entrant—correct too as it happens—Alan Baddams from South Australia suggested I was being less than charitable by offering the help that the ship had served in more than one navy.

"What a lousy clue!" he says.

Anyhow, let have a look at some of the aberrant responses first.

CPONPC Mark Goulding, who trains investigators at the Defence Police Training Centre, asks: "Is Miss November the Baltimore class cruiser USS Canberra named after HMS Canberra lost at Savo Island?"

POMT Alan Nelson also thought she was USS Canberra.

No gentlemen. Miss November was a Baltimore class cruiser according to my references.

Two of the respondents were much closer:

LEUT Carl M. Jordan says: "She is the ex-USX Philadelphia trans- parency and likely the winner and renamed Barnoo (C-11)."

I believe the photo in Navy News was taken later in her service career with Brazil (possibly in the late 1960s—early 1970s) as there appear to be changes to her superstructure especially around the bridge area and a distinct lack of WWII AA armament from her final configuration with the USN. Further, the presence of more sophisticated radar equipment on her main masts and the removal of her Brazilian hull number C11 are a give away as well.

In fact, you’re not far off Carl. Barroso (ex-St Louis), a Baltimore class cruiser taken in 1945, was sold to Chile in 1951. With a career like that, I doubt whether she is still around today!"

Yes Dave, you and Carl are both guessing—you’ve got the right class.

Peter Clark also identified the right class—the Brooklyn class of cruiser—and, ultimately, guessed the name of the ship correctly. He also thought that: "...since five of the class served in two navies, your clue is even less help than usual."

Honour of being the first in with the correct answer, however, was Alan Baddams.

Alan says: "Miss November seems to be a Brooklyn class cruiser, and probably the most famous one ARA General Belgrano, originally built as USS Phoenix."

"However, Miss November is missing some antenna domes that were fitted to General Belgrano when she was sunk by HMS Conqueror in 1982 so Miss November could still be one of the other Brooklyn class—Brooklyn and Northcliffe—were sold to Chile. Philadelphia to Brazil and Boise as well as Phoenix went to Argentina. As I don’t know how to tell one from the other, my guess is ARA General Belgrano some time before 1982."

One of the respondents, Warren Axford, who’s made a number of unsuccessful forays into the business of identifying ships recently, was consistently successful in identifying the General. He also had some interesting background information. Miss November was built as USS Phoenix (CL–46), the sixth of the Brooklyn class cruisers, in New Jersey by the New York Shipbuilding Corporation starting in 1935, and launched in March 1938. She was decommissioned from the USN after WWII in July 1946.

"Phoenix earned nine battle stars for WWII service, most of which were in the Dutch East Indies."

The former USS Phoenix was sold, with another of her class (Boise (CL–47) renamed ARA Nueve de Julio (C–5)), to Argentina in October 1951. For $7 million. It was renamed 17 de Octubre after an important date for the political party of the then-president Juan Peron. Ironically, she was one of the main units that joined the coup against Peronism. Peron was subsequently overthrown in 1955.

In 1956 the ship was renamed General Belgrano (C–4) after General Manuel Belgrano, who had fought for Argentine independence from 1811 to 1819. Several years before becoming General, as a colonial officer, he founded the Escuela de Naútica (School of Navigation) in 1799.

The cruiser was outfitted with Sea Cat missiles between 1967 and 1968. On April 30, the Belgrano was detected by the British nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarine HMS Conqueror. The submarine approached over the following day. Although outside the British-declared Total Exclusion Zone of 370 km (200 nautical miles) radius from the islands, the British decided that the group was a threat. After consultation at Cabinet level, the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, agreed that Commander Chris Wreford-Brown should attack the Belgrano.

"At 15:57 on May 2, Conqueror fired three conventional Mk 8 mod 4 torpedoes, each with an 800 lb (363 kg) Torpex warhead, two of which hit the General Belgrano and, as they say, the rest is history!"

"The Royal Navy spent 13 years preparing me for such an occasion. It would have been regarded as extremely dreary if I had fouled it up;" was the dry sardonic comment attributed to the CO of HMS Conqueror, CMDR Christopher Wreford-Brown, after returning to the boat’s homeport of Faslane, Jolly Roger flying.

Others who receive honours for correct identification are: Tony Miller, CMDR Steve Cole, Harry Firth, Hadyn Neal, POWTR Robert McKewon, Richard Jones, Geoff Skelton, CPOET Michael Wordsworth, CPOET Dale Young, CPCSM Jamie McIntyre, Max Thomson (ex-signalman in the WWII convoy-escort frigate HMS Hawkinsbury), LCDR Robert Curtis, LCDR Antony Underwood, Michael Doyle, CMDR Mike Spruce, Harry Goodall, CPOEW William Whitfield, LEUT Guy Beven, Mike Taylor (and no, I won’t be supporting your moustache-growing. I’m not allowed to grow one myself), AB Dan Lane and CPL Shaun Hackett, Richard Bonsey, PE Pete Cannon, LCDR Mark Taylor, ex-CPOUC Rob Street, Kym Broaden, Danny Moore, FLTLT Michael D. Leonard, CPORS Ian Pikethley, and The Syndicate (alias Bill Catelli, Lts Andrew Border and Steven Padley and ABs Patrick McCarron and Peter Walsh (and no, you don’t win $20), Peter Sweeney, Brian Holden and finally, my old mate, Gregory ‘Skinhead’ Kelson. Thank you all for your considerable efforts. I only wish it had been a little more difficult and I could have caught a few more of you out.

Maybe next time. Have a look at Misses December—the last mystery ship for 2008.

It’s from the Vic Jeffery emporium of obscure ship photos. Name both vessels. Let me have your best ID efforts to tony.underwood@defencenews.gov.au by February 5.

I’ll let you have the verdict in the second edition of the new year—February 19.

— LCDR Antony Underwood
Cadets remember

By LCDR Mick Gallagher

CADETS from Spectacle Island’s TS Sydney joined former COs of RAN ships that have borne the name HMAS Sydney for the remembrance service for the WWII cruisers HMAS Sydney II at Martin Place on November 19.

CO TS Sydney, SBLT Rob McClay, said it was a privilege to be associated with the name HMAS Sydney.

“The CO was accompanied by XO, SBLT Sharon Holmes, and cadets AB Blake Petty and SLMN Liam Moxon. Both cadets placed a wreath at the cenotaph in remembrance of Sydney II.”

“We both volunteered for the service,” said SMN Moxon who also remembers his cousin Bradley ‘Nemo’ Owen in HMAS Parramatta now serving in the Gulf.

Fellow cadet AB Blake Petty intends to join the Navy when he turns 17.

“My grandfather Bill Davis was a WWII RAAF air mechanic, but I’m going Navy,” he said.

Former Sydney COs who attended the service and luncheon where the cadets mingled with the VIPs, past sailors, and descendants from ships bearing the name HMAS Sydney, included RADM Andrew J. Robertson (CO of HMAS Sydney in 1973 and gunnery officer in Korea 1953-54), CDRE Paul Kable (CO Sydney IV in 1983-4), and CMDR Guy Hothouse (CO Sydney IV 2006-2007).

RADM Robertson is Patron of TS Sydney and, along with Reserve CDRE Nick Helyor who also attended the service, is CO Patron of the HMAS Sydney Association.

Also attending was the President of the HMAS Sydney Association, LCDR Jesse James, who served as a SBLT in Sydney III in Vietnam in 1970-72.

“We were pleased that TS Sydney is with us today. They also provided the catafalque party for the recent Sunday Remembrance Day service at Hyde Civic Centre,” said LCDR Ces Williams, who served in Sydney III in the early 1970s during the Vietnam War.

Cadets remember

SEVERAL employers of South Australian-based NR personnel were recently recognised for their “active support of Reserve Defences” when they were awarded Certificates of Recognition and Appreciation at the annual Defence Reserve Support – South Australia’s (DRS) annual Employer Support Awards (ESA).

Held at Army’s Keswick Barracks, the ESA attracted some 100 guests including Head of Reserve and Employer Support Division, MAJGEN Greg Melick, and the Patron of DRS-SA, RADM Kevin Scarce.

Following his acknowledgement of Reserve employers from both private, government and non-government sectors, MAJGEN Melick formally presented certificates of support.

RADM Scarce then presented five major awards for: small, medium and large businesses, government agency and non-government sectors, MAJGEN Melick formally presented employer representatives their certificates of support.

RADM Scarce then presented five major awards for: small, medium and large businesses, government agency and the prestigious state award won by Ernst and Young.

Much to the delight of local NR mem-

ber CMDR Steve Dunning, his employ-

er the Veterans and Veterans’ Families Counselling Service (Department of Veterans’ Affairs) took out the major award for Government employer. On hand to receive the Award, which also included a Certificate of Appreciation, Deputy Director VVCS Mr Paul Kemp said having a Reservist was a “win win” situation for everyone.

“We find it is mutually beneficial to have Steve involved given the nature of our work but also because of the knowledge and expertise he brings back to the agency through his active involvement with the Reserves,” Mr Kemp said. “At the same time he is also able to promote VVCS to the greater ADF community helping raise the awareness of our services among members.”

The other employers of NR members to receive certificates on the night included the SA Police Department (employer of CPOAWASM Mick Turnbull) and Bunnings Group Limited (employer of LSMUSN Luke Townsend).

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ALL CARE: LSIS Jo Mercieca tends to the Australian White Ensign as it’s lowered during the ceremony aboard HMAS Sydney IV for HMAS Sydney II. Photo: ABPH Morgana Salabert

ALL SMILES: LSPTI Darin Trudgett records times at the HMAS Penguin Gate to Gate event, which was supported by 130 runners and walkers. Photo: POPH Ollie Garside

KID’S STUFF: RADM Steve Gilmore, CNSC, meets students from North Sydney schools at HMAS Waterhen’s Freedom of Entry. Photo: ABPH Justin Brown

TAKING CARE: ABMT Andrew Honeyman maintains machinery onboard HMAS Sydney. Photo: ABPH Morgana Salabert

WELCOME HOME: LEUT James Atkinson with his son Sam returning after a six month deployment in HMAS Waller. Photo: ABPH Morgana Salabert

INTENSE: LSCSO Georgie Hefgmun plots the situation during a damage control exercise onboard HMAS Sydney. Photo ABPH Morgana Salabert

ALL SMILES: LSPTI Darin Trudgett records times at the HMAS Penguin Gate to Gate event, which was supported by 130 runners and walkers. Photo: POPH Ollie Garside

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Warrant Officer Keith Freemantle
Submarine Combat Systems Program Office
Russell Offices – Canberra

WO Freemantle provides technical support to Project SEA1439PH5 this involves the acquisition of new communications antennas, an upgrade to the Collins Class Communications Centre, ESM and Periscopes. “DMO provides a work environment that allows more opportunities for me to enjoy being with family, especially my grandchildren.”
Glutton for punishment

Overindulging throughout the festive season can affect your fitness. Army’s LT Rob Orr takes us through a training diary upon returning to a daily fitness regime.

Monday
I started my day at 6am. It’s tough to get out of bed, but I’ve got my new gym gear on and am ready to go. Two PTIs came in to do the rounds and encourage everyone who is training. One of them stopped to talk to me. It was great and very inspiring. I also got an extra workout by holding my gut in while they were in the room. This is going to be a fantastic week.

Tuesday
My first exercise for today was where I lie on my back and push a heavy iron bar into the air. My arms started shaking after doing it 12 times, so I put the bar down and then remembered I was supposed to put some weights on. My legs were a little wobbly on the run, but I made the full 5km. The shower afterwards was great, although I sat through the whole thing.

Wednesday
The only reason I woke up this morning was because I could not lift my arms up to switch off the alarm. My chest hurt when I tried to stumble on the treadmill, so I climbed on the step machine. Two PTIs, with voices way too cheerful for this early in the morning, came in to ensure that everyone was undergoing sufficient pain. I was asked if I was feeling alright. Apparently my groaning was bothering the other gym members.

Thursday
I had to use the dumbbells today when doing my exercises. I’m sure the PTIs have hidden all the dumbbells weighing less than a kilogram just to make us work harder.

By halfway though the session my body hurt so much I decided that I did not need any weights — in fact I didn’t even have to move as I got enough of a work-out just standing up.

When I lay on the mat to complete my sit ups, I might have dozed off. But I am sure that I completed my full 100 sit ups. I had to finish my workout 20 minutes early as I needed the extra time to do up my boot laces if I was to make it to first parade on time.

Friday
My whole body aches. At the gym, the PTI gave me a copy of an article on muscle soreness, ironically printed on paper that weighed more than the Titanic. The article had some other rubbish about how good exercise was for you as well. In the training room, there was another person who was using the piece of equipment that I needed to warm up on. I could not train and had to go and get a breakfast special at the local cafe instead.

Saturday
I was in too much pain to go out today and to make matters worse, once I sat down on the couch I could not get up. The television remote was on the table, which I could not reach, so I ended up watching the weather channel for 10 hours straight.

HEALTH TIPS

- Power down: take time to switch off the electronics and go outside.
- Drink up: keep up your water intake.
- Watch it: monitor your alcohol and food intake, and avoid cigarettes.
- Activate: stay active, take a walk, kick a ball.
- Timing: exercise early before the day gets away from you.
- Rest: ensure you get enough sleep.

BE STRONG: Staying healthy over Christmas will make it easier to get back into your training routine in the New Year. Enjoy yourself but try not to over-indulge and you should get back into the swing of things easily. Photo: Phil Barling

TAKE OFF WITH AN ONLINE AVIATION DEGREE

Match your defence force experience with a tertiary qualification.
Make yourself accountable

Selecting the right bank account is an important decision and crucial for your financial future, writes ASIC Chairman Tony D’Aloisio.

Weapon selection can be a crucial part of any military operation. If you’re in the sandscapes of the Middle East, you’ll need different equipment from that required in the South Pacific. Each and every situation requires you to adapt accordingly.

Similarly, when it comes to your personal finances, equipping yourself with the right tools is very important. If you currently complete all your banking online with many direct debits, you might choose a different bank account to someone who prefers face-to-face service and a chequebook.

There are several reasons why you might want to move your everyday bank account (or ‘transaction account’) from one bank, building society or credit union to another. You might find an account that offers extra benefits, charges lower fees or you may want a better interest rate.

Easier than you think

The Government has introduced new measures to make it easier for consumers to switch bank accounts. Under these new measures, your current and future provider will help you make the switch.

Shop around

New transaction accounts are introduced to the market everyday. It pays to shop around to see if there’s another account that better suits your needs. Compare the fees and features of your current account with other products on the market. If you find one that’s better, then switching could be worth it.

As ADF members, it may be important that your account has an easy-to-use interface for online banking – especially if you’re on base or deployed much of the time.

Whatever your priority ask around and find out who can provide the best service for you.

There are also a number of websites that offer more detailed information to help you compare accounts and other financial products including www.can-nex.com.au, www.infochoice.com.au and www.ratecity.com.au

Automatic payments

If you find an account that offers more of what you want at the right price, you’ll need to update your automatic payments, including:

- Direct debits, for example, payments for insurance policies, phones, loans and utilities.
- Direct credits, for example, your pay, government benefit payments or tax refunds.

Banks, building societies and credit unions have agreed to make it easier for people to re-establish their automatic payments so it’s now easier for you to switch accounts. This service became available in November.

Follow these steps to make the switch easier:

- Set up your new transaction account. Leave your old account open with sufficient funds to cover any automatic payments that need to be made during the change over period.
- Ask your current financial institution for a list of all your regular direct debits and credits. They will provide you with a list of your automatic payments over the last 13 months.
- Take that list to your new financial institution. They will help you re-establish those payments on the new account.
- After you are sure all your automatic payments have been updated to your new account, you can safely close your old account.

It pays to double check old account statements. Remember to check on automatic payments between your transaction account and other accounts, such as an online savings account or credit card account.

Annual subscriptions and membership fees are other things to keep in mind.

For more information, visit ASIC’s consumer website, FIDO at www.fido.gov.au or call 1300 300 630. Email ASIC with topics that interest you at ADFinColumn@asic.gov.au

Our new eLearning module can help you get Financial Advice.

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www.adfconsumer.gov.au

ADF Financial Services Consumer Council

For more information contact us at: adf.consumercouncil@defence.gov.au

NAVY NEWS

Activision Blizzard
World at War
Call of Duty: World at War

I've got three words for you that you could call "more of the same" but when it's based on a game that was already so damn good to begin with, really can't go wrong. This is Call of Duty: World at War, and it's up to four weeks). There may be a lot about World at War that you could call "more of the same" but when it's based on a game that was already so damn good to begin with, really can't go wrong. But just in case you think there's absolutely nothing original about World at War, I've got three words for you: "Zombie Nazi Mode".

I'm a little weird that after Call of Duty 4's amazing success at experimenting with modern warfare, they'd go back to World War II for the next sequel. Unless you are just completely sick of this setting by now, you'll be glad to hear that the gameplay is just as solid as ever and at least the European and South Pacific engagements you take part in still feel fresh. As is traditional, the storyline has you jumping between characters in different corners of the world, allowing you to witness the individual human dramas as well as how the greater war plays out from different points of view. The strength of this franchise lies in just how well-staged and visceral the battlefield experience is, and true to form, the action is often intense and surprising. In fact the stress level is at the highest it's ever been, thanks to a far greater level of violence. The South Pacific sequences in particular are ruthless with some brutal melee tussles with blade-wielding kamikaze and access to a flamethrower of all things. Being built on the Call of Duty 4 engine, the graphic quality and shooting gameplay are still sharp as a tack and will feel instantly familiar to return players. The online multiplayer is identical to Modern Warfare since its design was so perfect to begin with (if ain't broke, don't fix it). This means a return to earning experience, creating classes, collecting/assigning different combinations of skills and perks, and earning recon/airstrike abilities in-game through skilled play. There may be a lot about World at War that you could call "more of the same" but when it's based on a game that was already so damn good to begin with, really can't go wrong. But just in case you think there's absolutely nothing original about World at War, I've got three words for you: "Zombie Nazi Mode".

By Sean Roberts

DFA's New Website
www.dfa.org.au

DFA's website provides you with a family focused portal on ADF information. It also provides DFA with the opportunity to inform and update you on our advocacy role in family related policy and entitlements.

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Your voice is in command

Tom Clancy's End War
Ubisoft
XBox 360/PS3/PC MA15+

By Sean Roberts

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Navy go down swinging

By SGT Brian Hartigan

AFTER a strong performance against RAAF at the Australian Services Cricket Association National Carnival in Canberra in November, Navy eventually succumbed to Army in an entertaining final game.

This year’s carnival, reduced to a three-team event, generally lent itself to low-scoring, bowler-dominated games in changeable weather conditions.

First to take to the field was Army, batting against the RAAF’s XI. RAAF bowlers kept the Army team to a relatively modest 136 runs on a low and slow pitch.

Unfortunately for RAAF, however, Army’s bowlers also liked what they found in the wicket and brought them undone in less than 11 overs for just 35 runs.

Game two pitted Navy against the now-battered RAAF at Kingston oval. This was a much tighter contest with RAAF batting first, reaching a modest yet defendable 149.

SGT Ian Smith, who faced 22 overs in what he rated the toughest spell he faced in 15 years, top scored for the RAAF with a 57 not out while CPL Matthew Monaghan added a handy 21.

Notable Navy bowling performances in this second game were delivered by AB Cameron McCormack, taking 4-32, and WO Gary Fuss with 3-16.

In reply, Navy actually chased down the RAAF total with time to spare, mainly off the bat of PO Mark Ham, 49, and WO Gary Fuss, 20.

The decider brought the two previously victorious sides together on the historic Manuka Oval.

Army took to the crease first, achieving a carnival-high 192 on the world-class batting track in their allotted 50 overs.

CPL Ian Roberts made 49 runs, ably supported by CPL Ian Nash and CPL Grant Gripiske with 28 and 25 runs each.

Navy’s WO Gary Fuss again led the bowling charge with 2-28, backed up by CPL Ian Nash and WO Gary Fuss, 20.

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Navy has still got it

At the recent National Interservice Volleyball competition, held in conjunction with the National Combined Service competition at Newcastle, the Navy team held its head up high. The Navy team, with only seven players, took on a full-strength Army team in the first of the inter-Service games. After many substitutions and differing line-ups, Army was still unable to beat Navy with Navy winning three sets to two.

Coming down from the high of beating Army, Navy were given a breather while Army played RAF, with Army being victorious three sets to one.

Navy then took on RAF again another full-strength team. In a close, hard-fought five-set match, RAF eventually overcame a dogged and gutsy effort from Navy, winning three sets to two.

The National Combined Service competition brought together teams from all over Australia with NSW winning the men’s competition and a combined SQCD/ACT/SA team winning the women’s title.

Special mention must be made of SMN Tevita ’Dave’ Kama, who in his first year came away from the National Combined tournament winning a medal, having been a member of the first-place NSW men’s team.

Kiwis and ADF hit it out

CPO Donna Edge was named the women’s most valuable player at the ADF Softball Association national carnival at RAFW Williams from November 3–7.

The competition attracted both male and female teams from NSW, NT, Southern States (SS) and the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN).

The competition comprised three days of preliminary games, which saw the team with the most wins crowned the ADFSA champions.

The last game for the men was contested between SS and NSW/NT. NSW/NT had won the two of their past encounters, however, SS came out with some powerful hitting and blew NSW/NT out of the park. As a result the ADFSA president decided that both teams would be crowned ADSA winners.

The women’s competition was also a one-sided affair with NSW/NT, only losing one game to the RNZN side.

On Friday a test match was held between both the RNZN and the ADF teams for both men and women. ADF had mixed fortunes with the women retaining the Trans Tasman Trophy but the Kiwi men were too strong for the ADF men.

All results and photos can be found on the ADSA website: http:// intranet.defence.gov.au/dgs/sites/Softball

If anyone is interested in playing softball please contact WO Virginia Morris, Secretary ADSA, at virginia.morris@defence.gov.au

Stirling tees off for charity

By LEUT Gary McHugh

HMAS Stirling strengthened ties with Malibu School after the base contributed $4000 to the sport.

Event coordinator CP0WTR Trevor Syme said the day was a huge success that exceeded all expectations.

“When we started out on this worthwhile cause we hoped to raise about $2000,” he said.

“But in the end we presented a cheque of nearly $7000 to the school.”

CPO Syme said funds raised from the event, which took place on November 19 at the Secret Harbour Golf Course, would go towards the establishment of an independent living unit at the school.

Malibu School, which caters for children with special needs, is HMAS Stirling’s recognised charity.

“The independent living facility will allow students to be taught valuable life skills prior to graduating,” CPO Syme said.

“Everyone at Malibu School does a wonderful job and we are very happy to help them out with their latest project.

“I would like to thank everyone who sponsored a hole, donated prizes or took part on the day and helped make it such a success.”

Navy golfers, clean sweep

The 2008 NSW inter-Service Golf Championship was contested recently at Tallwoods’ Golf Course at Forster by the Services and APS.

The Clift Merey 36 hole stroke event was contested over the first two days with Navy taking out both the Scratch and Nett trophies.

POMT Ian Bamford won the Scratch with WO Mark Donlan taking out the inaugural Nett Champion.

Under extreme weather conditions the inter-Service championship was closely contested by all teams. The gale force winds and penetrating rain made playing the challenging course even more difficult.

More help, when the prevailing rain cleared and the winds abated it was Navy still standing with three wins and the 2008 NSW Interservice Golf Trophy in their hands. The NSW Interservice victory was the first for Navy since 1998.

BRIEFS

Calling all rugby supporters

CA BRUMBIES have offered discounted membership to all Navy personnel. Membership information and application forms can be downloaded from http://www.brumbies.com.au/join/group.aspx?g=8267.

All Navy personnel who purchase a new membership will get a 20% discount until December 31, 2008. For Navy personnel to get the 20% discount on these new memberships, all forms must be sent to CPO Kelvin Bryant, at kelvin.bryant@defence.gov.au, or (02) 6265 7304, or R1-4-3CB Russell Office, Canberra, ACT 2601.

2009 track and field champs

All ADF and APS personnel are invited to contest the Australian Defence Running and Athletics Association’s (ADRA) 2009 track and field championships in January.

The titles will be held on the Australia Day weekend from January 24 to 26 at Victoria’s Landy Field in Geelong.

Athletes will be able to compete in age categories for men’s and women’s open and veterans, and men’s masters events. Entry forms will be available on the website once finalised. For more information, contact ADRAA vice-president FIIT Spencer Cox on (02) 4928 5231.

Recruit school reunion

WHAT? Waler Division Recruit Intake reunion (January 15, 1966)

WHERE? January 17, 2009

WHERE? Naval Association of Australia Hall, 1 Graham Street, Footscray, VIC 3012

MELWAY REF: Map 41 J3

HOW MUCH? $40 per head excluding drinks

RSVP? Ian Arnold on (03) 9590 7688 or ian.arnold@evansyeend.com.au; or John Francis at john.francis@optusnet.com.au

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No joy at Mollymook

Navy didn’t have a lot of joy at the ACT Inter-Service golf competition held at Mollymook’s Hilltop course from October 20–24, but there were still things to smile about.

Army won the title when they beat the highly fancied APS and the Air Force team relegated Navy to fourth position.

However, there were some personal highlights. CAPT Chris ‘Jack’ Frost, the team manager, was awarded the team’s most valuable player trophy, pipping LCOL Steve Rodgers who won all three of his matches.

The championship also marked the last stand for LEUT Michael Robertson, the departing Navy team captain.
By John Martin

WHEN boxer LSCSO Lincoln Stewart got up from the canvas, he had no idea that the next seven minutes of exchanging punches would lead to an offer to fight for the world title in April.

LS Stewart, of HMAS Stirling, had been knocked down before in more than 100 amateur and professional fights.

He was stunned. As soon as the eight-count ended, he felt his left eye starting to swell rapidly and his vision was fading.

And although he felt he had won the first three rounds of the six-round light welterweight fight against Filipino Rey Anton Olarte in front of nearly 4000 people at Malvern Town Hall in Melbourne on November 21, he knew he still had a minute of the fourth round to survive before he could be patched up by his corner.

He spent most of that minute holding on. “I just kept the pressure on him. Basically I knew where he was all the time because I just stuck to him,” LS Stewart said.

The next thing he recalls was his trainer, Brian Levier, saying, “You have to win the next two rounds convincingly to get this because this bloke’s pretty quick and he’s been getting some nice clean shots.”

The good news is that, despite his injury and pain, LS Stewart produced two sparkling last rounds to win on points.

The even better news is he now has his sights on fighting for the World Boxing Federation’s vacant light welterweight title at Malvern on April 3. His opponent hasn’t been chosen yet, but it will be either a Thai boxer or another Filipino. That will depend on results of fights in coming weeks.

When LS Stewart was first offered the world title shot, the date offered was December 19 – and his first instinct was to turn it down.

“I was ready for that fight,” he says, which goes some way to explaining how gutted he was.

But a fight on December 19 was out of the question. It wouldn’t give him enough time to get into top shape again and it would be a logistical nightmare trying to rearrange his work schedules.

Sense has prevailed though. Now the date has been rescheduled and LS Stewart, with a new manager, AB Kristopher Webb of Leunwin Barracks, believes he will be ready to go.

LS Stewart had a promising career in boxing before he joined the Navy. He started as a little tucker in his home town of Lilydale in Victoria. But after turning pro and winning a swag of Australian and Pacific titles, he retired prematurely because of frustration over persistent hand injuries.

His interest in the sport was rekindled when he was aboard HMAS Adelaide and realised that after five years out of the ring his hands were not troubling him any more.

He had his first comeback fight in 2007, and won it by a TKO.

His second fight wasn’t so successful. He lost it, injuring his hand in the process.

He reports, however, that he came through this recent fight with his hands unscathed. No breaks, no fractures, no ice needed.

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When the call came he was at a friend’s winery on Kangaroo Island, gleefully eating everything he knew was bad for him, including cheese, bread, pasta and fruit.

He turned the title-fight offer down almost immediately. December 19 was too soon.

He had mixed feelings about that. In about 2000 he was offered a world title shot but had to turn it down because he was contracted to another promoter.

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ON GUARD: LSCSO Lincoln Stewart preparing for his fight on November 21 – he did so well he’s accepted a shot at a world title.

Photo: LSPH Phillip Cullinan

SPORT

TITLE SHOT

NAVY BOXER GOES FOR WORLD TITLE

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