

# BASEGRAM



CMDR Geoff 'Snow' Harle MBE RAN passed away peacefully at Athenrye Aged Care, Tuesday Apr. 19, 2011, aged 88 years.

Commander Harle (Snow) joined the Navy in May 1939 as an Ordinary Seaman, and served on board HMAS Canberra, Doomba, Ballarat, Quiberon, Napier and Nizam in World War 2.

He continued as a specialist in Communications prior to being promoted to Lieutenant in 1957 and again was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 1960.

The following year he served in

HMAS Vendetta before being appointed Officer in Charge of HMAS Harman.

He served as Deputy Director of the Signal Division at Navy Office in Canberra before becoming Officer in Charge of the Communications School at HMAS Cerberus from 1963 to 1965.

He was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1965 and held appointments at HMAS ships Melville, Lonsdale and Cerberus before becoming CO of HMAS Lonsdale in 1973.

He was awarded the MBE in 1965, served the Navy for 35 years, his shipmates and family for his entire life.

LEST WE FORGET!

## Inside this issue:

2011 AGM Venue and-Menu, Book Review	2
RANCBV AGM Acceptance and Sub Form	3
Fleet News Bulletin	4
Events to take note of	5
100 years of a proclamation. A bit of Flag history	6
Warships talking a new language. Regional Visit	7
What's New—Monitoring Space	8



Comments, queries or if you have a story you would like included contact

IAN HOGARTH

Phone: 03 9338 7068

Mobile: 0407 336641

Email:

ianwhogarth@optusnet.com.au

## RANCBAA Annual General Meeting Friday 4th November 2011



The 2011 AGM meeting will again be conducted at the **The Pumphouse Hotel**, located at the Corner of King William and Nicholson Steets Fitzroy - virtually opposite the rear of the Exhibition Building.

Tram access from Flinders St Stn is via

No 96 in Bourke St. Exit at No13 or No14 stop and then a short walk. Paid ticketed parking is generally available.

**Note The invitation to attend is also extended to all Ex R.A.N. Communicators and/or their partners.**

The business of the AGM will commence at 1100 hours sharp so those who wish to charge their glasses prior to the commencement should arrive at 1045 hours.

### Treasurer's Report



Our new Treasurer Greg Goodwin will provide his report at the Annual General meeting as per SOE's. However in the meantime if you haven't paid your subs then your contribution will be gratefully accepted

Those wishing to pay their subs may do so by forwarding them with this issue's attached form to (see next page)

*Greg Goodwin*  
20 Palkana Street  
Frankston Victoria 3199

Phone Mobile : 0419 844 789  
Email: frog\_on@bigpond.com.au

**The cost for this years function will be \$35**

and includes a similar menu to last year eg

**Entrée** (your choice from)

**Crisp Lemon pepper calamari**, rocket and shaved cucumber salad, aioli

**Bruschetta**, tomato, feta, red onion, basil, balsamic glaze

**Soup of the day**

**MAIN COURSE** (your choice from)

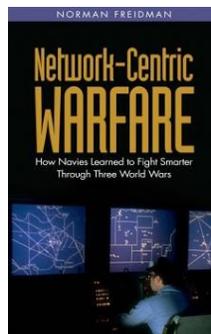
**Ossobuco**, braised in a rich red wine, herb and tomato ragu, pan-seared gnocchi, shaved grana padana, green olive gremolata

**Chicken Breast Saltimbocca**, mushroom, bacon and cream cheese filled, herb buttered mash, greens, mustard seed crème

**Hand rolled Gnocchi**, caramelised onion, wild mushroom and garlic crème sauce, truffle scented rocket, parmesan

**Fish of the day**, sweet potato and leek gratin, chilli, crab and lime butter, side salad.

**Note House Wine, beer and soft drinks are included.**



### Book Review

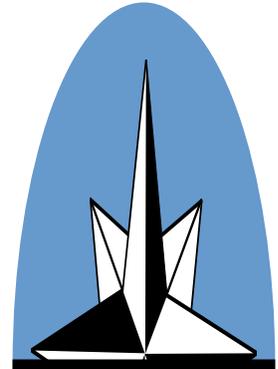
***How Navies Learned to Fight Smarter Through Three World Wars***

ISBN 9781591142867

Cost \$32

"This study is a vital first step in a long overdue reassessment of the dramatic changes in the command and control of naval operations in the twentieth century. Dr Friedman's work shows how fundamental communications networks and information systems were to commanders afloat and ashore in fighting the war at sea and that victory went to the possessor of the more comprehensive picture of the maritime battlespace. The increasing complexity of the issues that navies faced in their continual struggle to exploit new developments is very thoroughly conveyed in a book whose author consistently demonstrates an understanding of both the theoretical science and the practical technology which underpinned that revolution." —RADM James Goldrick, Royal Australian Navy

# RANCBA Annual General Meeting 4th November 2011



Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Telephone .....

Email .....

WMP (with much pleasure) I will be attending the AGM

Lunch including entrée and main beer, wine, soft drinks \$35

Game of Skill Tickets \$10

Yearly Subs \$10

MRU (Much Regret am unable to attend)

**Total** \$.....

A **Banyan** Party nowadays has come to mean a cheery party, possibly in connection with a picnic.

Banyan Days were formerly Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and were days on which no meat was issued. This restriction was removed in 1884.

The term is derived from a religions sect in the East who believed it wicked to eat of any creature endowed with life.

It would appear that the present meaning of the term is derived from the fact that men were accustomed to save up odds and ends of their rations in order to make delicacies to tide them over the fast days.

*Please return with payment to the Treasurer*

Greg Goodwin  
20 Palkana Street  
Frankston Victoria 3199

*Email frog\_on@bigpond.com.au*

*Phone: 03 9789 2001 or Mobile 0419 844 789*

*At your earliest convenience*

***or latest 24nd October 2011***

## **Fleet News Bulletin**

### ***New Communications gear for Anzac's***

Austal has teamed with German defence communications contractor Rohde & Schwarz to submit a proposal for the upgrade of maritime communications for the Royal Australian Navy's eight ANZAC-class frigates.

The Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) has issued a request for tender for the SEA 1442 Phase 4 maritime communications modernisation program, with an expected acquisition cost between \$300 million to \$500 million.

### ***Goodbye Squirrels!***

Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare today announced that the Royal Australian Navy has signed a new contract with Raytheon Australia to provide three Bell 429 helicopters aimed to maintain and develop the skills of junior Naval helicopter aircrew. The contract is worth around \$26 million over four years and includes support and maintenance.

### ***Some extra support***

Minister for Defence Stephen Smith and Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare today announced that the Royal Australian Navy will lease an additional amphibious ship, the *Windermere*, to enhance the Navy's amphibious capability during the forthcoming cyclone season. This adds to HMAS *Choules* which will arrive in Australia in December and HMAS *Tobruk* which is currently in maintenance in preparation for the cyclone season which commences in November.

### ***Film/DVD***

A DOCUMENTARY about the Royal Australian Navy Helicopter Flight Vietnam (RANHFV) is in production and due to be launched in late September. The DVD will feature members of the flight who served in the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1971. A group of surviving members of the flight, which was designated an Experimental Military Unit, known as EMU, took part in interviews at the Fleet Air Arm Museum recently.

### ***New Border Protection Boats***

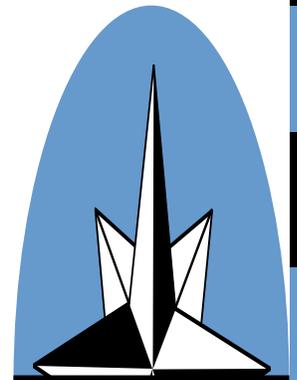
Minister for Home Affairs, Brendan O'Connor, today announced the preferred tenderer to build the next generation of patrol boats to secure Australia's borders. Austal, an award-winning Australian-owned ship manufacturer, is the preferred tenderer for the \$350 million contract to build and support eight new Customs and Border Protection vessels.

### ***Navy opens High Tech Warship simulator***

Junior officers in the Royal Australian Navy will learn to pilot the next generation of warships, in an upgraded \$10 million training facility at HMAS Watson, Sydney.

### ***New Stamps***

Australia Post will celebrate 100 years of the Royal Australian Navy with the release of a 'then and now' stamp issue featuring the Australian Navy's first flagship, battle cruiser HMAS *Australia* (I) and modern missile frigate HMAS *Sydney* (IV). The Royal Australian Navy 1911-2011 stamp issue were released on 14 June.



A **Parliament heel** was the name given by sailors to the method of inspecting, cleaning and ascertaining the rottenness of the ship's under water timbers by heeling her over whilst still afloat, and shows that even in former days that august institution was not held in particularly high esteem by the men of His Majesty's Navy.

## Events

### ***Wreath Laying service at the WW2 Forecourt***

Sunday 16th October 14.30—1500  
Shrine of Remembrance Melbourne

Details Tel 9661 8100

### ***HMAS Cerberus Open day***

***Sunday 23rd October 1000-1600***

Details

11:00am - Parachute display, official opening and welcome to country  
Midday - RAAF Roulettes  
12:20pm - Navy helicopter wet winching display  
12:40pm - Peninsula Aero Club flying display  
2:00pm - RAAF Museum flying display  
2:20pm - Navy helicopter wet winching display  
2:40pm - Peninsula Aero Club flying display  
3:00pm - Ceremonial Sunset and Beat to Quarters

### ***The Navy in the First World War***

Tue, 25 October, 13:00 – 14:00 Shrine of Remembrance

Hear Ian Pfenningwerth discuss the vitally important and often overlooked role of the Navy during that conflict. In particular you will hear about the significant role this new Australian Fleet had in persuading the German Navy to leave the Pacific. Doctor Pfenningwerth's 35 year career in the Navy encompassed command of HMAS PERTH II 1983/84, 2 years as our Naval Attache in China, and 3 years as the Director of Naval Intelligence. He retired from the Navy in 1992 and since then he has acquired a Phd, written a best seller "A Man of Intelligence - The Life of Captain Eric Nave, Australian Codebreaker Extraordinary", plus a number of other books, including 'The Australian Cruiser Perth', 'Tiger Territory', and 'The RAN and General Douglas MacArthur'.

Bookings essential. 9661 8100

## **RAN Band - Soundwaves Concert**

When—Tue, 8 November, 19:30 – 21:00

Where—Band & Cinema Complex, HMAS CERBERUS (Enter via Stony Point Road, Crib Point

Downbeat is at 7:30pm, Tuesday 8th of November, at the Band Complex, HMAS Cerberus. (doors open 6:30pm for tea / coffee and chocolates) As always, entry is FREE of course! All are welcome to attend, so feel free to bring your friends, spouse, kids, parents, uncles, aunts, accountants....whoever! We hope you can take this opportunity to join us for an evening of high quality band music right here on the Mornington Peninsula. If you have any questions regarding the band's performances

Contact 5931 5200 Mathew Klohs

## ***Remembrance Day***

When Friday 11 November, 10:30 – 11:00

Where Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne (

Remembrance day wreath laying service in the Sanctuary and the WW2 forecourt. Navy Guard.

Note Inquiries relating to ceremonial occasions at the Shrine of Remembrance can be addressed to the Receptionist: Tel - 9661 8100

## ***HMAS Cerberus Divisions***

When Friday, 2 Dec 2011 Time to be decided

Where HMAS Cerberus

Please also note that these Divisions incorporate the "RMIT Graduation Parade" too. ex-Navy guests are welcome to attend .

Photo ID required for Access

Contact 5931 5262 to confirm time

Editors NOTE:-

We would like to thank the Federal Member for Calwell for her assistance in the production and distribution of this Newsletter.