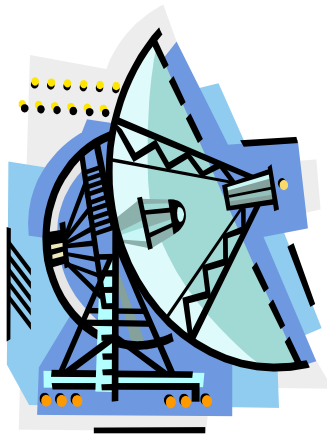


Patron: Commanding Officer HMAS Cerberus - Captain Katherine Richards

**BASEGRAM SPRING 2013**



**Regional Reunion #2 (16-18Aug13) & Vietnam Veterans Day Service**

By Gary Swanton!

Some 35 members and their partners made their way to the Big4 Anglesea Holiday Park (<http://anglesea-holiday-park.vic.big4.com.au>) for the 2nd of our regional reunions, the 1st being held in Echuca last year.

The Holiday Park is managed by member, ex CPORS John Nokka White and his partner Rachel and they both did a sterling job in making us all welcome.

The caravaners among the group included, Ray and Sharon Mundy, Karen and Kel Nagle, Ian Broadsmith and Gayle and Reg Robins all set up their sites for the weekend and others found themselves utilising excellent cabin accommodation. Friday evening saw a meet and greet held at the Holiday Park and some members going into Anglesea for dinner while the remainder stayed at the park for a few beverages and to swap some warries.

Saturday morning arrived and a coach tour of Lorne and surrounding areas had been arranged.

Another highlight of the weekend was the group lunch at Paul Freestones 60's style Diner.

Saturday evening saw a roast dinner beautifully prepared and presented by the owners of the Holiday Park, however, prior to the meal, Nokka screened a video about the Battle of Australia, of course this told the story of when Japan bombed Darwin.

The video was well received by all that attended and was timely noting that Gary Swanton will shortly be participating in a ceremony in Melbourne designed to commemorate this.

As part of the weekends activities, the RAN CBA (Vic) committee had contacted Anglesea RSL to see if they had anything planned to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day, as it turned out nothing had been arranged.

Rod Withers took the lead and with the assistance of the RSL a service was organised.

All RAN CBA (Vic) members in attendance were fallen in outside the Holiday Park and marched the short distance to the RSL where around 20 or so locals including a couple of local veterans were waiting for us.

The wind was howling as the service began and rain threatened a number of times throughout the service.



Ray Mundy, Nokka White and Ian Broadsmith battled on to contain the colours.

Rod conducted the service and member Ex CPORS Graham Bence placed a wreath on behalf of the RAN CBA. Rod also told those gathered about Operation Sea Dragon specifically highlighting one of the little known aspects of the RAN's involvement in the Vietnam conflict.

On completion of the service, a brunch was held in the RSL and this also served as a wrap-up of the regional reunion.

Lakes entrance has been nominated for the 2014 Regional meeting and members will be updated with further details as they are put in train.

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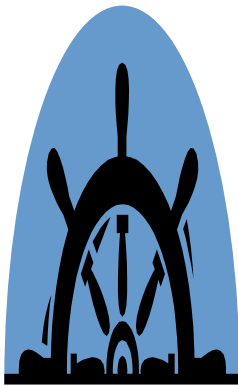
Comments, queries or if you have a story you would like included contact

IAN HOGARTH

Phone: 03 9338 7068

ianwhogarth@optusnet.com.au

## RANCBA Annual General Meeting Friday the 8th November 2013



### Crow's Nest:

A lookout station positioned at the highest practical point on a ship's mast. The origin of "nest" seems obvious, but why crows?

One possibility is that Norse ships carried ravens in cages, which were hoisted aloft and released in order to find the direction to the nearest land.

The 2013 AGM meeting will again be conducted at the **The Pumphouse Hotel**, located at the Corner of King William and Nicholson Streets 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 at which time lunch orders will also be taken

**NOTE: The cost for this years function has increased and will be \$55**

Treasurer Greg Goodwin will provide his report at the Annual General meeting as per SOE's.

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*

**Menu (similar to previous years )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)

**Osso Bucco**, 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**, cara-

melised 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.

**Vegetarian meals available**

**Note** RANCBA will provide a limited TAB for House Wine, beer and soft drinks.



### Treasurer's Report

*Or payment can be effected by paying directly online to*

BSB 063 255

A/C no 10004904

RANCBA VIC

*Greg's contact details*

**Phone Mobile : 0419 844 789**

Email:  
frog\_on@bigpond.com.au



# AGM Booking Form

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Telephone .....

Email .....

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

Lunch including entrée and main beer, wine, soft drinks \$55

Game of Skill Tickets \$10

Yearly Subs \$10

MRU (Much Regret am unable to attend)

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

**Please return with payment to the Treasurer, by the 1st of November 2013:**

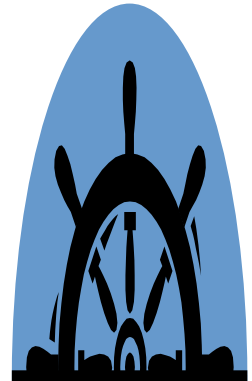
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Greg Goodwin

20 Palkana Street

Frankston Victoria 3199

Email [frog\\_on@bigpond.com.au](mailto:frog_on@bigpond.com.au)

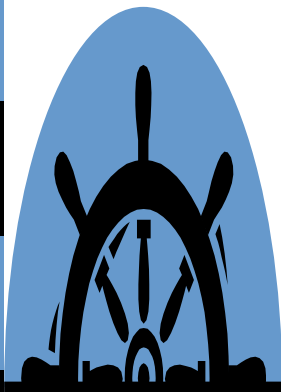


## Old Ships Never Die

Symbolised by the Crest which is passed down to successor ships which bear the same name!

In Australia the original Fleet included the names of both the 2 main Colony's eg Sydney and Melbourne together with the names of Australian Rivers eg Parramatta etc

A Tradition that continues today!



### Acknowledgement of Orders!

When given an order a Sailor should reply "Aye aye Sir!" And then carry it out.

When a report is made to an officer he acknowledges it with the words, "Very good," even though that may not be the case at all!

Whilst Acknowledgements on a Radio Circuit are given using the word "Roger"

And this word is used exclusively on "communication circuits" and should not be used anywhere else on a ship.

### Victorian Navy Relics applications for iPhone and Android Smartphones.

The Victorian Navy Relics App shows the location & details of known relics of Victoria's Colonial Navy.

Relics from the world's oldest surviving monitor warship, the largest Man-o-War built during the Napoleonic Wars, Victoria's gunboats, torpedo boats & auxiliary vessels are covered in this App.

In all, 25 vessels served between 1856 & 1901 to defend Victoria in the event of war with Russia, France or the USA. Items covered in the App, dating from 1786 to 1892, include bells, anchors, monuments, a figure-head, 90 cannon & hundreds of smaller relics as well as 25 vessels.

Hundreds of images illustrate the various relics and help explain how they were used as well as describing their life since the end of their service.

At under 30 megabits the application is small enough to leave on a Smartphone until needed, which at the touch of the defined icon the closest 12 relics are identified with a map showing how to find them.

Ed Note *doesn't include living legends of the RANCBA branch who believe they fulfill the definition of relic :-)*

Once downloaded an internet connection is not required unless more than the basic map is needed. Details, images, the GPS location and how to find the surviving relics and vessels can all be accessed offline.

To download the application for your "Smart phone" visit

[http://www.cerberus.com.au/relics\\_app.html](http://www.cerberus.com.au/relics_app.html)

And the website also provides a number of graphics as to what will be presented on your "smart phone"

### ATP1 Vol 3—NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Norfolk, 700 Robbins Avenue Philadelphia,

PA 19111i intends to acquire on behalf of Navy Warfare Development Command (NWDC) services to initiate the revision of ATP-1 Vol 1, Allied Maritime Tactical Instructions and Procedures publication.

The desired end result is that ATP-1 Vol. 1 clearly and succinctly describes, at the tactical level of operations, US and Allied maritime doctrine, instructions and procedures.

A secret security clearance is required to perform under the resultant contract. The anticipated performance period for this procurement will be one year from date of award.

Ed Note: Issued 17th May 2012! - So no doubt it will be interesting to see how this is received!

Just to keep the **VS Branch** up to scratch you might want to download the following

#### MTP 1(D), VOLUME II

#### MULTINATIONAL

#### MARITIME TACTICAL

#### SIGNAL AND

#### MANEUVERING BOOK

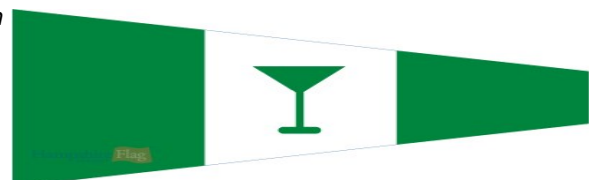
Which is available at the following site!

[http://www.rtna.ac.th/departments/Weapon/download/lecture/MTP/MTP\\_2.pdf](http://www.rtna.ac.th/departments/Weapon/download/lecture/MTP/MTP_2.pdf)

Ed Note Some of which "should" have been used during the Fleet Entry into Sydney Harbor for the Fleet Review and processes contained therein eg

OOW Manoeuvres outside the Heads and then the Ceremonial Flag Hoists used on Entry but that's just my opinion on a missed opportunity .

And where was the Gin Pennant flying? other than on those RANCBA units attending the review! (see online for colours)



### Our Australian Navy! (Riverina Herald Echuca/Moama Oct 1913)

The arrival of the flagship of the Australian Fleet in Sydney last week was an event of more than ordinary importance, symbolising as it does the practical completion of the Australian unit of the Imperial Navy.

It is only a few years back that the question of Australia relying upon its own resources or continuing to be dependent, as in the past, upon the British Navy for protection against aggression was hotly debated.

Many indeed considered that it was a yet too early for a young country like Australia with its limited population, to undertake the financial responsibility of maintaining a fleet in these waters which would be controlled by the Commonwealth Government, as the burden might be heavy – there was much more to be gained from having our own Fleet subject Australian control in Australian waters.

Another view of the proposal that Australia should build and maintain its own fleet was that as a dependency of Great Britain a separate unit locally under the control of the Commonwealth would op up certain dangers in Britain's foreign policy, whilst there were others who professed to see in Australia's awakened Naval and Military enthusiasm some ulterior object which would threaten the unity of the Empire.

It was in vain to point out to such detractors that Australia had in view its own National safety and that building such a Fleet it would ensure to some extent not only that safety! but create a Naval Force of some value to the Empire: at the same time taking upon its own shoulders the cost of maintaining it.

**Greg Goodwin has supplied the following link eg**

<http://www.nxtbook.com/faircount/NAVYOUTLOOK/SPECIAL/EDITION/index.php#/0>

**Which provides an online book on the 2013 International Fleet Review in Sydney!**

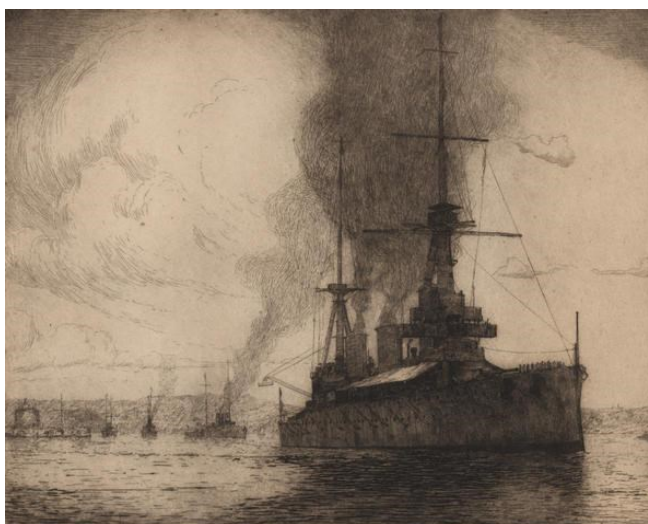
Australia's attitude was made very clear at the last Imperial Defence Conference, and though it took some pressure upon the part of Australian representatives to assure the Imperial authorities that the Commonwealth was determined to pursue a policy of responsible self-defence it was eventually recognised that the course being in accord with the aspirations of the Australian people one that would not be in conflict with Imperial interests.

Mr M'Kenna the Home Secretary, accurately summing up the position when he remarked that

*"while there is to be no interference with the autonomy of any member of the Empire the foundations have been laid of a naval strength which, if combined in war will safeguard Imperial interests in every part of the globe"*

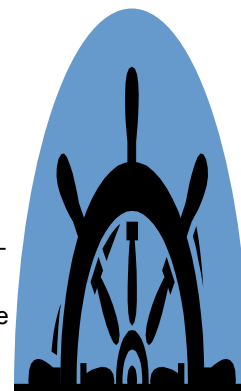
*This embodies the views of all the representatives that whilst the Commonwealth has complete control of its own fleet in times of peace – **the Australian Fleet being in war time practically a unit of the British Navy will be under the control of the British Admiralty.***

That is a wise decision from a strategic point of view and very necessary so long as Australian remains portion of the British Empire.



National Library of Australia

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### BLUE MOON

Once in a blue moon an occasion may arise where either or both the jackstaff and the Ensign Staff are not available for the ceremony of Colors!

In which case the Duty communicator should hoist Colors on the Mast with the National Flag hoisted on the Starboard Yardarm and/or the White Ensign hoisted on the Port Yardarm.

Noting of course that as soon as a ships anchor is "aweight" or casting from alongside, -that the last line has slipped—

Then the White Ensign would be shifted to its rightful position on the Mainmast!

And the ANF struck at the same time!

!

Traditions from the past!