

VOICE PIPE

TINGIRA AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 5 Number 2 August 2015



We Met
We Marched
We Remembered Them...
Gallipoli & Tingira
100 years onward

For Sale...
Leeuwin Barracks
JR Reunion...
Final tickets now



TINGIRA AUSTRALIA

Committee 2014 - 2017

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David Ruckert

SECRETARY

Mark Lee

TREASURER

Peter Stephenson OAM

COMMITTEE

Steven Beal
Chris Parr
Greg Read SC

DISTRIBUTION ADVERTISING CORRESPONDENCE

M TINGIRA AUSTRALIA Assoc
ANZAC House

245 Castlereagh Street
Sydney NSW 2000

E tingirasec@gmail.com

W tingira.org.au

W jrreunion.com.au

All official communication and correspondence to be sent to the Association Secretary via email or mail, address above.

No other correspondence in any format will be recognised.

Members of Tingira

It's been a whirlwind few months at my desk, running the communications department for the RSL NSW and then the Tinny boys to march around the country on ANZAC Day.

In Sydney the AGM was held prior to the Sunset Service on Tingira Memorial. It was a striking moment as we sang the national anthem with locals passing by joining the service. Followed by the Presidents Dinner - well they just get better, singing with Amber, that was a good move! Great night was had by all and many new friendships starting to emerge amongst the group.

Our proudest day - when the Tingira lads marched onto the Sydney Cenotaph and we had in our minds that the boys in Melbourne are also at the Shrine of Remembrance and the Perth boys at Kings Park, a great achievement by all, well done.

Big thank you to Rick Reddish who came down to Sydney from Brisbane, wasn't real well in his health, put him in a wheelchair and he did the march proudly, well done mate we were all vey honoured to be by your side for the occasion.

Another highlight, the Navy cadet unit from the new unit 'Australia' were on hand to help us and carry on the Tingira spirit with their youth programs, we welcome their new association with Tingira.

Thanks to all the lads who have helped me through some very busy few weeks, Paul in WA and Niall in Melbourne, brilliant Bravo Zulu all round, Russ you would have been very proud, we know you too were working for the country at Gallipoli, hope you wore our Tingira tie!

On a sad note Leeuwin Barracks to be finally developed, it was only a matter of time, such a great location. Wonder what they do with our Memorial? We have a team on the case in the West and in Canberra, let's hang onto the Tingira Memorial here at Rose Bay for all those obvious reasons, it's on our Tingira site and to start with!

Time to all get behind the President Lance Ker and the team on the big 'JR Reunion' it's nearly sold out, if you don have a ticket now, its time to get one, see you at the Reunion!



MARK LEE

Secretary
Editor - Voice Pipe



FRONT COVER

Voice Pipe is published on behalf of the Committee for the Tingira Australia Association Inc, for past members of HMAS Leeuwin and Cerberus Junior Recruit Training Scheme.

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*Sydney boys in step as they enter the Cenotaph in Martin Place.
Led by Tingira President Lance Ker with young Associate Tingira Member Marshall Lee on Flag duty.*

Photography - MORGAN LEE

We Met We Marched We Remembered Them ...

After many decades of commemorating ANZAC Day in the ways of traditional Navy members past and present, the boys of the Tingira Australia Association knew that the 100 year commemoration of Gallipoli was going to be a little different at most services across the country.

The media build up and commercial documentaries of everything 'Gallipoli' had been running at record breaking levels for the past month; there was an air of expectation that many thousands of Australians and visitors were about to embark upon their first ANZAC Day service.

The Tingira Australia Association formed in 2011 under its Patron Vice Admiral, Russ Crane, set out to reunite many of the former 13,000 Junior Recruits (JR's) that had passed through the gates of HMAS Leeuwin in Fremantle between 1961 and 1984.

One of the major visions set into the aims and objectives of the association is to have members annually march under the Tingira banner on ANZAC Day services nationally across Australia. 2015 was to be their vision reality.

Tingira membership numbers have been increasing rapidly during the past 18 months, the message across the country was out that the 'Tingira Boys' were set to march and follow with another big 'JR Reunion' planned for Sydney in November 2015.

Sydney, Melbourne and Perth were all up to the 2015 vision. Coordinations formed ranks with their local Tingira members, associates, friends and families to march as one on ANZAC Day of 2015.



Sydney Division - All singing the birthday song for Tingira's 103rd celebrations at Customs House gardens Circular Quay.

Sydney hosted the associations AGM the night before and followed with the annual Presidents Dinner after a moving 'sunset service' on the Tingira Memorial at Rose Bay.

The Tingira boys proudly marched onto the memorial with their banner and hoisted their original Tingira flag, laid wreaths and commemorated the moment.

Tingira Secretary Mark Lee made a moving speech for this Gallipoli occasion of commemorating WW1. Lee read to the members and gathering crowd of local residents who had stopped for the moment, the names, ranks and cause of death of the 29 Tingira sailors from World War One.

As the sun set on Rose Bay, two minutes silence was observed, the Naval Ode delivered from Vice President David Ruckert; then followed the crowd in strong voice led by Amber Lawrence singing the Australian national anthem.

JRREUNION.COM.AU

Junior Recruits Grand Reunion

SYDNEY - November 2015

The Presidents Dinner was highlighted with Tingira President, Lance Ker, handing over the associations Tingira Bell. This glistening piece of brass in its new wooden housing along with a newly acquired painting of the original HMAS Tingira was presented to RSL sub-Branch representative, Lee Stockley.

These prestigious items will soon form part of a permanent display in the foyer of Club Rose Bay displaying the Tingira history for Rose Bay and the ties with the Tingira Australia association.

ANZAC Day Sydney - This was the fourth ANZAC Day march for the Sydney members since forming in 2011. A large group of approximately 50 Tingira Boys and associate members formed up at 8.30am for the final ANZAC Day march down George Street, assisted by members of the newly formed 'Australia' naval cadet training ship led by their commanding Officer CAPT Mona Shindy and her staff.

The weather was kind, warm sunshine soaked Castlereagh Street. The word was out 1,000's of extras were joining the march along the route and timing had put us back an hour. Generous supplies of 'Pusser's Rum' and 'Coke' were circulated to keep the blood warm for the lads and the young cadets.

As the bands played and the drum beat echoed in the streets between the high-rise glass towers, the Tingira banner raised, flag trimmed and boys commenced their march. The Sydney crowds were generous with their applause as the boys turned out spec and span in their uniformed suit, ties, badge, JR beret and poppy. Two of our lads were in wheelchairs and this provided a good even pace for the Division to keep in step.

An after lunch function at the Customs House Courtyard, Circular Quay, was a grand occasion where the lads and ladies 'Spliced their Mainbrace' and sang in unison to celebrate the 103rd birthday of the commissioning of HMAS Tingira. We remembered them...

ANZAC Day Melbourne - Coordinator Niall Baird - 8am arrived in the back streets of Melbourne and marked our form up territory with the new Tingira banner and flag. As the lads began to arrive they were issued with poppies, Tingira ties, member pins and membership application forms to those who were just coming on board for the first time.

Three young Able Seaman from HMAS Cerberus Seaman 'volunteered' to hold our banner and flag. This was a welcome gesture. Many of these newly formed Tingira lads were marching for the first time, most had had very little to do with the navy since the days of leaving their last posting.



Our own TINGIRA Bell in her new housing complete with association Honour Roll with a new home at RSL Rose Bay.

Conversation broke out around the ranks - sharkskin white fronts, zip up tunics for the female junior sailors, and other aspects of the 'new generation' naval uniform. The general consensus was that once they got over the shock of seeing them all in the same uniform, it did look pretty good, but again, the seven creases on bell bottoms was definitely a miss by all.

With the drum beats booming and bagpipes screaming, 9am stepping off on a bleak overcast Melbourne morning, 20 Tingira members and associates were marching behind our flag and in front of our banner. At first we were a little confused with the minor movement forward, which seemed to be a shuffle from the squads in front of us, until I realised that this was just a 'creep' up to the main parade route

We marched, we smiled, we did our piece for this historical occasion with pride. Tingira was on the move again in the southern states after many years of activity by our former members the 'Tingira Old Boys Association'.



Melbourne Division - Chilling back with some old wares the Tingira boys at the Royce Hotel.

There was a little bit of confusion from ANZAC House, where we were requested to 'off caps' prior to the eyes right at the eternal flame, rather than saluting. As there is no protocol for 'on caps' the answer came from consensus at HMAS Cerberus, that we should just transfer the beret to the left hand, and continue on until the halt.

After dismissing the march, Tingira lads relocated to the Seasons Hotel then onto the Royce Hotel for a lunch session, taking the new Seaman from HMAS Cerberus with us. New and old friendships were made, a few hours of 'warrie spinning stories' and meeting families of former JR's. We all agreed to be there next year and to bring along an extra JR mate! At the end of the day there was excitement and closure. We remembered them...

ANZAC Day Perth - Coordinator Paul Kalajzich - The alarm sounds at 0300 and the day begins, the three S's and we were off to catch a train to Perth CBD.

The crowd is solid with a steady stream like ants all marching towards the Kings Park Memorial. The vibe is buzzing yet respectful and polite as we weave through the blankets and chairs, sleeping infants and chatter

over warming coffee. It's a pleasant 15c as we locate a clear space near the ABC camera mount, how lucky a clear view.

A well practiced service where a reported 80,000 have come to pay respect; the almost eerie feel where a crowd worthy of a finals football game is solemn and quiet. The sun has risen the wreaths laid the crowd makes their way to the Perth CBD. As we walk we bump into many old colleagues, many rates, many ranks and mixed services. The vibe is alive and vibrant as warm coffee, and toasted morsels and the odd tot of rum is sort.

The boys have assembled behind the Tingira banner and flag we move to the identified fall-in position, it 's a wonderful warm and embracing welcome as we spot a number of well spurred gent's fitted out in dark suits, light shirts and the familiar yellow and black striped tie capped off with the old familiar woollen beret, some well bashed and moulded and few more newer and ready for many years of use to come.

There is a strong vibe; we all know it, Mates that haven't said g'day for thirty plus years, yet the conversations so take on the air of being a follow on from that time as if only yesterday.

Pusser's Rum

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pussers.com



Perth Division - Proud group of Berets if ever you saw some! Lads at their peek and proud.

On the steps one takes charge and as dutiful as the days by the Swan they fall in, no gripes just gusto to be part of the special bond that makes us boy sailors of old. The smiles abound as the 'squaries' take the pic's and the laughter never fails as we move to the roadway.

A right hand marker is delegated and the position accepted without complaint. The banner is raised and flag unfurled the men proud to hold the message of our heritage. A kindly offer from a keen cadet leader to carry our banner politely turned down. 'Next year please, today's the first time in a long time we marched together and we'd like to have it that way this once'.

We wait a while, but the time doesn't matter, we came here today to be together, then some movement. No need to call fall-in we already are, like a well-practiced habit... By the right quick march... We're off, the Tingira

Boys, proud, straight and keeping step, well most the time.

Heads held high, bearing down our thumbs the very familiar beat of the bands drum.

The memories flood back and then as soon as we start we are given the final orders. Squad halt, turning right, dismissed. The Lucky Shag watering hole awaits, up for a couple of refreshments with a short speech, some enduring warries over the hours. Friendships all round are made and we'll be back next year but this time with more Tingira mates, as we would not miss it for the world.

We shall maintain, and we will again, remember them.



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RAN Associations



ANZAC Day - April 25th 2015



George Street, Sydney.



SYDNEY ANZAC DAY MARCH 2016 March...

As you are no doubt aware there is a Light Rail Project starting construction later this year which will make the use of George Street impossible for future Marches. A group of senior members of the March committee have investigated and evaluated a number of alternate routes within the CBD paying particular attention to aspects such as the width and gradient of the street for senior veterans, having an appropriate focal point for an Act of Remembrance, access to public transport and minimal disruption to existing form up locations.

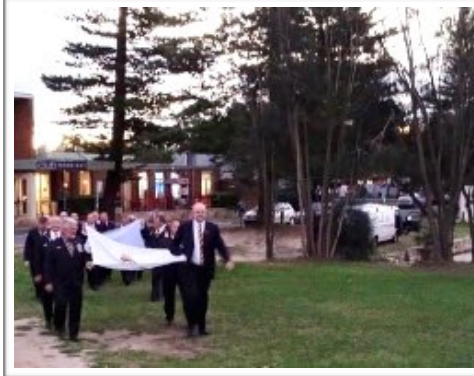
After careful discussion with key participants and government agencies the committee feels the best alternate route for the Sydney ANZAC Day March is;

- start line at Martin Place and Elizabeth St

- march south on Elizabeth St
- observe the Act of Remembrance adjacent to the ANZAC Memorial in Elizabeth St
- participants wheel left into Liverpool St for dispersal
- vehicles and bands wheel right into Liverpool St and use Castlereagh St to return to the start line

This route will allow the March to continue as a solemn March of Remembrance while also allowing as many spectators including senior veterans and Legacy widows to participate.

While the March will no longer pass the Cenotaph, an Act of Remembrance will still be observed and the Cenotaph will continue to hold the Dawn Service and Sunset Service Commemorations on ANZAC Day.



Tingira Memorial, Rose Bay.





Customs House Bar, Sydney.



**RIP 'Tingira'
Rick Reddish...**

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of member. Rick Reddish 71st, aged 51, crossed the bar recently. Rick has two beautiful children and wife, who will miss him dearly.

For the past four years Rick has travelled to Sydney to march with the Tingira boys; this year we pushed him down George Street in a wheel chair with much honour and sadness.

Fair seas shipmate at Davey's Locker. RIP shipmate.



Melbourne Division





TINGIRA PRESIDENT - LANCE KER

I would like to send a great thank you to all JR's and their families for their participation in the 2015 Anzac day ceremonies and Memorials across NSW, Victoria and Western Australia.

I would like to thank the Custodians of the Tingira Memorial, especially Lee and Rosemary Stockley of the Rose Bay RSL for welcoming our Association into their club as we rekindle the Tinny boys from early last century. A very proud and sombre Tingira Memorial and the raising of our two Tingira colours on the eve of our 103 birthday.

The AGM was completed for 2015 with no issues raised and no voting due to 3 year terms. The annual Presidents dinner was a great occasion with the great voice of Tingira's first lady Golden Guitar award winning Miss Amber Lawrence who kept the troops entertained all night. Our highlight of the night without a doubt was the unveiling of our own Association ships bell in the new housing and honour roll which was rung in for the first time on this grand occasion.

ANZAC Day - all the troops formed up on Castlereagh St for our annual Anzac day march thru the streets of Sydney, even after having to wait a considerable time before marching of the spirit was not lost always remembering why we were marching and who we were marching for and in remembrance of. As the association turned left into George Street we were met with record breaking crowds of supporters and as per every year we always seem to achieve great cheer and applause from the crowd. Cadet Unit Nu-ship Australia did a great job in supporting Tingira as our new banner bearers well done guys and girls.



TINGIRA AUSTRALIA

On completion of our march it was clear lower decks and muster at the Customs house bar at Circular Quay for beverage's, lunch and great stories and long warries as our troops re-kindled old and formed new friendship's amongst our Association.

I would also like to take this opportunity in congratulating our Patron Russ Crane, AO CSM RANR Rtd, on his representation on the shores of ANZAC Cove for the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings.

The committee would also like to recognise the excellent turn out of our members in Melbourne and Perth for their inaugural Anzac day marching under the Tingira Australian Association banner, "Bravo Zulu to our LJR's Paul Kalajzich (WA) and Niall Baird (Vic)", these events do not just happen overnight a lot of hard work has been going into this for the past 24 months of organising and arranging for this great day, and next year we will welcome in, Qld and South Australia.

Our Association is growing every year with the great guidance and dedication of our Secretary Mr Mark Lee and our positive Committee, who is always looking at ways to promote our association.

We now look forward to the big 'JR Reunion' in Sydney for a week of festivities in November.



JR REUNION

UPDATE - August 2015

Our survey in 2014 resulted with over 800 members willing to reunite this November in Sydney for JR Reunion.

On that number we set our program; we have about a month before making the call on final numbers.

Many members from interstate and overseas have booked and are on their way to Sydney.

The golf and wine events on the Tuesday have been cancelled with only a few members interested.

The meet and greet location is now rescheduled at ANZAC Memorial, Hyde Park as the deck venue on HMAS Vampire at Darling Harbour is hosting a special museum opening event on the same evening.

The James Craig sailing cruise is almost sold out and the final 'Farewell' event at GI Navy Heritage Centre is also filing fast.

If you are coming to Sydney for JR Reunion, we need your confirmation, please purchase ticket via the website, no reservations.

www.jrreunion.com.au

Tingira Boys
Coral Sea commemoration
Canberra May 2015.

Lost WW1 Tingira Sailors...



Address by
Mark Lee, Secretary
Tingira Australia Association
Tingira Memorial, Rose Bay
Friday 24th April 2015.

ANDREW FISHER,
Prime Minister Australia
Melbourne, 17th May, 1915.

"The following report, which has been received from the official press representative with the Australian Expeditionary Force in connexion with the landing of the troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula, by Australian official correspondent, Charles Bean

Gallipoli - It was eighteen minutes past four on the morning of Sunday, 25th April, when the first boat grounded. So far not a shot had been fired by the enemy.

The Australians and Maori-landers landed in two bodies, the first being a covering force to seize the ridges around the landing which took place about an hour later. The moon that night set about an hour and a half before daylight. This just gave time for the warships and transports of the covering force to steam in and land the troops before dawn."

Charles Bean would send many more reports, enough to become the official WW1 historian of the event.

Men went down to sea in ships, and to war, as they still do today 100 years onward. Ships are a way of life, yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Of the many thousands of deaths and injuries from WW1 there were 29 boys from our Tingira group on that official casualty list. Whilst it is well documented many young Tingira Boys were on the guns in the famous first battle where HMAS Sydney sunk the German ship Emden, little more is told of the Tingira boys. Not all died in battle.

The movie makers and reporters often like to 'Gloss' things up a little, it's a bit like modern day photoshop on a digital picture. Our most famous Tingira boy is still very much amongst us today, Leading Seaman John William Varcoas, the sailor in the statue at the Martin Place Cenotaph.

I'm going to skip the glossy parts here and deliver some facts of life.

Our original Tingira boys, all 29 of them died in many different ways. I have recently received an official signal from Commander Greg Swinden, Canberra Navy Office of these official deaths recorded by the navy of Tingira boys in WW1.

How could they die?

Battle, bullets, bombardments?



The Returned Services League of Australia

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Tingira Australia Association

and the many naval associations though out Australia



Life in 1912 was as dangerous then as it is TODAY as we walk across Sydney's George Street. 39 pedestrian deaths recorded in Sydney over past 3 years, most with headphones, say no more!

29 TINGIRA Boys died in service between 5 August 1914 and 31 August 1921 (Cut off date for WW1 casualties as dictated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)

NOT included are those who deserted and joined the Royal Navy, 1ST Aust Infantry Force, or other Commonwealth Forces (i.e.: New Zealand, Canada and South Africa)

Boy 2nd Class **Herbert BAMFORD**
Drowned in HMAS TINGIRA Cutter incident in Sydney Harbour 16 March 1919.

Stoker **Reginald BROWNE**
Died of Pneumonic Influenza while serving in HMAS HUON in the Mediterranean.

Ordinary Seaman 2nd Class **William BRYANT**
Died from a fractured skull when a boat spar fell on his head while boat being hoisted onboard HMAS AUSTRALIA

Signalman **William BRYDON**
Died from Enteric Fever while serving in HMAS HUON at Sydney

Ordinary Seaman **William BUCK**
Died from Pneumonia while serving in HMAS AUSTRALIA in UK waters

Signalman **Ernesto CAMPAGNOLO**
Fell from the rigging of HMAS MELBOURNE during a storm in the North Sea and drowned

Boy 2nd Class **Reginald COOPER**
Died from cardiac arrest onboard TINGIRA following an operation to remove his tonsils 1 March 1915.

Boy 2nd Class **Leslie EARL**
Drowned in HMAS TINGIRA Cutter incident in Sydney Harbour

Leading Seaman **Robert EVANS**
Died of Pneumonia while posted to HMAS AUSTRALIA in UK waters 20 January 1919.

Ordinary Telegraphist **Cyril FEGAN**
Died from Diabetes while serving in HMAS ANZAC

Boy 2nd Class **Charles FELLOWS**
Drowned in HMAS TINGIRA Cutter incident in Sydney Harbour

Boy 2nd Class Claude **Richard FLANAGAN**
Died from Heart Failure onboard HMAS TINGIRA.

Stoker 2nd Class **Colin HOLMES**
Died of Tuberculosis while serving in HMAS PENGUIN, Sydney

Leading Telegraphist **Henri HORWITZ**
Died of Tuberculosis while serving at HMAS CERBERUS.

Able Seaman **Thomas HOSE**
Washed overboard and drowned from HMAS MELBOURNE in North Sea

Ordinary Seaman 2nd Class **George JOHNSON**
Fractured skull as the result of falling from the deck of HMAS AUSTRALIA while in dry dock at Cockatoo Island Dockyard

Signalman **Leonard JONES**
Died from Scarlett Fever while serving in HMAS AUSTRALIA in UK Waters

Boy 2nd Class **Clifton MILLS**
Died of Diphtheria while posted to HMAS TINGIRA

Ordinary Seaman **Leslie MOORE**
Washed overboard and drowned in a storm from HMAS TORRENS in Adriatic Sea

Boy 2nd Class **John McPHERSON**
Drowned in HMAS TINGIRA Cutter incident in Sydney Harbour 16 March 1919.

Leading Seaman **Ernest McMILLAN**
Drowned while posted to HMAS PENGUIN

Ordinary Seaman **Oscar NIXON**
Died from Pneumonia while serving in HMAS AUSTRALIA in UK waters

Boy 2nd Class **George PAGE**
Drowned in HMAS TINGIRA Cutter incident in Sydney Harbour 16 March 1919.

Ordinary Seaman **Edward PARKER**
Died from Meningitis while serving in HMAS SYDNEY in UK waters

Boy 2nd Class **George ROBERTS**
Died from Endocarditis and Acute Rheumatism

Able Seaman **Frederick SHEEDY**
Died from Hypothermia in the water after HMS LAURENTIC sunk by a German mine off Irish Sea. He was taking passage in ship to re-join HMAS SYDNEY.

Boy 1st Class **Frank TAVENDER**

Died from a fractured skull when he fell from the superstructure of HMAS SYDNEY in North Sea

Boy 2nd Class **Reginald THOMPSON**

Committed Suicide by hanging on or about 15 January 1919. Was on Christmas Leave from HMAS TINGIRA with family on central coast NSW.

Boy 1st Class **Ronald WRIGHT**

Fractured Skull when thrown by a wave against the ships superstructure of HMAS SYDNEY during a storm in the North Sea

ALSO SEVEN OF THE SHIPS COMPANY (SHIPS STAFF) DIED while serving in TINGIRA DURING WW 1

STOKER PETTY OFFICER **FRANK BOTWRIGHT**

Died of Pneumonia

PETTY OFFICER **ARTHUR DAVIES**

Died of Pneumonic Influenza

OFFICERS STEWARD 1ST CLASS **IVAN HIGGINS** Died of heart failure while being operated on to remove an abscess in his neck

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER COOK **BERNARD HOLMES**

Died from Typhoid

PETTY OFFICER **DOUGLAS JEFFREY**

Died of Tuberculosis

COOPER SUTHERNS

Died from a Cerebral Haemorrhage

ENGINE ROOM ARTIFICER 3RD CLASS

HARRY WILSON

Died from Influenza

Recently I was informed there was an honour board on this memorial and it is no more. These were just some of the names that I hope would have been on that board especially the five from the cutter accident on the harbour.

The Tingira Australia Committee is committed in our new Strategic Plan set by our Treasurer Peter Stephenson to refurbish this Tingira Memorial here at Rose Bay and bring it to its past glory and more.

When Junior Recruit members of the HMAS Cerberus and HMAS Leeuwin gather for the JR Reunion in November this year we will have a new flag pole here, white not brown, and some polished deck boards that once glistened to resemble the decks of Tingira and Sobraon in her glory days, that's the plan with more to come including some honours boards the Leeuwin story of 1961-84 and more with some improved parkland as well.

The common cold and occupational health and safety are always one of your hidden enemies on board ships at sea, and the 29 Tingira boys met their fate in such circumstances.

On the whole, most Tingira boys kept their head down and made it back to terra firma here in Australia. Sadly many then went onto become senior non-commissioned officers and onto WW2 where the list is a lot longer than the one I have just read from here tonight.

May their souls rest in peace, our memories and thoughts go out to their parents who sent their sons to the join the navy, serve the country and become part of the 'big adventure' of 1912. I leave you with this thought - Would we send our 16 year old sons to this destiny of war in ships again?

In 1961 The Australian Government introduced the Junior Recruit Training scheme and sent 15 year old boys to HMAS Leeuwin on the banks of the Swan River in Fremantle, Western Australia to become permanent members of the Royal Australian Navy.

13,000 boys went through this scheme until it closed in 1984. Many are still serving today as senior sailors and Officers in the RAN.

Tonight amongst us you will see some Tingira members with a 'chest' of medals. These are the lads who fought on the Vietnam gun line, all of 16 and 17 years of age at the time. Entry into all levels of the Australian Defence Force today is 18 years of age.

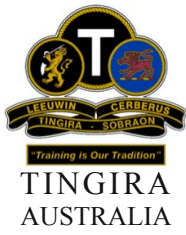
May the souls of all Tingira Boys - along with the thousands of sailors, soldiers and airman of WW1 from all nations who lost their lives on this centenary commemoration for Gallipoli - Rest In Peace.

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TINGIRA
AUSTRALIA

JR
REUNION
2015



SOBRAON TINGIRA CERBERUS LEEUWIN

“CALL TO ARMS”

BOYS TO UNITE - SYDNEY 2015

Monday 9 to Friday 13 November

JRREUNION.COM.AU

Final Chapter... Leeuwin Barracks to be sold



In the limelight for many years has been estate property of the prestigious former Navy Junior Recruit establishment, HMAS Leeuwin, at East Fremantle on the Swan River, Western Australia. The Federal Government has recently announced the sale of the historic HMAS Leeuwin site with the Commonwealth expected to reap

Commonwealth more than \$100 million for the site

It has been reported widely that the site will be sold for exclusive private housing, declaring the defence base no longer has any strategic value for future requirements.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY - HERITAGE CENTRE - GARDEN ISLAND

**IN PEACE
& WAR**



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'Home of Tingira history'





Leeuwin Barracks 2015, once home to the Navy's Junior Recruit training base, covers about 15 hectares in size and sits alongside the Swan River at East Fremantle. The prime piece of real estate could see a potential 250 dwellings on the site with views across the Fremantle peninsular and out to seaward.

The Department of Defence has decided to sell Leeuwin Barracks in Fremantle, Western Australia. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence, Darren Chester MP, said Defence had no ongoing operational or strategic need for the Leeuwin Barracks site and had decided to sell the property.

Mr Chester said residential units from Leeuwin Barracks would be relocated to Irwin Barracks, and the site may be leased back by Defence if the sale proceeds before the relocation is complete.

"The Defence estate is ageing and the cost of sustaining it is expensive and increasing. Selling the Leeuwin

Barracks site will reduce Defence's maintenance costs, and any proceeds will be reinvested in support of the Australian Defence Force," Mr Chester said.

Defence will undertake due diligence activities before the site is made available for sale, including environmental and heritage assessments. Once these activities are complete, the site will be sold.

The Commonwealth Property Disposals Policy allows for open market sales at full market value and for off-market sales direct to local, state or territory Governments in certain circumstances.

"The sale of Leeuwin Barracks supports government estate consolidation objectives and, at the same time, releases a useful parcel of land for purchase by the public," Mr Chester said.

The Government has agreed to direct the net proceeds from the sale of Defence real estate to other Defence projects.

Military abuse claims ... *The West Australia July 31st 2015*

Investigators have referred 13 cases of alleged abuse in the military to WA police but warned the cases will be difficult to prosecute, with some dating back more than 30 years.

An update from the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce shows 130 complaints have now been handed to police around the country for investigation.

But despite the acknowledged scale of the problem, the task force recommended there should be no broad royal commission into the abuse, saying it would be an "ineffective use of time, money and resources".

Former Labor defence minister Stephen Smith established the abuse task force after a wave of complaints about abuse and bastardisation in the military.

The task force said cases sent to State police included the possible offences of rape, indecent assault and threats to kill.

One of the main areas for investigation was the old Royal Australian Navy training base HMAS Leeuwin in Fremantle, the scene of horrific abuse on many young boys in the 1960s and 70s.

The task force found there were 136 people still serving who were allegedly responsible for serious acts of sexual or physical abuse.

But the defence force has had difficulties pursuing many alleged abusers, with military law demanding that serving personnel cannot be charged with an offence after five years. Defence also claims many cases were investigated by military authorities years ago and dismissed.

The current royal commission into child abuse in institutions is still considering whether to expand its investigation into HMAS Leeuwin.



17 Defence Establishments to go...

An old army camp used at one stage to house asylum-seekers is one of 17 national sites being offered for sale by the Department of Defence.

Tasmanian agents were unable to put a price tag on the 517 ha rural site at Pontville, about 30km north of Hobart, but said it could be rezoned for a variety of uses.

In Western Australia, private developers are expected to pay more than \$100 million for a section of prime riverfront land occupied by East Fremantle's historic Leeuwin Barracks.

In Hobart, agent Scott Newton, chief executive of Knight Frank, said Pontville was a rural area in the southern midlands. "It could be used for low-end tourist accommodation, school camps

or it could be rezoned for residential development," Mr Newton said.

The site includes the Pontville Small Arms Rifle Range Complex, the Pontville Camp Site and a rifle range area.

"Defence no longer needs the Pontville site for training or operations and as a result the site will be sold," said the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Darren Chester.

"Before the site is sold, Defence will engage with the local council and key stakeholders and conduct due diligence activities, including environmental site assessments," Mr Chester said.

Net proceeds from the sales will be directed to other Defence projects. The Commonwealth Property Disposals Policy allows for open market sales at full market value and for off-market sales direct to local, state or territory governments in certain circumstances.

Golden moments for our Tingira Lady...

The Queen of Country music, Amber Lawrence, was singing in high key recently when she was awarded an Honorary Associate Membership of the Tingira Australia Association.

Tingira Treasurer, Peter Stephenson OAM, was on hand in Sydney to present Amber with her membership whilst she has a few weeks at her Mascot home enjoying 'family time'.

Amber will be back on her Australian tour early next month after her recent success at the Tamworth Country music awards where she won the top Australian honour with the coveted Golden Guitar.

"I am very honoured to become 'one of the boys' in the Tingira Association.

"I've been singing for the lads over the past few years in Sydney at their private functions.

"Yellow Submarine – who would have thought I would be singing that famous Beatles tune to a group of dedicated former sailors of the RAN, they love it and I love them, it's their theme song!



Tingira Treasurer, Peter Stephenson, presenting Amber Lawrence with her membership membership certificate.



DefenceCare are proud supporters of all RAN Associations

COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE
1960-2010



Junior Recruit Memorial Project

29 June 2015

The Hon. Darren Chester, MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Disposal of Leeuwin Barracks

Dear Mr Chester

I write seeking your assistance with the retention and protection of a memorial located at the Leeuwin Barracks site related to the training and service of members of the Australian Navy when the site operated as HMAS Leeuwin.

The Junior Recruit Memorial Committee was established in 2006 for the purposes of constructing a memorial at the Leeuwin Barracks site to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Junior Recruit training scheme that was established at that site in 1960. The scheme was phased out of the Australian Navy in 1984 following the successful training of more than 13,000 boys aged 15 to 16 who saw service in the defence of Australia in every conflict and peace keeping related activity from 1960 until the present day. Some continue to serve today in areas such as Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf alongside coalition forces.

The memorial is located immediately behind the ceremonial entry gates adjacent to the main building (I have included an image for your information). The memorial was dedicated by the then Chief of Navy Vice Admiral RH Crane AO CSM RAN (ret) in 2010 himself an ex Junior Recruit. More than 3,000 ex and current serving men and their families attended the occasion. The construction and design of the memorial was funded through donation from the ex Junior Recruit community and an amount exceeding \$120,000 was raised. The site is now a point of remembrance and celebration for ex members and is used on important occasions such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day and as such holds a place of honour amongst ex serving members.

In addition to the memorial funds raised for this purpose funds are also allocated each year to a "living memorial" that provides an annual bursary prize to Naval Cadets at TS Perth and TS Tingira. This award provides to the best performing cadet in each unit \$3,000 to support future education and also to provide encouragement towards a career in the Australian Navy.

I note from a recent media release from your office that due diligence activities are to be undertaken before the site is sold relevant to heritage assessments. We are seeking your support to retain the Junior Recruit Memorial at the site and provide for its future protection as an important symbol of service to the nation by 13,000 boys in the Australian Navy.

Yours Faithfully

Ken Dobbie
Chairman

CC

VADM RH Crane AO CSM RAN (ret)
RADM BL Adams AO RAN (ret)

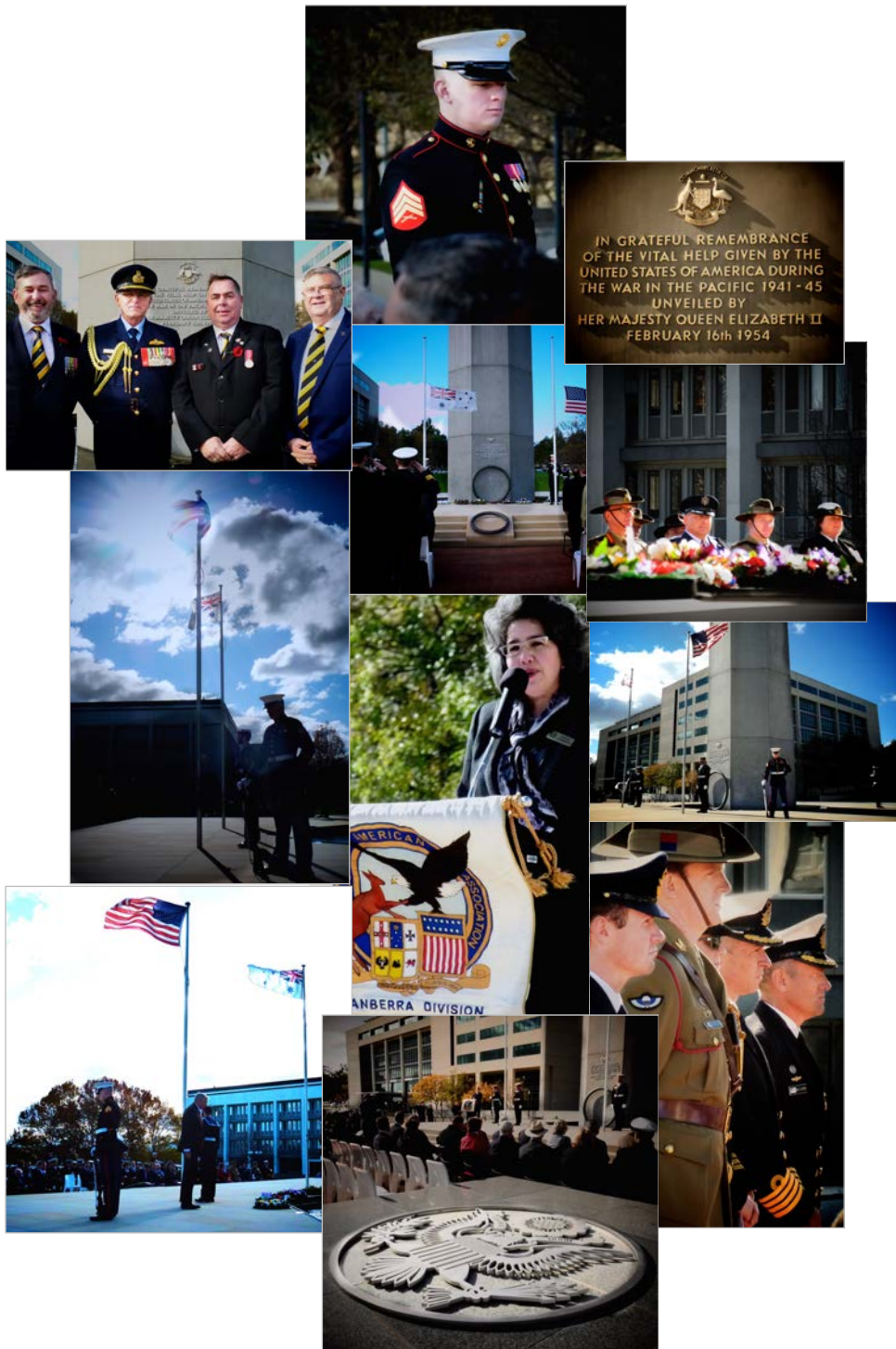
Junior Recruit Memorial Fund Inc.
Patron RADM B.L. Adams AO RANR
75 Lovett St Devonport Tas 7310
Tel. 03 64247198
Email ken.dobbie@bigpond.com

TINGIRA AT WORK - Canberra 2015

Tingira links to...

Coral
Sea
Memorial
Canberra

Photography - MARK LEE



IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
 OF THE VITAL HELP GIVEN BY THE
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DURING
 THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC 1941 - 45
 UNVEILED BY
 HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II
 FEBRUARY 16th 1954

The Canberra Division of the Australian American Association recently have marked the 73rd anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea with a commemorative service and wreath-laying ceremony at the Australian-American Memorial in Russell Offices, Canberra.

In history's first great naval action between aircraft carriers, a combined naval task force, including aircraft carriers USS Lexington and USS Yorktown and the three cruisers, HMAS Australia, HMAS Hobart and USS Chicago stopped the advancing Japanese naval strike force. The battle is said to have saved Australia.

Tingira Australia Association President, Lance Ker, laid a wreath on behalf of the Tingira Australia Association for all Tingira Sailors who participated with the Australian naval ships during this battle.

The Coral Sea commemoration will continue to become an annual event in Canberra for the Tingira Australia Association with the Australian American Association.

The Tingira connection today is that many young boys from HMAS Tingira were part of the inaugural crew of HMAS Australia who was part of this famous sea battle in WW1.

TINGIRA.ORG.AU
Donations - Tingira Memorial Upgrade
 Members - Associates & Friends

JR REUNIONS - 2015

JR REUNION 2015

ALL TINGIRA SAILORS HMAS LEEUWIN & CERBERUS

9-13 November 2015

Sydney - Rose Bay - Luna Park - Garden Island

www.jrreunion.com.au or www.tingira.org.au

49th JR INTAKE - HMAS LEEUWIN

TBA

A reunion for the ex 49th intake Junior Recruits who joined the RAN on 14th October 1974 hoping to be held in the near future.

Contact:

Pete Mills E: pete.lil@bigpond.com.au

Phone 07 - 3263 8013

Adrian Bellingham E: bing2@exemail.com.au

Phone 0411 - 421 361

Tingira Topshot...

Former Tingira Boy, Commander John Goss had the recent pleasure to present the annual 'Tingira Topshot Award' to Recruit Miha Rozanc at his passing out parade HMAS Cerberus.

Recruit Miha scored 34 out of a possible 35 at the rifle range component of his Navy basic training course.



Proposed 2015 Junior Recruit 'Tingira' Events

October 15	Tingira Class Pass Out	HMAS Cerberus, VIC
November 9-13	JR REUNION	Sydney, NSW

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY - HERITAGE CENTRE - GARDEN ISLAND

**IN PEACE
& WAR**



www.navy.gov.au/ranhc

'Home of Tingira history'



Past life... **Our family history**

My name is Lyndon Cash, and I have been asked to contact your organisation in regard to my great uncle's Service in HMAS Tingira.

I don't know a great deal, apart from what my uncle used to tell me when I was a boy, which was what I was more or less experiencing in the Sea Cadet Corps, now known as the Naval Reserve Cadets.

Uncle Les used to talk about what he used to do as a "Boy 2", then a "Boy 1" when he joined the Navy at the age of 15. I can't recall him mentioning "Tingira" during those talks.

I joined the Sea Cadets at the age of 11- 1/2 years of age. I lied about my age, and I was still in Grade 5 Primary School, however, was not issued my uniform for a further 4 months, on account of there just weren't enough to go around. We had to wait for discarded, used uniforms, from recruits whom never made it past Recruit School at Cerberus, or Leeuwin. The required joining age was 12- 1/2 years of age at that time in Cadets.

And that was my entry to take up a career when I left High School. An older brother Stanley was in the Cadets before me, as well as my young brother Glenn, all three of us at once. After five years in Cadets, rising to the rank of Cadet Petty Officer, I thought it was about time I joined the Navy, shortly followed by my young brother and both ended up at Leeuwin six months apart, me in the 42nd Intake MARKS/MORROW divisions, and my brother Glenn in the 44th Intake Collins/Walton Divisions.

Now back to the story, entering the RAN was the first time that I had heard of the word "Tingira", and so never associated it with my Great Uncle Les. It was some time later after I had left the RAN (just under 21 years later) that I made the connection between the two.

I saw a tie pin and lapel badge on my uncle's tie and jacket one day and asked him about it. He told me it was from the "Tingira Old Boys Association" of which he was a member. When I told him about the shoulder flashes we wore at HMAS Leeuwin bearing the name "TINGIRA" he explained that it was a reference to the old ship he served in as a boy. Then he told me it's

original name was the "S.S. Sobraon". I then explained to him that we used to have a club at Leeuwin called the "SobraonClub", and he said that would also be in honour of the old Sobraon come Tingira.

It was so strange that I had never really known this before, and yet here was my Great Uncle whom had served in this very same ship.

Alas, my Great Uncle passed away about ten years ago now having done two stints in the RAN, as he paid off in 1930, then signed back up to do his bit again in 1939, at the outbreak of the Second World War. He again paid off in 1946, but was extremely lucky to have not got a SNRL, as he pinched a can of pork from either the galley or stores.

As to what it was for, one can only wonder, (the girlfriend, the wife, the fellas' down in the mess deck) but either way he came away with a FREE discharge. At this time I don't have a photo of him in Service Uniform, although I have contacted another uncle, whom does have a photo and is willing to loan it to me to put a face to the record.

I feel it a bit remiss of me if I don't mention that he was one of my Grandmother's brothers', whom served in the Defence Force, another, Great Uncle Arthur served in the Army during the Second World War, as well as Nanna's husband, my Grandfather and his brother whom both served in the First World War, where Great Uncle Frank was killed, in France.

I also have three uncles whom served in the Army during World War 2, as well as two more brothers whom served in the army, one National Service and the other Regular Army . At one stage, family members serving in the Australian Defence Force AT THE SAME TIME were myself (RAN), my brother Glenn (RAN), my brother Tony (ARMY), my cousin Ronnie (RAN), his young brother Michael (RAN), my cousin Wendy (ARMY), another cousin Lindsay (ARMY), his brother Douglas (ARMY), and these are only the ones I am aware of. I'm sure there are others, almost forgot, Uncle Les son, Errol, was in the Navy at the same time as myself. He keeps to himself, so doesn't like to talk much, and has no interest in what Uncle Les did during his time in the Navy. I think he also went through Leeuwin

A day in the life of a Navy Junior Recruit...

By Phillip Otake

The Leading Seaman would wake us at 6am by marching down the squeaky clean passageway of our dormitory, bashing a garbage tin lid with a stick, shouting: Wakey, wakey, wakey. Hands off cocks and into socks. Rise and shine.

Those of us who were tardy arising had our bunks uplifted or overturned, and we were dumped, bedding, mattress and all, onto the floor. We then had our daily 'shit, shave, shower and shampoo' in the 'rain room', as he liked to call the shower.

With not enough showers to go around, and a queue of naked adolescents, it was often time for some skylarking and mucking around; towels would be flicked, shaving cream squirted where it shouldn't be, towels nicked.

Inevitably someone, usually a divisional staff member from the nearby office, but sometimes an LJR, a leading junior recruit, more commonly known as a 'suck-hole', would end the levity.

Next was the long, long breakfast scanline. Scan is an acronym - shit cooked by the RAN. The line was controlled by the 'top shits', the most senior Junior Recruits. Seniority of only a few months meant a lot. If

you were favoured, you were bumped up the line. Topshits could jack the line, or push in anytime they wanted.

Eventually, you would get something to eat. We feared the 'tucker-fuckers' or cooks, and would never comment, not even with a look, on the food. Scullery duty would be one of the dire consequences of upsetting the cook with a wayward frown.

We were, virtually, a military boarding school, with academic subjects to occupy our mornings. We didn't march to classes, though; we double-marched, jogging in step.

Junior Recruits jogged everywhere as a group, and they marched, if alone. Woe unto you if you didn't march smartly enough. Anyone who wasn't a JR could and would open a window, and shout at you to smarten up. If a physical training instructor caught you, it invariably meant 20 push-ups. How we feared the PTIs. Just like those drill sergeants you see in the movies.

It was the gunnery chaps who were really nasty. We feared them, too. If you were stupid or unlucky enough to cop a turn at MUPS (men under punishment), you could expect to be duck waddling across the parade ground with a rifle above your head. Running around the parade ground with a rifle held at your chest was for the luckier ones.

Phillip Otake

Phillip Otake is the director of studies at Wombat House English school in Hitachi, Japan. Phillip has a Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics at La Trobe University, and a Graduate Diploma in Education, specialising in TESOL, at the University of Melbourne.





After the evening inspection, or 'rounds', we finally had some time to ourselves. We had a recreation room which had one television and many arguments about who would watch what; that felt just like home for some of us. Many people had radio/cassette players, and a walk down the passageway of the dormitory was a cacophony of noise.

Nights were the times of most mischief. LJR's would often be charged with supervision and reporting of any incidents, either immediately to the junior sailor, who was responsible for the dorm on a given night, or to the main gate. LJR's were ostracised from their peers from the moment they put on the coloured lanyard signifying their rank; a common enough occurrence for those climbing the ranks in the military, but for a 15-year-old in this position it could mean a very lonely time indeed.

Besides, our supervising junior sailor usually spent his duty in the wet canteen, or bar, across the road. We only saw him late at night when he staggered in to grumpily order "lights out", before he crashed on his bunk.

So mischief was no surprise, and if you didn't take part in it, you at least learned to expect it and live with it. Most often it was just goodhearted fun; we were just boys having a bit of a laugh. The LJR's and often other staff would often recognise it as such and cut us some slack, by not getting too 'gung-ho' about it.

But occasionally the amusement took a more sinister tone, and some poor chap would cop what we would probably call a hazing. These would be carried out by 'top shirts' from another division, or by some boys from our own.

Methods would vary: kit-bag locks were used to handcuff them to a bed, scrotums would be blackballed with shoe polish or a liniment cream, broom stick handles smeared with Vaseline. Venues varied: not all were carried out in plain sight. The drying room was a favourite, because it was easy to keep watch from a single door. Sometimes an LJR would try to intervene, and sometimes they were successful in stopping the action.

We didn't think much of it at the time, the actions we kind of placed along a continuum of mischief; from boarding school banter to more ribald fare. If you kept your nose clean and played by the unwritten rules of the military that we were only just learning, you got by just fine, as many of us did.

Welcome to the military.

Even now, many seem to think it was no big deal - it was just the way it was. Fifteen-year-olds could hardly be expected to be so discerning.

Phillip Otake was a Junior Recruit at HMAS Leeuwin in the mid-1970s.



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Always there

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JR

REUNION

2015

*Great work 'Team Tingira'.
This is looking really good.
I'm feeling excited already!*

December 2014



Vice Admiral Russ Crane
AO, CSM, RANR
Patron
Tingira Australia Association



TINGIRA
AUSTRALIA

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Junior Recruits Grand Reunion

SYDNEY - November 2015

JR

REUNION
2015



Day One - Monday 9th November

Meet & Greet is ...

BLESSING OF THE BUOYS

JUNIOR RECRUITS COMMEMORATION

ANZAC MEMORIAL HYDE PARK SOUTH, SYDNEY

1800 - 2100 HOURS



Day Two - Tuesday 10th November

Social activity - Sail tour

JAMES CRAIG TALL SHIP SAILING

SYDNEY HARBOUR - THE HEADS

0930 - 1600 HOURS

*Tuesday night set free for intake reunion dinners

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JR REUNION 2015



Day Three - Wednesday 11th November

Major commemoration event ...

TINGIRA BOYS DEDICATION REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

TINGIRA MEMORIAL, ROSE BAY

1030 - 1300 HOURS

*Wednesday night set free for intake reunion dinners



Day Four - Thursday 12th November

Major social event ...

JUNIOR RECRUIT GRAND REUNION BALL

LUNA PARK
FORESHORE - NORTH SYDNEY

1830 - 0059 HOURS

DANCE MUSIC of 60's 70's 80's

*Thursday is a free day

FINE FOOD - WINE
COLD BEER - MUSIC & DANCING



Day Five - Friday 13th November

Social activity

SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE RAN HERITAGE MUSEUM GARDEN ISLAND LUNCHEON

1030 - 1600 HOURS

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY - HERITAGE CENTRE - GARDEN ISLAND

IN PEACE & WAR



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\$32.50



Annual
Membership
\$20



Polo Shirt
\$42.50

Dress Tie
\$32.50

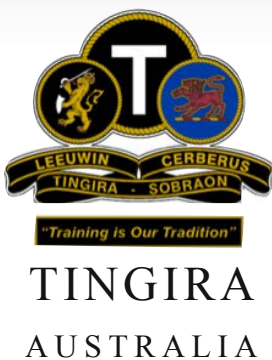


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