

# TINGIRA AUSTRALIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2016





## TINGIRA AUSTRALIA

### Committee

2014 - 2016

#### PATRON

Vice Admiral  
Russ Crane AO CSM RANR

#### PRESIDENT

Lance Ker

#### VICE PRESIDENT

David Ruckert

#### SECRETARY

Mark Lee

#### TREASURER

Peter Stephenson OAM

#### COMMITTEE

Steven Beal

Chris Parr

Greg Read SC

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**W** [tingira.org.au](http://tingira.org.au)

**W** [jrreunion.com.au](http://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.



*Tingira President, Lance Ker, lays a wreath at the annual Australia - USA Coral Sea commemoration in Canberra last May.*



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# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

## TINGIRA

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AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION Inc

ABN - 72 952 167 649



*JR Memorial - Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle, WA*

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



## History On Our Side

Once again, 2016 has been another inspiring and challenging year for our Tingira Association as well as our Navy.

I continue to be impressed by the growing numbers and locations of our membership base. 2016 saw us grow by a further 45 members (7.8%) to a total just over 600 covering every state and territory in Australia. This is a very positive growth rate for any membership-based organisation. BZ to all concerned, in particular, to our Executive who work so hard to grow our Association in membership and endeavour, in generating this exciting outcome for 2016. I encourage you to maintain the rage!

I was delighted to join the Tingira team in Sydney in 2016 for the annual Anzac Day gathering. It was truly wonderful to catch up with many of the Tingira men after being overseas for the 2015 ceremony. Pride, passion, performance and professionalism were still very evident in the character and presentation of the Tingira formation and it was a true privilege to be able to lead such a committed and dedicated formation of men on the day.

Given the intellectual talent we have available in our Association, I've recently been pondering what more we might do to appropriately focus this intelligence. We've all heard the quote 'you can take the man out of the Navy but you can never take the Navy out of the man'. Well, it is as true today as it was when first coined. We are all a creation of our service whether that service be one year or fifty years. Our JR Community is a brotherhood, bound by those principles that we committed to so many years ago as young boys when we first entered the RAN. We continue to carry that

commitment to ourselves, our mates and our nation well beyond our full time service.

At a time when events in our global order are becoming more unpredictable, some might say dangerous, Australia needs, more than ever, to focus our national effort and resource on our Maritime Defence strategy. We, as former members of the RAN, have an understanding and direct experience of doing business on the world's oceans. I am reminded of a statement from our then Prime Minister John Curtin waiting anxiously for news of the 'Battle of the Coral Sea'. He addressed the Parliament saying: .... *At this moment nobody can tell what the result of the engagement may be. If it should go advantageously, we shall have cause for great gratitude and our position will be clearer. But if we should not have the advantageous for which we hope from this battle, all that confronts us is a sterner ordeal, a greater and graver responsibility. Our front line is the sea. Men there are fighting for Australia today.*

Our current Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Tim Barrett AO, CSC, RAN, in a recent address to the Order of Australia Forum in June 2016, made some perceptive observations on a theme of 'Navy and the Nation' saying: .... *This is a theme which recognises that Navy carries the public trust, and that the Navy is itself embedded in the fabric of the nation. This is a theme that appreciates that Navy has no truly separate existence apart from the community in which it is embedded and which sustains it.*

It is important, therefore, that we actively and appropriately contribute to advancing the knowledge of Australians everywhere on the perils of 'Sea

blindness'. The critical need to acknowledge and understand the security and economic implications and significance of the oceans and seas that surround our island nation and dominate our region needs to be reinforced. We, former full time members of the RAN and now members of the Tingira Australia Association, have a part to play in advancing the importance of this thinking and where appropriate, contributing to the debate. I ask that you keep yourselves informed on these important issues and take what opportunities become available to represent the value of our Navy to this nation and the importance of sovereign capability in Maritime strategy.

Of course 2016 was a significant year for our Navy with the release of the 2016 Defence White paper in February. The Government in this White Paper and the accompanying Integrated Investment Program and Industry Policy Statement has committed, for the first time in the history of Australian ship building, to a permanent naval shipbuilding industry centered on long term continuous build of surface warships in Australia, including construction of our future frigates and offshore patrol vessels (OPV) in Australia. The timeframes for these builds, cutting steel on the OPVs in 2018 and the Future Frigates in 2020, is very challenging but very exciting for Australia.

This year, 2017, will be an important year of commemorations for our nation and our Navy. 2017 represents 75 years since, arguably, the most challenging period in history for the RAN. 1942 was a year of growing anxiety for Australians as the horrors and peril of Japanese aggression grew and migrated

across vast areas of the West and South West Pacific. Our Navy was at the forefront in dealing with this aggression and 2017 will see us commemorate iconic actions such as:

- *The fall of Singapore on 15 February;*
- *Air raids on Darwin and other cities/towns in Australia's north in February;*
- *The loss of HMAS Perth in the Battle of Sunda Strait on 1 March;*
- *The loss of HMAS Yarra on 4 March;*
- *The Battle of the Coral Sea in early May;*
- *The Japanese midget Submarine attack in Sydney Harbour on the night of 31 May;*
- *The loss of HMAS Canberra at the Battle of Savo Island on 9 August; and,*
- *The loss of HMAS Armidale after sustained attack by Japanese aircraft 1 December*

By the end of 1942 HMA Ships Perth, Yarra, Kuttabul, Canberra, Vampire, Voyager, Nestor and Armidale had been lost in a 12 month period. With the number of surviving World War II veterans rapidly diminishing, 75th anniversary commemorations in 2017 will be all the more poignant as we pause to acknowledge their service and remember those who gave their lives in defence of our Nation.

I wish all our members and your families a safe and prosperous 2017. I look forward to catching up with as many as possible throughout the year and working with the new committee after the June AGM.



Former Tingira President, Chris Perrin, asked his young nephew, James Perrin, if he could hold a flag pole? The lad visiting from Queensland got the surprise of his life when Chris and his brother fastened grandfathers medals and a Tingira Tie on the lad. James held the flag high and led the Sydney Tingira Boys down Elizabeth Street in Sydney with the Tingira flag flying proudly.



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Tingira Australia Association  
President  
**Lance Ker**



## Best Days Still Ahead of Us

**T**his is my third annual report as President and it comes with great honour to continue representing our association as your returned elected President for 2017 - 2020.

The last 12 months has seen our Association continuing to build nationally we have completed successful Anzac day marches in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth a great thanks to the various State's LJR's and participating members to make it the success each one was.

The annual Presidents Dinner at Club Rose Bay was another great highlight with our favourite singer Miss Tingira 'Amber Lawrence' entering the crew once again.

In May we represented the Tingira association at the Coral Sea dedication in Canberra with our patron Vice Admiral Russ Crane and several of the local Canberra Tingira members.

Remembrance Day 2016, I represented the Tingira Association with my wife Annie at Rose Bay RSL sub-Branch service. President, Lee Stockley, was very appreciated of our representation for the service and assured us the Tingira memorial is in good hands.

In September I attended Fremantle W.A. for the four day Leeuwin Vision Plan workshop. This was a very rewarding experience as I met up with other local Junior Recruits at the workshop session. I formally put the Junior Recruits case forward to participate in the new structure of redeveloping and to continue our history on the site from where we first entered the Royal Australian Navy. The organisers and local East Fremantle Council were very obliging for our participation in the Leeuwin redevelopment Vision Plan.

We at Tingira have seen and heard of the influx of Junior Recruits all over the country making contact with former shipmates. The outcome for all has been enormous, much of this is thanks to Facebook as well as word of mouth and our great website [www.Tingira.org.au](http://www.Tingira.org.au)

Thanks to my committee who steer the good ship tingira so vigilantly, everybody does their shift and we keeping on rolling as our vast numbers of registered members is now over 600, and increasing every month. I personally have met numerous 'JR's' whom I haven't seen for many years and I must admit we all just seem to pick up where we left off. That truly is the mateship of the service and that is the wonderful thing that awaits future members of Tingira. No matter what your years of service, you are (we are) part of this association that just keeps on getting bigger and trying to bring more 'Tingira' topics to the table.

On closing, big thank you to our Patron, Russ Crane, who is never more than an email or phone call away for advice or suggestions, his energy is of great support to our association as you can read from his report in this publication.

A special thank you to our Secretary Mark Lee and his wife Margaret, who navigate this fine ship on a daily routine thru smooth and rough seas. Mark is involved with so much behind the scenes things on navy and RSL for those who know him. A first class operator running our Association is a credit to him and the committee he co ordinates.

Then it is BZ to that great team of volunteer committee members. Vice President David Ruckert, Treasurer Peter Stephenson and Committee, Greg Reid, Steve Beal (SA) and Chris Parr thank you all for your commitments.

David Ruckert and Greg Read have stepped down at the 2017 AGM. I now look forward to a 'new crew' coming on board for the next three year voyage, as our best days are still ahead of us!

"Long live Tingira".





*"All the President's Men ready to march" - Tingira Australia Association Patron, Russ Crane with former Tingira President's past and present, Lance Ker, Greg Read and CPO Chris Perrin.*

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# Income & Expenditure Statement

INCOME	Financial Year 2016
Membership & Merchandise Sales	\$9,073
Donations & JR Reunion Grants	\$8,236
Presidents Dinner	\$1,451
Bank Interest	\$4
JR Reunion Acc	\$10
Investment Acc	\$24
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$18,798</b>
EXPENSE	Financial Year 2016
Website - Host & Redesign	\$1,350
Trophies - Flag & Banners	\$2,627
Presidents Dinner	\$2,591
Administration	\$1,645
Presidents - WA tour Leeuwin	\$2,500
Accountants & Audit	\$400
Merchandise - Ties	\$1,913
2015 JR Reunion - Printing	\$2,665
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$15,691</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$3,107</b>



## Assets &amp; Liabilities Statement

Financial Year JAN to DEC	2016
OPEN BALANCE 1-1-16	\$1,255
INCOME	\$18,798
EXPENSE	\$15,691
OPERATING BALANCE 1-1-17	\$4,362
JR REUNION ACCT	\$10
TAA INVESTMENT ACCT	\$24
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	\$4,396
STOCK TAKE COST OF STOCK ON SHELF 31-12-16	\$16,083
TOTAL ASSETS	\$20,479



*"On The March...Tingira Boys" - Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth band together for ANZAC Day 2016,*



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Stonehaven Medal

*Proud Tasmanian JR, Ken Dobbie, is the inaugural winner of the '2016 Stonehaven Medal'. Ken's efforts on the inception of the JR Memorial with his team back in 2008 continuing on during 2015 when the JR Memorial became part of the 'permeant fixture' of Preston Point on the Swan River at East Fremantle on the former HMAS Leeuwin site which is now into a new development phase.*



Tingira Top Shot Trophy

*"As some of you know, I was honoured to be invited to present the 'Tingira Top Shot' trophy to the recruit who scored the highest mark with the Steyr during their recruit training recently. Apart from HMAS Cerberus being the coldest place in the world, barring nowhere, it was a lovely Melbourne evening where we went through spring, summer and winter in the couple of hours for the parade.*

*"Picture of me presenting the Tingira Top Shot trophy to Recruit Andrew Willcox for highest score on gunnery range".*

*Niall Baird  
LJR - Tingira Victoria*

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*Chris Parr takes group table pic at a very relaxed moment after the September Tingira Committee meeting in Sydney.*

Three committee meetings were held this year in Sydney with the Tingira Associate partners as a welcomed additional observers around the table assisting with the working plans of the association.

Treasurer, Peter Stephenson, has a new strategic plan in place for the new committee in 2017 with long term succession planning now also in progress as we grow and become more professional working committee.

Committee members travel from a far at their own expense to the Sydney meetings, with the future aim to move the meetings around the country during the next term.

The biggest decision we took in 2016 as a group, was to support the plan to have the Junior Recruit Memorial at Leeuwin Barracks saved for the future owners and from the developers bulldozer. The next major Leeuwin concern from here is who will be the new owner of the site and what will they do with the location.

Mid year President, Lance Ker, visited WA and met with the East Fremantle Mayor who has some great plans and a long term vision, but he will have to find supporters and funds to take that vision to the next

level when the sale tender for the site emerges during 2017, standby sailors! There is always talk of the next big JR Reunion and we have again left that topic to the incoming committee.

However we did decide to kick off the weekend closest to July 18 as the annual TINGIRA Day dinner, to be held in each state to celebrate the commissioning date of the Junior Recruit Training Scheme in 1961.

The next immediate phase in the refurbishment of Tingira Memorial at Rose Bay is now in progress as we aim to get the 'Leeuwin Story' onto the memorial and plan to meet a deadline for November 2018 to commission that project.

Taking the AGM to Canberra for the election year of 2017 is also a first move to try and share the Tingira experience with more further afield members apart from the Sydney membership.

Members are always welcome to submit ideas to the committee as Alan Rodgers did some 18 months ago. In 2017 we will present the first Stonehaven Medal from a members suggestion, thank you Alan Rodgers.

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## Membership Numbers

MEMBERSHIP	2016	TOTALS
HONARY LIFE	0	11
FOUNDATION LIFE	19	264
ASSOCIATE FOUNDATION LIFE	0	20
GENERAL MEMBER	25	270
ASSOCIATE GENERAL MEMBER	1	49
TOTALS	45	614
MEMBERSHIP Statewide	2016	TOTAL
NSW	9	221
QLD	10	120
WA	4	100
VIC	9	69
SA	3	35
ACT	4	35
TAS	1	14
NT	4	8
O'Seas	1	12
TOTALS	45	614

## 2016 Accounts

"The Tingira Australia Association has engaged the services of Artin Etmekdjian , Managing Director at Summit Consultants, to examine the accounts of the Association each year for presentation to members at the Annual General Meeting ."

The Annual Report is posted on the website only approx. 30 after AGM.

This Annual Report is also submitted to the NSW Dept of Fair Trading under the requirements of the NSW State Government, to lodge annual financial return for conduct of business as an Incorporated Association, under the laws and guidelines of the Association Model Rules and the Tingira Australia Associations adopted Constitution of March 2014, after it was approved at that Annual General Meeting.

**Lance Ker**

President

Tingira Australia Association







*"Tingira Boys - President Dinner" - Club Rosebay was the venue with Tingira Chaplin Bob Durbin doing what he does best at all our functions and a great night was had with special guest Amber Lawrence.*

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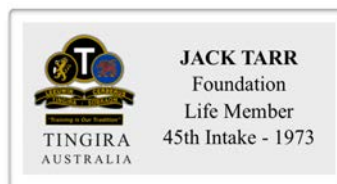
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