



**WINTER** 2025

**Quarterly Newsletter - Tingira Australia Association** 

# CAPTAIN RICK ALLEN Satisfied back at Sea ...





PGA VETERANS Push For Golf

JR REUNION Go West Young Man

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### VOICEpipe

WINTER 2025

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Back row - Chief Engineer Craig Smith (ex PO Stoker 20+ years)

Front row - Second Engineer Chris Schott (LS Stoker/Diver 40 year's) XO David Jones (LCDR 40 year's) Rick Allen with lapdog CPO Jasper and second engineer Pete Roberts (Army Sapper, Construction Corps 10 year's)

### VIEWFINDER IN RANGE HISTORICAL IMAGE THIS QUARTER

<image>

## **6.6** The past 90 days have not seen a lot of iPhone photographic activity from my desk here in Cootamundra.

I would have loved to be in Melbourne last weekend and taken an image of my father's horse, Magnaspin, winning the feature race at Sandown. 80/1 for those who follow my family horse lines! Maybe the winter racing series in Melbourne will give me another opportunity over the following months, sure to be a Dockers game down there as well!

My photo shot this quarter comes from Canberra, at the USA/Australia Coral Sea Commemoration. A warm sunny morning, an absolute rarity for Canberra this time of the year!

Who do I meet up with? My former shipmate and former Tingira President Greg Read.

"Mark, let's do a shot with the US sailors", suggests Greg.

With a few colourful US sailors floating in the background after the service, I just could not help to set up a pic for Greg.

It looks simple, but this is the toughest shot of all. Bright sunny days are the worst for photography, especially for mature age.

The young sailors get away with looking cool in their glossy, colourful uniforms and young faces. The harsh, contrasting shadows certainly make a long nose look longer (lad in back row). As for the eyes, they are just lost in between the squints! This is why photographers use a flash in sunlight. The flash fills in the shadows.

I believe Apple iPhone is just about to offer the flash feature in new models, if it has not done so already. I'm still on the old model 12 that is serving me well, until this Christmas, I hope.

As for Greg, he looks his full age in the sun. I can hide no secrets to age when this situation occurs; switching to black and white is another option that does take ten years of a red face, but this is a positive colour image.

Now, here is another trick for beginners taking photographs of people. We don't need to see their feet, or legs for that matter. Take the lens out to the wide-angle setting. Get in close, real close. I am about arm's length from Greg, and I am up on my tip toes, elevating myself to look down on the group.

The other thing is to fill the gaps between the arms. In the above image, they are all shipmates, and don't be afraid to put a hand on a shoulder and push people to the centre.

One thing will always make the pic a winner: happy faces. And those who know my style, I only take one shot, "get it right first time" was always the motto of old Navy chief photographer Ron Batchelor.

That's as good as it gets on a tough sunny Friday morning in Canberra.

Mark Lee Editor - VOICEpipe E. tsec@tingira.org.au

WINTER 2025



PATRON VADM Russ Crane AO, CSM, RANR ACT





CHAIRMAN Lance Ker QLD

## TINGIRA NATIONAL COMMITTEE 2024 - 2027



PRESIDENT Brad Murphy OAM - QLD



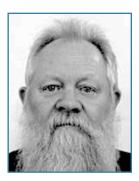
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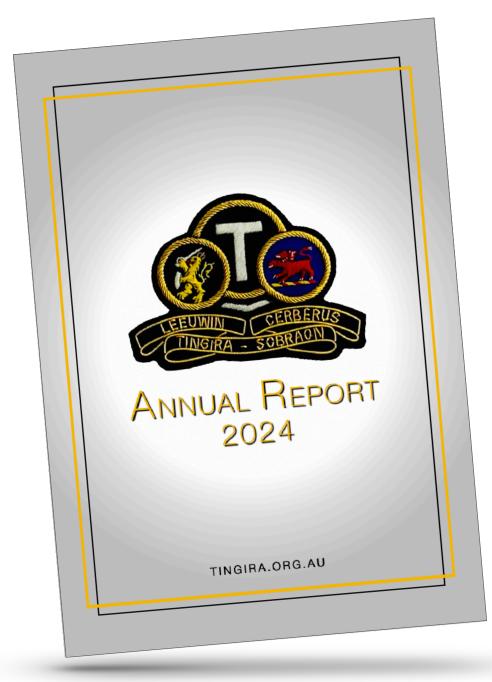
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COMMITTEE Gavin Jarvis - NSW



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TINGIRA PRESIDENT

#### **BRAD MURPHY OAM**





66

" May we make the most of this opportunity at JR Reunion to gather and share in what offers to be a *most amazing* event, an event even the Chief of Navy, VADM Mark Hammond does not wish to miss!

### PRESIDENT'S DESK



## JR REUNION CELEBRATION TIME FOR MANY ...

s another ANZAC Day has come and gone, it is always somewhat of a mixed bag for me as a General Practice doctor.

With a focus on Veteran Care - with Anzac Day for many Veterans' being a time to gather with mates and share old war stories and toss a few coins, but for others sadly it can be a time of exacerbation of underlying PTSD symptoms with extreme anxiety for self and family, a solemn reminder of the personal cost associated for some through serving this great Nation.

Personally, in Bundaberg this year, I encountered an emotional rollercoaster as I cared for and prepared for the 'crossing of the bar' of my dear friend and patient, George. An "old salt" sailor of WWII who was present for the surrender of the Japanese in Indonesia aboard his beloved Corvette Class HMAS Echuca.

George served when Stokers were truly such, shovelling coal into the furnace and when making your bed was indeed a life-saving skill worthy of focused attention, as rolling up your hammock each morning to become your life preserver during wartime was no greater motivation. George shared many a wonderful story of life's adventures, many nautical and most Naval, but he was a lifelong avid sailor, traversing the seas the world over and the Sydney to Hobart several times well into his senior years.

He often recalled serving with one of our early TINGIRA boys during the war years - one of our original 'Boy Sailors' from before our times, and he loved to share those special stories of their conversations, knowing I too was a 'Boy Sailor' but from a much more modern era. He was so proud of his connections and service aboard the Corvettes, being an active member of the Corvette Association and contributing to their journal even in the months before his passing, realising the challenges of keeping an Association alive and relevant as the number of members dwindle.

George also understood my love of our own TINGIRA Australia Association. This is something we spoke of in his last days - Naval Service, stories, thoughts and emotions revealed between trusted souls with an unlikely shipmate found in his GP - these stories, rarely shared with family



Australia/USA association, 2025 Coral Sea commemoration, Canberra,

members, and his love of his Naval Service remained core to his heart even at the tender age of 97.

In recent years, he fostered a friendship with our DVA Chief Health Officer, Rear Admiral Jenny Firman, AM (with whom I served as a young medic). He had the photo of us three together at ANZAC Day in Bundaberg a few years earlier, on his dining table as a reminder of great times shared. Jenny shared a treasured personal message with him on ANZAC Day, which brought a chuckle of great pride, and another was shared too soon after at his funeral service honouring a life well lived.

I managed to share a 'Rum and Milk' with him following the Dawn Service (albeit his was thickened so he could swallow) and later in the morning, he managed a little more shared with yet another great Navy shipmate and JR, Ray Rodgers. This Sailor's life was embraced by 'Boy Sailors' from his early career to his last moments.

We spoke of our upcoming TAA JR Reunion and the disappointment surrounding the cancellation of our last due to COVID-19 global influences. He, of all, understood the importance of "Carpe Diem - Seizing the Day" in regards to us embracing this upcoming opportunity to gather as shipmates when as we are all aging, this might be our last opportunity to gather en masse and tell our stories of truth and fable once more. So my shipmates, in honour of my old mate **POME George MAVER** (Retired) may he rest in eternal peace, who personally served alongside one of our original crew. We can share his core and enduring love and respect for the camaraderie he treasured to the end, of shipmates true and forever!

May we make the most of this opportunity at JR Reunion to gather and share in what is to be a most amazing event, an event even the Chief of Navy, VADM Mark Hammond, does not wish to miss! When we gather as Shipmates, old and new, with the unique shared experiences known only to a select few in Australia's Naval History, its time to celebrate our life journey.

TINGIRA boys celebrating what took us from boyhood to young men and gave us the life skills to make our mark on the world by becoming the best version of ourselves.

I for one will be making my way West with 'Bells on' as we gather in November and celebrate at our Reunion an event not to be missed... See you there!

#### Long Live Tingira Mates For Life

BRAD MURPHY OAM President Tingira Australia Association





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# Long Live Tingira - Mates For Life



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Brad Murphy OAM President, Tingira Australia Assoc



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#### **MILITARY BERET**

The Military Beret has been reproduced for current serving members, cadets and ex service organisations. Various colours and sizes (see fitting gallery) easy fitting with vinyl trim and eyelets



#### JUNIOR SAILORS INSIGNIA

This Junior Sailors insignia has been reproduced for current serving members, cadets and ex service organisations. This badge complies with DOD policy standards and has a double pin butterfly on rear

# JUNIOR RECRUIT BERETSAvailable fromnavyuniforms.com.au

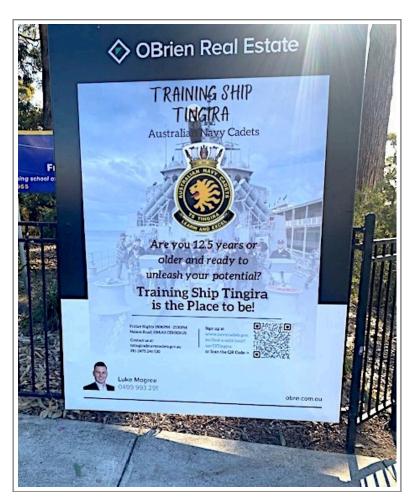


## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### VOICEpipe Editor ...

" Driving down to Frankston I saw this ad for the TS Tingira cadets based at HMAS Cerberus in front of Frankston high school, well done that group!

> NORM WALL Victoria.

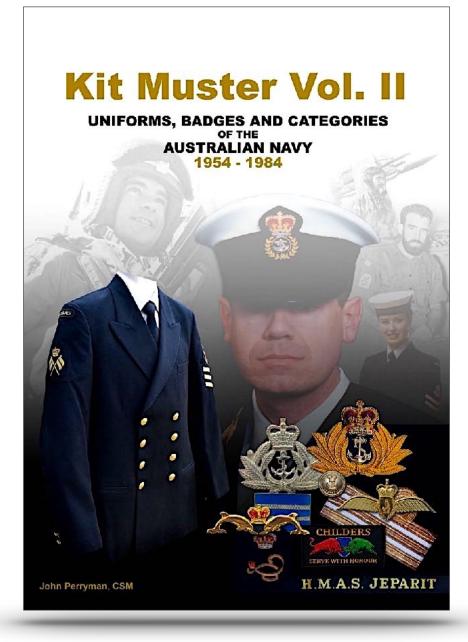




THE NAVY CLUB

90 - 92 Skene Street, Newtown, Victoria Opposite the heritage Gold Diggers Inn, 10 mins CBD Geelong 03 5229 4148





Tingira Boy, former RAN Junior Recruit Duncan 'John' Perryman recently published his second volume of 'Kit Muster' Available now via navyuniforms.com.au website



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# Our purpose

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### TINGIRA STRATEGIC PLAN - Status - Q2. 2025



#### COMPLETE 2023 - 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

"That Tingira Aust Assoc review the present 2000 Strategic Plan and carry forward a new updated five year plan for present and future national Tingira Committee.

Secretary and Treasurer have completed the project with input from committee and the present membership, released at the 2023 Tingira AGM, on Tingira website, documents updated version with new 2024 - 27 committee.



#### WORK IN PROGRESS 2025 - STONEHAVEN MEDAL

"That Tingira Aust Assoc call for nominations - Tingira Stonehaven Medal 2024 - awarded annually to the 'Tingira Boy' or Boys who go above and beyond the normal call of duty

The National Tingira Committee has commenced calling for nominations for the 2025 Stonehaven medal. " To the boy or group that have gone above and beyond the call of duty' its an easy format that many ex JRs can qualify for, please nominate if you know of a worthy recipient. Nomination advert page **44** 



#### COMPLETE 2024 - ANNUAL REPORT

"That Tingira Aust Assoc present Annual Report for membership, presentation at the 2024 Annual General Meeting

Tingira executive has produced, with assistance from final financial reports from Summit Consultants, the 2024 Annual Report was presented at the 2025 AGM and displayed on the Tingira membership via the website—hard copy will be distributed to all 2025 merchandise orders after AGM.



#### **COMPLETE** VOICEpipe MAGAZINE - WINTER 2025

"That Tingira Aust Assoc continue the new style newsletter magazine VOICEpipe, with the content theme of YESTERDAY - TODAY - TOMORROW displaying history, news and vision of the membership and associated supporters of the RAN and Tingira, and that the magazine is produced quarterly, published on the first day of each seasonal change if possible"

VOICEpipe magazine Editor Mark Lee, continues with the Tingira editorial team to produce the first of two copies for 2025.



#### **COMPLETE** RAN HISTORY ALLIANCE

"That Tingira Aust Assoc make closer contact with Australia National Maritime Museum and RAN Seapower Heritage Centre, Garden Island on the possibility of using the museum facilities for future display of the Tingira collection.

Tingira collection donated to the RAN. Items to be displayed at HMAS Watson, HMAS Cerberus and HMAS Stirling after the recent closure of the RAN Heritage Centre Museum, on Garden Island in Sydney. Negations for major sponsorship and support across the JR Reunion in Perth underway.

#### **COMPLETE** WOOLLAHRA COUNCIL ALLIANCE



#### "That the present Tingira Memorial Park Rose Bay, Sydney, is restored to present as a modern and well represented Navy Tingira War Memorial"

Mayor Woollahra Council, committee of Rose Bay RSL sub-Branch, have seen the Tingira Memorial Park take constant change during 2023-24. The new planting of 'spring' gardens and the park lawns came into their own over last summer, with the new irrigation system keeping them grass green all year round. BZ Council Team at Rose Bay. New Tingira flag raised by RSL Rose Bay sub-Branch in past quarter.



#### LAUNCHED WEBSITE BOOKINGS JR REUNION

"That the incoming 2024 Tingira National Committee, conduct the running of the '2025 JR Reunion' in Perth, as a celebration of the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RAN Junior Recruit Training Scheme"

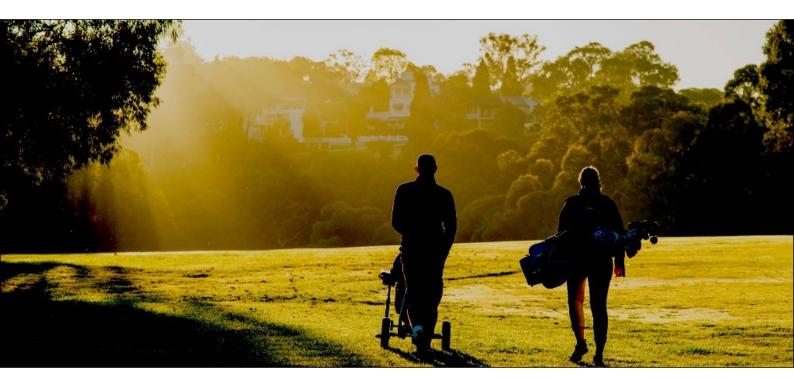
Tingira President Brad Murphy has commissioned the special reunion section of the Tingira website for JR Reunion bookings and merchandise pre orders. Secretary about to make final trip to WA in JUNE to secure bookings and commence deposits on final estimate numbers.



### TODAY'S NEWS

# OFFER TO VETERANS GOLF PROGRAM NATIONALLY ...

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family entrenched in military service is driving PGA Academy Professional Scott McDermott to seek support in expanding a Melbourne-based golf program for military veterans into a national initiative.

As Australia and New Zealand recently observe ANZAC Day in honour of the servicemen and women who have served and those currently deployed, McDermott's 'Fairways to Resilience' golf program is nearing its one-year anniversary. Initially inspired to develop the program after seeing the impacts of war on his father, brother and uncle – and having witnessed the positive influence golf has had on All Abilities athletes he has coached – McDermott has structured a program that is as strong in social connection as it is in straightening wayward tee shots. Developed initially with the support of the Department of Veterans Affairs and now sponsored by Frankston RSL, a pilot program with 16 participants last year highlighted the benefits received by those who took part.

Seventy-five per cent of respondents to a postprogram questionnaire reported that they felt more socially connected than they did eight weeks prior and 87.5 per cent said that they would continue to play golf to support their well-being.

WINTER 2025

"If this program were to continue, I would jump at the opportunity to continue as I see the benefit in not only learning and improving on a new skill, but in also supporting my mental health," said one respondent.

"I need this in my life to help me with my issues," wrote another. Given what he has seen not only the past year but through the lived experience of his family



dating back to his great grandfather's service in World War I, McDermott knows the good such a program could do on a national scale.

"All three of my family members who have gone through the military and who are still alive have some level of impact in their life that has been quite dramatic," McDermott explains.

"Probably the reason why I didn't end up going down that track because I saw what it does, but at the same time I thought, *How can I help these people*?

"It's a holistic approach to developing individuals' social skills, community skills, getting back out in the community and participating. Being around people who have lived experiences very similar to their own."

In addition to golf skill development and shared rounds of golf, coffees after each session are built into the program.

It is that development of a self-sustained support network where McDermott sees the greatest potential impact.

"As a golfer, we know how social this game is, we know how good it is for your physical and mental health and we have studies to support that," he added.

"The responses to that initial questionnaire spoke about connecting with people, making

new friendships and being part of a community. If they have a bad day, there is someone they can reach out to with a shared or very similar experience.

"That's potentially reducing someone's suicidal thoughts and reducing those by giving them a platform where they can make friendships, develop relationships and feel comfortable."

To go national, McDermott needs two things.

He wants to build a comprehensive program structure that provides fellow PGA Professionals the toolkit and background to deliver it themselves... and he needs funding.

The number of spots McDermott can currently offer is limited by sponsorship but he hopes support by organisations such as DVA and the Australian Defence Force could open the door for thousands of military personnel to take part.

"I knew what they needed. They wanted social connection and they wanted to start playing golf and the only reason it hasn't grown further is due to funding," he said.

"Federal funding would allow us to offer it around the country and for other PGA Professionals to get involved.

"When I talk to people from Frankston RSL, the DVA, people in Canberra, they all love it. They say it's phenomenal and to keep doing what you're doing.

"But until we can find that federal funding, the program will remain localised and we'll be restricted in how many military personnel we can offer it to."



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# INDO PACIFIC 2025

Indo Pacific 2025 offers a unique opportunity for OEMs, primes, and government agencies to engage with global defense leaders and discover the most advanced defense technologies. The event will feature an expansive exhibition space alongside a comprehensive conference program, with a focus on technological innovation, shipbuilding, uncrewed systems, and maritime defense strategies. Professionals will gain insights into pressing issues facing the maritime sector and explore strategic solutions.

#### **Key Event Highlights**

**International Participation**: Indo Pacific 2025 will host representatives from 45+ countries, including 24 Chiefs of Navy and their counterparts, along with 176 official delegations from defense, industry, and government.

**Exhibition Space**: The event will feature over 800 exhibitors, presenting cutting-edge defense technologies, maritime solutions, and security systems.

**Conference Program** The Indo Pacific 2025 Conference will offer over 90 symposia, presentations, and workshops from leading maritime defense institutions, including the Royal Australian Navy's Indo-Pacific Sea Power Conference, addressing critical defense topics such as technology acquisition, defense strategy, and naval sustainability.

Networking Opportunities. Meet and engage with key defense professionals, exchange insights, and build partnerships within the maritime defense community.



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The Indo Pacific International Maritime Exposition is the region's premier commercial maritime and naval defence exposition, connecting Australian and international defence, industry, government, academia and technology leaders, in the national interest.

The three-day event is a platform for engagement and incorporates an international industry exhibition, specialist conference program featuring presentations and symposia from leading maritime institutions and networking opportunities.

Indo Pacific is strongly supported by the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Government Department of Defence and the New South Wales State Government.

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TINGIRA Secretary VOICEpipe Editor

#### MARK LEE





Rick was eventually able to buy another boat – the MV Southern Explorer – but by this time his perspective had changed.

'My new goal was to offer the vessel to veterans and first responders – to give something back.

### YESTERDAY'S HISTORY

# CAPTAIN RICK ALLEN Satisfied back at Sea ...

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It's not often that we hear of one of our Tingira shipmates going 'back to sea' after many of us put thousands of nautical miles under our belts during those navy days.

Rick Allen, grounded in Hobart, decided that after opportunity took the better of him, life would change again.

With the smell of salt air in his nostrils, Rick was suddenly satisfied to be back at sea on the helm, this time in a very different role from his days on the grey funnel line.

When it's veterans training veterans in onwater skills, it's more than just a boating course. it's a lifetime experience, an accomplishment for 'Captain Rick".

This voyage has many lasting good memories add some new friendships along the way, very satisfied is Rick Allen back at sea!. ML



Tasmanian 'MOTOR VESSEL SOUTHERN EXPLORER'

ick Allen finds it difficult to move around these days. Severe back injuries and Charcot foot from his Navy days have slowed him down. But once on deck, the Captain of the MV Southern Explorer finds his sea legs and gets the old glint back in his eye.

'They love it, they're gob-smacked about how much they learn,' he says of the trainees he welcomes aboard. 'As a bonus, I teach everyone how to skin, bone and gut a flathead in one movement!'

Rick joined the RAN in 1972 at just 15 years of age. He departed as an Electronic Technical Weapons specialist after 16 years of service in the permanent Navy and Reserves.

Rick's varied post-naval career has included work as a saddler, a ferry driver on Sydney Harbour, and Head Skipper for salmon industry giant Tassal, where the course originated.

'I just wanted a deckhand, but the program I developed back then was so successful that a local Registered Training Organisation picked it up and I delivered it in collages around Tasmania,' he says.

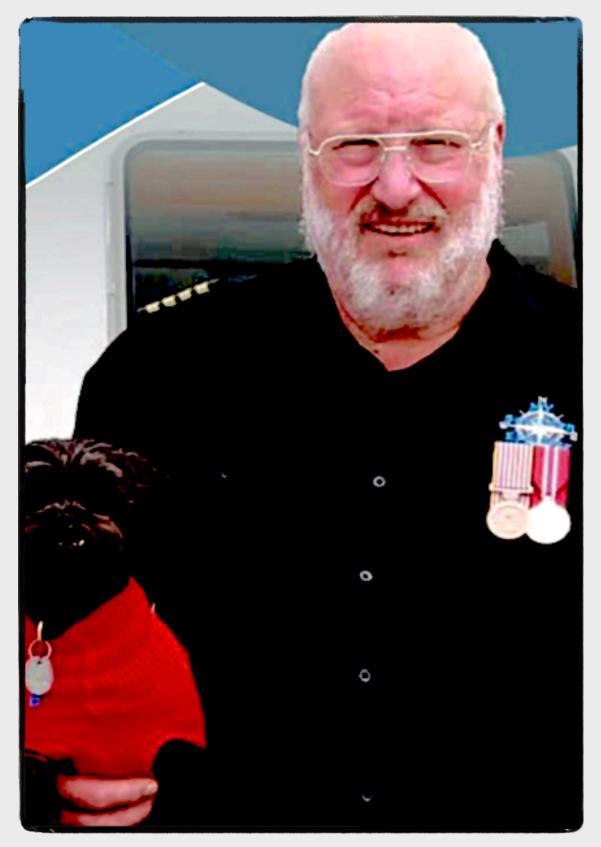
In 2018, Rick 'found the right vessel' and set up his own boat cruise business. Then he was struck down by Charcot arthropathy of the foot, the investment backer pulled out, Rick lost his deposit, and COVID-19 hit – 'all within three weeks'.

Rick was eventually able to buy another boat – the MV Southern Explorer – but by this time his perspective had changed. 'My new goal was to offer the vessel to veterans and first responders – to give something back,' he says.

And so the On Water Skills Course with Marine Radio – in three day and nine day versions – was born.

It started with day trips and a crew of three four fellow veterans Rick met through the RSL 'Mates4Mates' group.

The course now teaches seamanship skills such as all manner of rope work, rigging gear and loads, securing anchors, operating winches, windlasses, hawser and moorings. It includes all aspects of safety at sea including "man overboard" drills, lashing and securing equipment, and towing and being towed.



Navy veteran Rick Allen, Captain of the MV Southern Explorer, with Chief Petty Officer Jasper



Former Army Ordnance Sergeant Mel Triffett at the helm of the Southern Explorer

Each Task Book Module course is free and takes only two-three participants to ensure their training is comprehensive, their supervision close, and the assessment worthy of its completion certificate and Marine Radio Ticket.

One satisfied graduate is Sister Heather Cowled, a former RAAF Chaplain who continues to serve in hospitals, aged care facilities and at disaster sites.

'I was highly impressed with the ability of the course to be adapted to the needs of the participants and the teaching skills and patience of the instructors,' says Heather.

'I was also impressed with the variety of activities and the way the itinerary allowed time for relaxation and gave us the opportunity to chat informally – I found the one-on-one time with the crew highly valuable.'

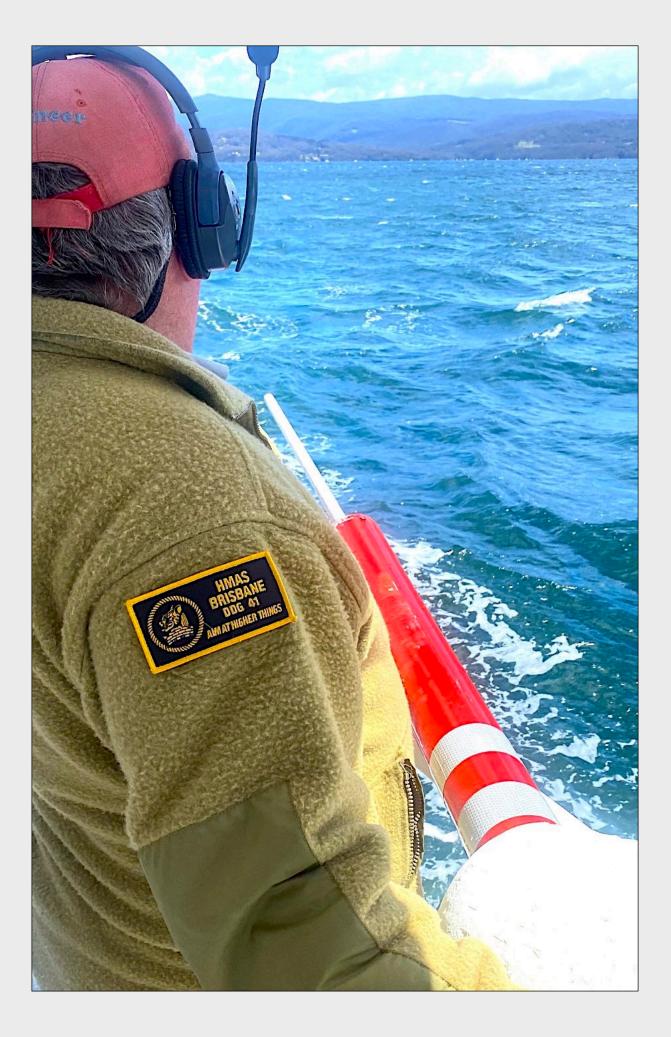
Picking up on the last point, Rick says that the trainees have a wide range of reasons for coming on the boat, but it's the lasting personal connections that often end up being the most important. 'They might come for their wellbeing, or because they want to get into boating or yachting, or to work in the industry,' he says. 'Once the veterans get on board, I tell the crew – "It's not about us, it's about them".

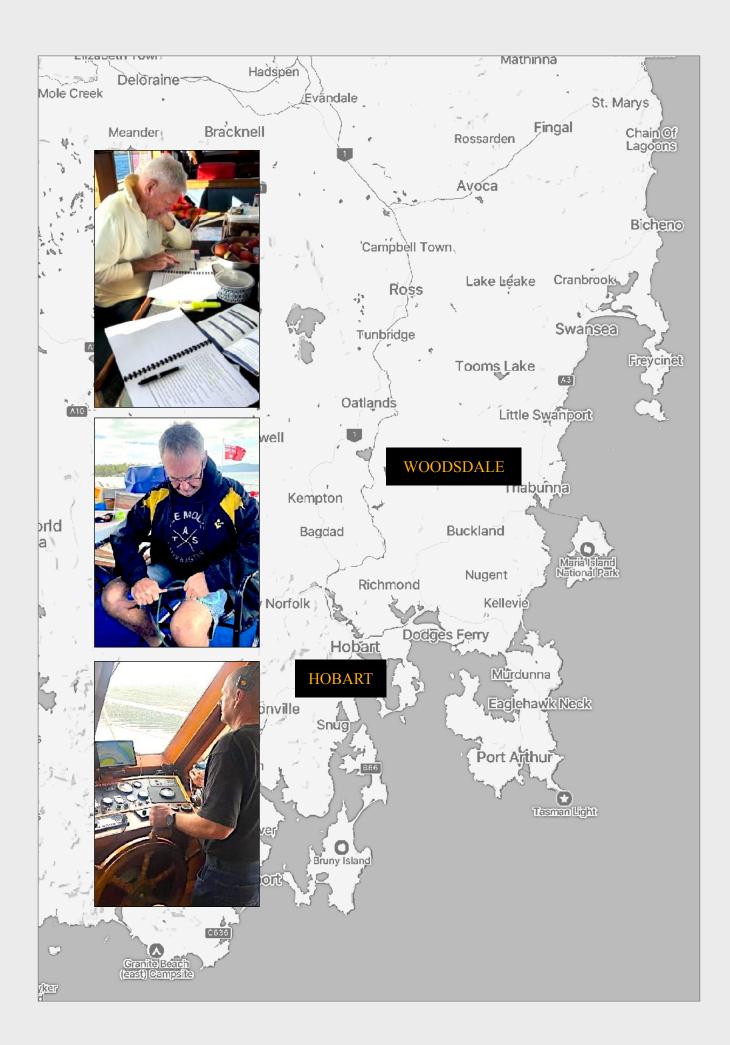
'They might start off a bit quiet, but by the end of the nine days they've told you their life story and they want to know ours. The more you deal with veterans the more you realise there are lots of people out there facing the same problems.

'We're all screwed up in one way or another – we've all faced the demons, PTSD, have been through Open Arms courses etc. You think they're OK on the outside, but inside it's a different story – and that's what we're here for – to help them through.'

Having run eight courses in the first year, Rick is looking to do 10 during 2025, running the boat down the channel from Hobart and up to 20 miles into the Southern Ocean.

And while's his physical health has suffered, Rick Allen's mind is in no danger of slowing down.







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Sister Heather Cowled in on-water training with Coxswain Chris

He is also a published author, with a memoir out on his time as a horseback tour guide.

Rick is currently writing book four of seven in a fictional series about the military exploits of a group of veterans following a nuclear apocalypse.

Meanwhile, the MV Southern Explorer continues its journeys of healing for veterans in the calming coastal waters of Tasmania.

Rick Allen's Tasmanian Adventure Cruises, in consortium with RSL Tasmania, has been supported to deliver the on-water skills courses by DVA Veteran Wellbeing Grants.

For more on Rick's literary endeavours,

visit www.rickallenbooks.com.

**<u>RICK ALLEN</u>** - Lives near Woodsdale, Tasmania with his wife Lesley, a "born and bred" Tasmanian, (1956) with a keen interest in the sea. He brought his first boat at the age of 12 and was a keen scuba diver right up till he was 55.

He joined the Navy at the age of 15 on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1972 the 41<sup>st</sup> intake Rhodes Division HMAS Leeuwin. Rick then went on the join the Electronic Technical Weapons Branch of the Navy and served on HMA ships Yarra and Curlew, depots HMAS Waterhen, hopping on and off Patrol boats when required.

Upon Discharge from the permanent Navy, Rick served another 8 years in the Reserves on HMAS Ardent. Some of the Hats that Rick has worn since those Navy days include Qualified Electrical Fitter, Workplace Trainer and Assessor, Commercial Ships Master, Marine Engine Driver, Saddler, Horseback Tour Guide, Certificate IV in Business, Remote area trainer and Author just to mention a few.

Ricks passion to write comes from a desire to pass knowledge and stories on. From the 14 years in the Navy, working as a commercial ships master for TASSAL, Seaport Charters, Private ferry on Sydney harbour, Private Tugs and multiple vessel deliveries, he is no newcomer to a life at sea.

Ricks vessel is The MV Southern Explorer, a sixty-foot Expedition Style Cruiser, he now uses this for delivering a training package called 'On Water Skills' for Veterans, these are in the form from 3–4-day to 9-day courses with all of the time spent at sea, he normally runs a crew of three and extended cruises a crew of four.



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Vetaffairs is published by the Department of Veterans' Affairs as a free newspaper for Australia's veteran community. Editor: Martin Blaszczyk email: vetaffairs@dva.gov.au mail: GPO Box 9998 Brisbane, QLD 4001 Follow DVA on Facebook and X: DVAAus Browse DVA on YouTube.com/DVATVaus If you have an enquiry for DVA phone: freecall 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) web: dva.gov.au







### COME AND EXPERIENCE OUR NEW EXHIBITION SHOWCASING 90 TREASURES THAT HAVE BEEN DONATED TO THE ANZAC MEMORIAL FROM ITS OPENING IN 1934.

or 90 years veterans and their families have donated objects to which they ascribe great value to the Anzac Memorial. Some of those objects are of unquestionable aesthetic and financial value. Some appear quite mundane, their significance requiring explanation and interpretation. All are treasures.

This exhibition comprises a selection of treasures of the Anzac Memorial collection. The choices were made by the curatorial and collection management staff. The selection is subjective and by no means definitive. New treasures are being donated all the time.

In 1934 Great War veteran, lawyer and author S Elliot Napier wrote of the Anzac Memorial that "as the men of 1914-1918... are gathered to the valley of the shadows" the rooms of the Memorial "will be transformed into reliquaries wherein may be placed such tributes and mementoes to the men of 1914-1918 as may be deemed appropriate. Thus will the Memorial gather to itself its full spiritual message for delivery to future generations of Australians."

We hope that our choices have lived up to the ideals of those of Napier's generation and through their display provide examples of the courage, endurance and sacrifice of those whose lives have been touched by war from colonial times to the present day.

Entry is free and open daily, 9am-5pm.



# SHARK ISLAND PADDLERS

Tingira Challenge Big splash for harbour city ...

t was another glorious Saturday morning on the sands of Rose Bay, where over 100 members and friends of the Shark Island Paddlers club competed in their annual race, 'The Tingira'.

This is a highlight on the paddling calendar each year, where the club looks forward to hosting our community of paddlers and competitors from across the city. A long (approx. 16km) and a short (approx. 8km) course are offered, from Tingira Beach at Rose Bay to Shark Island and northwards to Quarantine Beach on the inside of North Head (long course), or as far as Watsons Bay and back for the short course.

The Tingira Australia Association is the proud supporter of the event, with their 'Tingira Bell' trophy going to the overall winner. **ML** 







DRK ISL

NSW Tingira co-ordinator, John Whitting, presents Ben Malne the 'Tingira Bell', winner the 2025 Tingira Paddleboard Challenge



Proud supporter of Tingira Australia Assoc website - cumberlandrsl.com.au



TINGIRA Vice President

JEFF WAKE OAM, RFD



66

This Sapphire JR reunion dinner will probably be the last time for many of us to come this far West again.

### TOMORROWS VISION - FREMANTLE JRR

# GO WEST YOUNG MAN And many young men did go West, with no regrets ...

44 ads we were just 15 and 16 when we went West many decades ago.

> 13,000 of us over 24 years walked through those gates at HMAS Leeuwin to participate in the Junior Recruit Training Scheme, and for most, it became an adventure of a lifetime.

**2025** - Time moves on, and we are now all heading into our twilight years, but once again we are putting up the call for the 'lads' to 'go west'.

The reunion program, which runs over six days from Friday, 7 November until Wednesday, 12 November 2025, has finally been set in stone.

We now have several sponsors who have answered the call. RAN, BUNDABERG RUM, NAVY UNIFORMS, TRADE WINDS MOTEL, ASAP PRESS and RAN SEAPOWER are the major supporters so far. Chief of the Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond has indicated that he plans to attend our Remembrance Day service at Leeuwin Barracks and then join us at the Sapphire Junior Recruit Reunion dinner, Optus Oval, on the following evening for the final event.

This Sapphire JR reunion dinner will probably be the last time for many of us to come this far West again. We know the costs are prohibitive, but just imagine where we will be in another 10 years' time, so this reunion is the big one for many.

I just hope you can get here, and if you live here in the suburbs, please, no excuse for this one, you have had 18 months' notice.

For those who do come West, I can guarantee you will have a great and memorable time. *JW* 



### **RSL LifeCare Veteran Services**

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rsllifecare.org.au/veteran-services





Friday 7th November



TINGIRA - Navy V WA POLICE - Fremantle









JR REUNION 2025



# FREMANTLE.WA

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 12 November 2025

LEEUWIN BARRACKS PORT of FREMANTLE OPTUS OVAL PERTH

BOOKINGS ON LINE ONLY ALL EVENTS TICKET ENTRY WWW.TONGIRA.ORG.AU



Brad Murphy OAM President, Tingira Australia Assoc



## tingira.org.au

REUNION 4 2025 TINGIA BOYS

## 2025 JR REUNION - PROGRAM

Friday 7 November	0800	Dress Ship JR Memorial & Masthead
		Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle
	1130	JR Reunion Registration (Check in - ID & Ticket Entry Pass) East Fremantle Community Sports Park
	1200	<ol> <li>Mayor's Sports Carnival Tingira &amp; Navy v WA Regional Police         <ul> <li>Cricket</li> <li>Lawn Bowls</li> <li>Tug of War</li> <li>East Fremantle Sports Community Park</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<u>Sat 8</u>	15 <b>30</b>	JR Reunion Registration (Chack in - ID & Ticket Entry Pass) Leeuwin Barracks, carpark at front gate
	1600	<ul> <li>2. Welcome - Meet &amp; Greet - All JRs, friends &amp; family</li> <li>* Junior Recruit Display</li> <li>* Book Launch - Vol 3 &amp; 4 Our Lifetime Voyage</li> <li>* Tingira - Raise the Tingira Flag &amp; Ring Tingira Bell</li> <li>* Sunset Ceremony - 1850 hours</li> <li>JR Memorial &amp; Drill Hall</li> <li>Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle</li> </ul>
<u>Sun 9</u>	10 <b>00</b>	JRs - Navy Church Service (TBC) All denominations, Fremantle
	1200	3. WA Maritime Museum - Tour Victoria Quay, Fremantle
<u>Mon 10</u>	1200	<b>4. Swan River - Luncheon Cruise</b> Victoria Quay, Fremantle to Perth (Return)
<u>Tue 11</u>	1000	5. Remembrance Day Commemoration * JRs Navy 'Rum Tot' reunion ration * Tingira Commemoration Ceremony * 2025 Stonehaven Medal - Presentation Drill Hall, JR Memorial & Masthead Leeuwin Barracks, East Fremantle
	1630	<b>6. OPTUS Stadium - Tour</b> WA Sports Compound Burswood, Perth
<u>Wed 12</u>	1800	7. Sapphire Jubilee 65th JR Reunion Dinner * Black Tie - Formal Dinner & Entertainment * Navy Seapower - Presentation * Lower The Flag & Pass The Bell OPTUS Stadium - Burswood, Perth









#### www.asappress.com.au



2025

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Ravy.gov.au/spc



I'd like to instead propose a dynamic discount, offering Tingira JR Reunion attendees accommodation discounts at the below mentioned hotels.

#### **Tradewinds Hotel & Suites**

www.tradewindshotel.com.au

15% off the Best Available Rate when you book directly with the hotel via phone, email or using the special promo code **TINGIRA15** via the hotel website 08 9339 8188 reservations@tradewindshotel.com.au

#### Pier 21 Apartment Hotel

www.pier21.com.au 15% off the Best Available Rate when you book directly with the hotel via phone, email or using the special promo code **TINGIRA15** via the hotel website 08 9336 2555

reservations@pier21.com.au

#### **Cottesloe Beach Hotel**

www.cottesloebeachhotel.com.au 10% off the Best Available Rate when booking directly with the hotel. 08 9383 1100 reception@cottesloebeachhotel.com.au

Please let me know if you have any queries - Best of luck with the planning of such a large event, I hope you have a fantastic time.

Kind regards,

Jessica Waudby | Sales Manager

- t: +61 (08) 9339 8188 | m: 0415 906 604
- e: sales@tradewindshotel.com.au

a: 1 Sewell Street, East Fremantle, Waylyup, WA 6158

#### **Discover Tradewinds Hotel with a gift voucher**

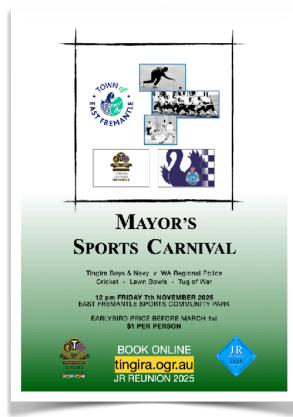
"Waylyup" is the accepted Noongar word for Fremantle and means "lungs'. This refers to the air movement up and down the river in the morning and in the afternoon, the "Fremantle Doctor", travels along the river from the sea.

Tradewinds HOTEL

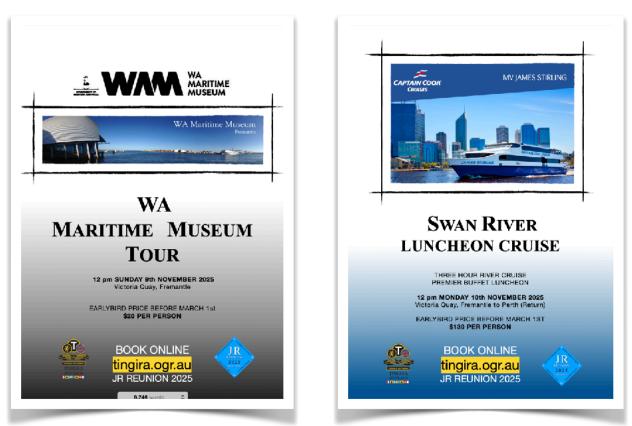
WINNER



### EVENT PROGRAMS EVENT

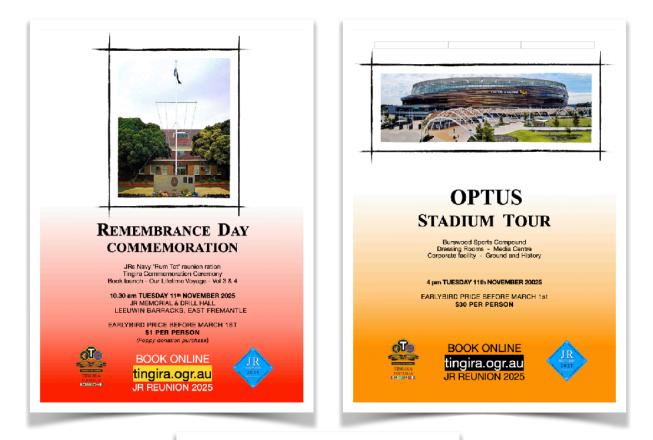








### EVENT PROGRAMS EVENT Posters





#### SAPPHIRE JUBILEE 65<sup>th</sup> JR REUNION DINNER

Black Tia - Formal Dinner & Entertainment Lower The Flag & Pass The Bell OPTUS Stadium - Burswood, Perth

6 pm WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER 20025 EARLYBIRD PRICE BEFORE MARCH 1st \$190 PER PERSON



WINTER 2025



# 2025 Nominations **Now open**



Tingira Australia Association has set about to reward a member who has gone 'above and beyond' their normal requirement of duty, either in navy, civil or community projects during the period of 2024

Please nominate a ship mate or a group of ship mates that have performed to an elite level for consideration for next year's Stonehaven Medal

> A brief explanation 100 - 500 words to describe the task by the person making the nomination Group projects are also encouraged for nomination

Nominations close last mail - Monday 30 June 2025 Nominations to be sent via email only

> Tingira Australia Association Email. tsec@tingira.org.au

## TINGIRA STONEHAVEN MEDAL RECIPIENTS



2017 KEN & LORRAINE DOBBIE Devonport, TAS



"The annual Tingira Stonehaven Medal is awarded to the Tingira Boy or Boys, who go 'above and beyond' their normal call of duty"

> **GREG READ** sc Tingira President 2013



2018 PHILLIP LANCASTER Piara Waters, WA

**DAVID CASSIDY** Banora Point, NSW





2019 DARYL & SHANE WALTON Forrestfield, WA

2020 BRAD & JACKIE MURPHY Windemere, QLD





2021 JOHN & MEREDITH PERRYMAN Fadden, ACT







2023 RAY & PAULINE JAMES Ingleburn, NSW

2024 MARK & MARGARET LEE Cootamundra. NSW



# ADELAIDE



**ADELAIDE CITY** - A beautiful warm still morning greeted the contingent of HMAS Leeuwin Tingira boys, stepping off under cloudy skies, boots polished and the berets were serving their purpose!

Turning the corner onto North Terrance and then on King William Riad, RAAF fighter jets overhead, we were met with one of the biggest crowds seen at an Anzac Day march in Adelaide for many years. Back to the Plympton Glenelg RSL for a well earned frothy or two.

Many thanks for those who took the time to march and the Navy Cadets for carrying our TINGIRA banner and name board, great day was had by all, thank you.

STEPHEN BEAL SA Co-ordinator



# BUNDABERG





**BUNDABERG** - A full day ensuring the TINGIRA flag was waved widely around the Bundaberg area - The Tingira tie worn proudly! And shared with my daughter Kiah who proudly participated alongside her Dad growing our future Leaders!

Dawn Service in Bargara, 'Rum and Milk' with my old mate POME George MAVER (Retired) in the Aged Care Facility (stocking his fridge for other shipmates to enjoy a little tote - including his JR mate Ray Rodgers).

Onto the main Bundaberg Service and lunch shared with my own Classmate of the 74th -Keith 'Budgie' Schodel (who traveled from Brisbane to share in the event). Several JR's participated in this service but eluded the customary photo opportunity!

Completing the day with accepting the salute at the Burnett Heads Parade and Service alongside my 99 year old Army Veteran patient and friend Les SIMMONS (*was planned to have been Les and George MAVER - showing respect to these two WWII veterans*).

Was so great to see the local Naval Cadets from TS Bundaberg represented at all services maintaining their tradition - Bravo Zulu team.

#### BRAD MURPHY Bundaberg Co-ordinator

#### Photos...

Budgie and I at the Bundaberg RSL luncheon preparing 'Rum and Milk' for George.

Ozzie Osborne, Councillor Larine Statham-Blair, Les Simmons and I accepting the salute for the Burnett Heads Parade





# MELBOURNE



**MELBOURNE CITY** - HMAS Leeuwin shipmates from afar, Darwin and Northern Queensland visiting Melbourne, joined the Victorian Tingira division this year for the Anzac Day commemoration.

Blue skies and the long weekend drew a huge crowd of over 50,000 spectators to the Dawn Service and then the street parade to the Shrine of Remembrance on St Kilda Road.

The Tingira Boys marched proudly in their smart uniform and berets, Then headed for the local Stella Maris seafarers club for a special luncheon kindly donated by Box Hill RSL sub-Branch. A lady volunteer serving our food was in Fremantle Stella Maris seafarers centre from 1971 to 1977 when many of us were at HMAS Leeuwin. It's a small world out there sometimes!

Roommates was this year's goal to grow our numbers and the Ramsay Division boys was clearly the majority. Next year we will challenge other Tingira members to meet our example.

Three members were marching for their first time at an Anzac day parade and agreed it won't be their last.

JAMES BISHOP VIC Co-ordinator





#### STELLA MARIS

SUPPORTING SEAFARERS AND FISHERS AROUND THE WORLD

# PERTH



**LEEUWIN BARRACKS** - A crisp clear early morning on the bend of the Swan River, back on old grounds at Leeuwin barracks, likely to raise many memories and feelings for the Tingira men.

With twenty lads and partners signed in to security the access to the JR Memorial and flag pole was activated.

A stirring ceremony undertaken somewhat smoothly by the incumbent Army Cadet Unit.

There is no doubt the 'Dawn Service' at Leeuwin barracks is a stirring experience for those that served as we remember those who went before, we that served and those that still do and will continue our great tradition.

A wreath laid by former RAN Junior Recruit Paul Kalajzich on behalf of the Tingira Australia Association. Lest we forget!

**PERTH CITY** - Central Perth was buzzing, people, colour, proudly worn medals with Mates of old with over zealous handshakes and the widest grins. There is a buzz that makes all forget the daily thoughts and replaces it with the stories of old and the happiness of today.

As the Tingira Boys formed up to march, there was news of a gas leak on the Terrace.

A special bond we are, looking smart in the usual beret, dark suit and Tingira ties. The compliments were plentiful as usual.

Leading the group , we stepped with our flag bearer Philip Lancaster at the helm! The squad with Brett Lee the right hand marker and cadet banner holders looked an absolute treat under the fine skies of the Perth skyline.

Saluting the WA Governor Chris Dawson, the Tingira Boys maintained a good rhythmic step to the many beats of distant bass drums within the march..

On completion the lads were joined by family and friends at the '43 Below' lounge bar to enjoy the camaraderie that has been enhanced since our HMAS Leeuwin escapades and over the years since forming in the early TAA days as the Perth division of Tingira.

PAUL KALAJZICH WA Co-ordinator



# SYDNEY



**SYDNEY CITY** - The threatening rain clouds that hovered over Castlereagh Street for the first few hours of the day kept away in the end which was lucky for us, it was forecast to rain in the morning and we were planning for open air drinks at South Hyde Park again.

The group was small this year, the rain forecast and the double long weekend break had most people out of Sydney heading for somewhere else, sounds like Adelaide was the place to be!

However, our troops parade down Elizabeth street to the sound of several drum beats across the city and they marched proud under the Tingira banner. After the march our normal reunion lunch in the park was transferred to the we Edinburgh Castle hotel on Pitt Street and lucky I booked a table as it was very busy - full of Navy lads which was good to see, and a great atmosphere for the afternoon session.

The partners joined in and we did like most caught up on war stories and where life is today, this was once again a good day that will be long remembered by the group.

JOHN WHITTING NSW Co-ordinator

#### EMDEN GUN HYDE PARK SOUTH



HYDE PARTH SOUTH GARDEN CAFE



### JR REUNION 2025 - MERCHANDISE Pre Order

PUBLICATION PRE ORDERS - AVAILABLE UNTIL 1st June 2025



## **Our Lifetime Voyage**

If you purchased the first two volumes you may need Vol 3 & 4 to complete your set.

If you missed out, here is first and last opportunity to have the complete set, this will not be reprinted again, especially at this cost.



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## Volunteer with us defence force program

We welcome veterans of all ages from any branch of Defence to join our growing volunteer community with a variety of roles to suit all interests and backgrounds.

FOUNDING PARTNER



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sea.museum/defence-force-volunteers



## OUR ANZAC COMMUNITY Spur Ranch on the Front Foot



## RSL LIFECARE SPUR RANCH CAMDEN

The team from Spur Ranch, led by manager Max Streeter, have been busy, taking part in many local community events displaying their horsemanship across the Anzac day period.

- Narrabeen Anzac Day march and service
- Picton RAC Anzac Day service
- Thirlmere Anzac Day dawn service
- Picton Anzac Day march and service



David Anderson, Executive General Manager and Veteran Services CEO, delivers the ANZAC Day message to the many veterans who attended the service at the RSL Lifecare village Narrabeen, NSW.



**RSL LifeCare Veteran Services** 

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rsllifecare.org.au/veteran-services

## LOCATION FOUND SHIPWRECK SITE KONING WILLEM DE TWEED

800-ton Dutch Merchant Sailing Ship

#### by Nataliya Dikovskaya

Researchers affiliated with the Australian National Maritime Museum, Silentworld Foundation, South Australia's Department for Environment and Water, and Flinders University, are confident they have located the shipwreck site of Koning Willem de Tweede, an 800-ton Dutch merchant sailing ship lost in Guichen Bay near Robe, South Australia in June 1857.

Only days before its loss, more than 400 Chinese miners destined for the gold fields at Bendigo and Ballarat in Victoria were discharged from the vessel. Tragically, 16 of Koning Willem de Tweede's crew of 25 were drowned and later buried in the dunes of Long Beach, which forms Guichen Bay's eastern shoreline.

The Koning Willem de Tweede Shipwreck Project commenced in April 2022, and its primary purpose has been to search for, locate, and archaeologically survey the shipwreck's remains.

Using a combination of marine magnetometers and underwater metal detectors, the team located what is believed to be iron components of the ship's windlass (a large winch in the bow used to hoist a vessel's anchors) partially protruding from the seabed, as well as a partially exposed iron frame. A well-preserved timber plank was noted beneath the windlass, suggesting more of the shipwreck's hull structure is present, but currently buried. All exposed elements of the shipwreck site were documented and plotted within the larger complex of anomalies detected by the magnetometer. These anomalies were buried at the time of the survey but indicate the presence of other large iron artefacts and hull components.

The team is confident the shipwreck is that of Koning Willem de Tweede based on its location, which corresponds to historic accounts of the vessel's loss, and is the only known historic shipwreck event to have occurred on that stretch of Long Beach. In addition, the complex of magnetic anomalies approximately matches that of the ship's historically documented length (140 feet, or 42.7 metres), and no other large, complex magnetic contacts were encountered within a kilometre radius of the location where the windlass was found. Fragments of 19thcentury Chinese coarse earthenware ceramics were located on the beach immediately adjacent to the shipwreck site in March 2023, further supporting its identity as Koning Willem de Tweede.

Future monitoring visits to the shipwreck site are being planned and will assess its condition and document additional hull remains and artefacts that may be exposed by changes to the seabed.

The Koning Willem de Tweede Shipwreck Project has been assisted by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Australia and the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands.

## MU SEA UM

2 Murray Street, Darling Harbour Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

+61 2 9298 3777 info@sea.museum Every Day 10am - 4pm daily Last boarding time for Vessels – 3:10pm Closed Christmas Day

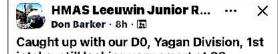




Dutch sailing ship - Koning Willem de Tweed



### SOCIAL MEDIA - JRs Communicating



intake, still looking very smart at 88. Commodore Jim Dickson.





Greg Nowakowski ★ Rising contributor · April 5 at 7:31PM · ⊕

Half a century ago, 172 teenagers commenced their naval careers at HMAS Leeuwin as the 51st Ramsay and Stevenson Division. Some of us convened in Tanunda, SA for a reunion to reflect on our shared experiences.

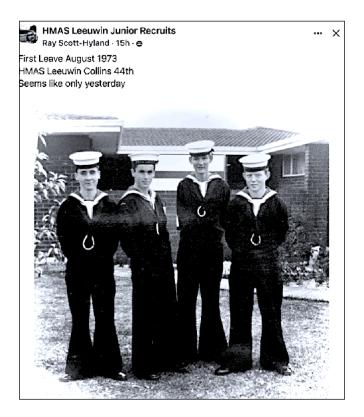




## CARMEL SOAMES

...

M. 0418 238 766 E. info@camevents.com.au





Phil Williams

Top contributor · 23h · ⊕

A group of ex JRs at the weekly coffee morning at Coffs CEX club Great catch up

From memory

Back Row Col Storch Stevo 31st. Bronco Johnso Cerberus JR, Leslie Birch 50th, unknown, Bruce Bailey 56th, Chris Fribons 50th, Front Paul Cross ??, Eric Pitman 54th, JJ Williams 55th, PG Williams 33rd





PLAN FOR NAVY A junior recruits' training scheme for youth aged between 151 and 161 years is to be introduced into the Royal Australian Navy. In some respects it will be similar to a scheme that was suspended in 1926 under which boys were trained for the Navy in ILMAS. TINGIRA, which

JUNIOR RECRUIT

was then moored in Sydney Harbour. the Navy (Senator the Hen. J. G. Gorton) said last week that the training of the first 150 youths under the new system would be begun in July, 1960, and thereafter 150 more recruits would be entered every successive six

months. During their first year in | the Navy they would remain at the R.A.N. Junior Re-cruits' Training Establishepened at H.M.A.S. LEEUment, WIN on the Swan River At the end of the year the

recruits would attend naval technical schools in New

The Minister of State for South Wales or Victoria for some months and would then no to sea in ships a the Fleet.

### 12 TEARS' SERVICE

They would be required to serve in any case for L years from the date of join. ing and on completion o that survice could, subject to recommendation and RAN's requirements, cz. pect to re-mange for shorten periods up to the age of 50 There would be ample op portunities for advancemen and after 20 years' service of more from the uge of 20 would become eligible for pension on retirement.



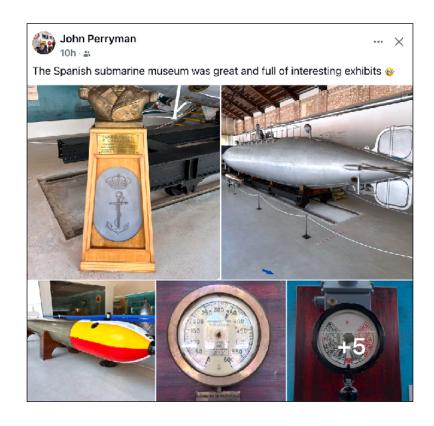
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of Australia

Naval Historical Society navyhistory.org



## **Collins/Walton 52nd**

#### Reunions

50th reunion.

## **Reunion details**

Date: 23 Jul 2025

**Location**: Twin Towns Services Club, NSW

## **Contact details**

Name: Wayne Rye

Phone:

Email: Whiskey312@gmail.com

If you have a reunion planned for the near future please forward details to Tingira Secretary for inclusion in the next VOICEpipe issue **E. tsec@tingira.org.au** 



## Become TINGIRA Proud ...

Wear your Tingira Polo shirt shopping, be surprised how many former 'navy salts' you meet in your area; you may discover some new or former shipmates!



# TINGIRA.ORG.AU



#### Australian Navy Cadets – TS Tingira

Australian Navy Cadets (ANC) is a leading provider of youth development experiences for Australian residents aged 12½ to 19 years old, sponsored by the Royal Australian Navy. It aims to build teamwork and leadership skills in young people through exciting and rewarding maritime activities and quality learning opportunities.





Adventure and fun are the key ingredients for activities covering everything nautical from sailing, knots, powerboating, seamanship and marching, to camps, ceremonial parades and events, sailing regattas and interstate trips. We also help you learn skills you will need in the future: leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, independence, resilience, trust and respect.

The life skills that Cadets learn complement their academic achievements and stand them in good stead for rewarding careers.

#### How do I join?

Come and visit the unit, based at HMAS Cerberus in Crib Point for a few weeks see if you like it, then complete the application paperwork. Once this is complete and the joining fee is paid we kit you out with your uniform (on loan) and welcome you to TS Tingira.



EMAIL. tstingira@navycadets.gov.au