

The Bosun's Call

Vol 15 No 6

Each for All—All for Each

July 2010

MILITARY PENSION INDEXATION - THE NEXT STEPS

Whilst the following was written on 17 June 2010 in terms of the DFWA viewpoint, it is the result of NAA participation with the DFWA in the recently formed Alliance which also includes the RAAF Association and the RAR Associations.

In recent months officials from the Association met with a number of Members of Parliament and Ministers on the issue of improving the indexation arrangements for military superannuation pensions. The position put by the major parties, and our response, is summarised as follows:

The Government's Position

On the whole, the Government remains wedded to not pursuing any change and offering full support to the recommendations of the flawed Matthews Report. However on 27 May 2010, Mr Chris Hayes MP (ALP) advised the House that:

It is also important that I point out tonight that the government is committed to considering a better indexation method for civilian and military superannuation pensions. Again, that is one of the recommendations that we accepted from the Matthews inquiry. I take the opportunity to encourage veterans associations to work with government to determine the best long-term method for indexing military superannuation pensions.

We also note that Recommendation #4 of the Matthews Report opens the way for a new indexation regime, and in his Executive Summary Mr Matthews concluded that purpose of pension indexation (being to maintain the purchasing

power of pensions ie, to protect them from erosion by inflation), remains relevant today. It follows that there is agreement that the current CPI methodology is flawed, and this is the fundamental basis of our claims.

With the above in mind, the Association welcomed the offer of the Government to work with us towards determining the best long term method for indexing military superannuation pensions, and we have formally advised the Minister for Finance and deregulation of this. We look forward to hearing what the Government intends to do and to work with Government to progress this long standing matter.

The Coalition's Position

The Coalition has advised us that it supports the following claims that:

- the proposal to index military superannuation more fairly has merit;
- previous Governments have been slow to move on this issue and veterans have every right to be disappointed and disillusioned;
- the Coalition will be honest and open with the ESO community on the matter and commits to determinedly pursue the case for reform of Indexation arrangements for military superannuants when in government; and

the Coalition believes that it will be important to tackle this issue as soon as the budget is back in surplus - and if at all possible within the government's next term.

The Association welcomes this as a welcome first step. However, we believe that improved

(Continued on page 3)

Events coming up

THURSDAY 1 July Meeting at Viking Footy Club Erindale at 1330

22 July Thursday Get-Together morning tea then lunch if you wish at Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 11.00am to 2.00 pm



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia



Printed by The Sports Club Kaleen

Naval Association of Australia ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

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President's Note

The last month has had its moments. I attended the funeral Service for Nigel Coates in the Garden Island Chapel in Sydney. He was given full military honours and as he had only recently ceased being the Fleet Commander, his funeral cortage went past all ships in Fleet Base East and Garden Island during which a thirteen gun salute was fired at minute intervals from a 12 pounder onboard HMAS *Tobruk*. It was a very fitting farewell to a young man who had achieved remarkable success during his career and who had the potential to lead the Navy and possibly the Defence Forces of Australia.

The struggle to improve the indexation process of Military Pension is gaining support and the ex-service community is becoming much more aware that the system which was thought to be good when initiated 37 years ago has fallen behind the current trends in assessing the changes needed to maintain the purchasing power of the pension. Unfortunately although the current financial situation is acting as a deterrent for improvement at this point, it is essential that the pressure be kept on the government to improve what is now an inadequate indexation system

Cheers

Peter Cooke-Russell

**Executive meeting
 Viking Club Erindale
 1200 Thursday 1 July 2010**

General Meeting Dates and Locations

1 Jul Viking Club Erindale	1330	2011	
5 Aug Kaleen Sports Club	1330	3 Feb Canberra Services Club	1930
2 Sep Canberra Services Club	1930	2 Mar <i>MV Southern Cross AGM</i>	1930 Wed
6 Oct <i>MV Southern Cross</i>	1930 Wed	7 Apr Kaleen Sports Club	1330
4 Nov Kaleen Sports Club	1330	5 May Canberra Services Club	1930
2 Dec Canberra Services Club	1830		

NAA ACT Section Event/Social Diary

22 Jul Thursday Get together morning tea then lunch if you wish Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 11.00 am–2.00 pm

5 Aug Lunch at the Kaleen Sports Club 12 noon before the General meeting at 1.30 pm

7 Aug HMAS Canberra Memorial Service

7 Oct Naval Memorial Service

Oct Fish n Chips Grounds Canberra Yacht Club 5.00—7.00 pm approx BYO drinks or buy at CYC

21 Nov Sunday Christmas BBQ at Don & Bev's backyard 12.00—4.00 pm approx

MILITARY PENSION INDEXATION - THE NEXT STEPS

(Continued from page 1)

indexation is affordable now (given the minimal annual net cost, etc) and that any additional liabilities incurred could be completely negated if excess profits from the Future Fund were used as an offset. As such, we have asked that the Coalition's policy state:

- In Government we will in our first year of our first term legislate for a military superannuation indexation formula that achieves the same percentage increase that is afforded to the Age/Service Pension.

The Independents

On the whole, Independents are strongly supportive of our position.

The DFWA Position

Notwithstanding our formal advices to the parties as outlined above, we note that this matter has been identified as the single most pressing issue of concern to the ESO community. We believe the matter has gone on long enough and our case has been adequately put - it just takes the Government of the day to accept the fundamental injustice of the matter and take responsibility for it to be resolved once and for all.

The Association will soon embark on a "Fair Go"! public awareness campaign that aims to make our objectives unavoidable issues for political parties in the lead up to the next election. The campaign will highlight, and aim to remedy, the unfair and discriminatory features of the three extant military superannuation schemes and address the grossly unfair CPI indexation formula and ongoing disregard of the Australian Military Covenant. The campaign will promote our issues and target the defence community, the Australian community and all political parties nationally.

VETERANS' HEALTH WEEK BIGGER AND BETTER IN 2010

On 4 June the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel, Alan Griffin, announced *Veterans' Health Week* will be held on 19–25 July, fulfilling a Government election commitment and building on the success of last year.

Mr Griffin said the theme of this year's *Veterans' Health Week* is 'nutrition' to encourage the veteran community to learn more about healthy eating and take the opportunity to polish their culinary skills.

"Last year 96 events were held during *Veterans' Health Week* around Australia and some 5000 people attended the activities. This year there will be more than 130 events, so there will be plenty of opportunity to get involved," Mr Griffin said. "*Veterans' Health Week* will be held from 19–25 July and veterans, war widows and their friends and families will have the chance to be a part of cooking competitions, see demonstrations of healthy cooking techniques by chefs, learn how to create their own kitchen garden or go on a bush walk and try 'bush food'.

"I encourage the veteran community to note the dates, 19–25 July, in their diaries and get involved in the activities on offer during *Veterans' Health Week*. Learning more about growing your own food and cooking can be a lot of fun. Another bonus of eating well is that a healthy diet can help to reduce the risk of illness and disease.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to veteran health care, *Veterans' Health Week* aims to support and educate our older veterans and the entire veteran community," Mr Griffin said. "This financial year the Government will spend \$5.2 billion on healthcare, providing essential support to our veteran community," Mr Griffin said.

For more information about *Veterans' Health Week* and activities in your area visit www.dva.gov.au.

VALE

Nigel Stephen Coates

8 March 1959 to 2 June 2010

"Lest we Forget"

**ADF MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE
DIRECTORS NOMINATED FOR THE
PROPOSED
COMMONWEALTH
SUPERANNUATION CORPORATION**

On 13 May the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF), Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston AC AFC, announced he has nominated General Peter Cosgrove AC MC and Mr John McCullagh as the Australian Defence Force (ADF) member representative directors on the proposed Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation. The appointment of the nominees is subject to passage of the Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010 which is currently before Parliament.

The Governance of Australian Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010 establishes the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation as a single trustee body to be responsible for most Commonwealth Government superannuation schemes. This will include the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme and the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits scheme from 1 July 2010.

General Peter Cosgrove is well known and respected within the ADF and wider community. His military career spanned 40 years, culminating in his promotion to General and appointment as the Chief of the Defence Force in 2002. Since separating from the ADF in 2005, General Cosgrove has served as a director of QANTAS Airways Limited, QANTAS Superannuation Limited, Australian Rugby Union Limited and as a fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Mr John McCullagh has had 28 years experience in the governance of Commonwealth superannuation, and in the last seven years has focused on military superannuation with four years as the Chief Executive Officer of the Military Superannuation Benefits Scheme (MSBS). He is currently employed as an adviser to the MSBS Board to facilitate the transition to the new merged Board arrangements.

"As ADF member representatives, General Cosgrove and Mr McCullagh will bring to the new Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation board a deep understanding of the needs and expectations of ADF personnel regarding their superannuation schemes," Air Chief Marshal Houston said. "These nominees have extensive experience and a detailed technical knowledge of the superannuation industry and, in particular, the unique features of the existing military schemes.

"General Cosgrove and Mr McCullagh have a demonstrated history of, and a reputation for, championing the best interests of ADF members and I am confident that they will continue to do so in their new roles," CDF said.

ALLIANCE WITH DFWA VIEW OF PROPOSED MERGER OF THE COMMONWEALTH SUPERANNUATION BOARDS

The Association's reservations to the proposed merger of the Commonwealth Superannuation boards as presently proposed have been well documented. The Association has no fundamental objection to the merger: our concern centers on ensuring that the unique interests of members of the military schemes are protected by the legislation. Although the probability of better investment returns have been flagged by Government Ministers and officials, much will rely on the expertise of the advisers and the quality of investment decisions by the Board as is the case now and the amounts quoted should be regarded as purely speculative.

Following discussions with Departmental and Ministerial officials as well as the designated head of the proposed merged Board and in an attempt to accommodate the Government's objectives, we significantly altered our position from total opposition to qualified support as long as there were sufficient safeguards written into the bills to acknowledge and give force to the unique nature of service in the ADF. After the original legislation was amended (supposedly to take into account our concerns), the final versions did not include the safeguards we believe are necessary for the long term wellbeing of serving and retired members of the military superannuation schemes.

We firmly believe that the inclusion of the requirement that "The Board of Trustees shall in its deliberations and decisions acknowledge, recognise, consider and report upon the impacts of 'The Unique Nature Of Military Service'.." and legislating a requirement for a "Defence Case Reassessment" body are fundamental in limiting the possibility that there be no gradual erosion (or erosion by stealth) of the military specific nature of our schemes, their operation and administration.

Looking at history we believe we have every reason to continue to be sceptical about Government assurances and watch with keen interest the handling of this legislation in both Houses of the Parliament.

Note.

The control of Commonwealth Parliamentary pension schemes and Commonwealth Judiciary pension schemes will not be under the control of the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation



RAN Fleet Air Arm

The Fleet Air Arm (FAA), now more formally known as the Australian Navy Aviation Group, is the operational part of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) responsible for the operation of aircraft aboard ship. The FAA is currently an all helicopter force, operating four separate types of helicopter in the anti-submarine warfare and maritime support roles.

During World War II, several squadrons of the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm were manned primarily by Australian personnel. The impact of naval aviation during the war, combined with the experience of these personnel, prompted the RAN to seek the establishment of their own naval aviation force.

A review by the Australian Government's Defence Committee held after World War II recommended that the post-war forces of the RAN be structured around a Task Force incorporating multiple aircraft carriers. Initial plans were for three carriers, with two active and a third in reserve, although funding cuts led to the purchase of the *Majestic* class light fleet carriers, *Majestic* and *Terrible* from the Royal Navy in June 1947. A Fleet Air Arm was established on 3 July 1947 by the Commonwealth Defence Council to operate aircraft from these two carriers, and also maintain two former Royal Australian Air Force bases as support facilities: these became HMAS *Albatross* at Nowra, New South Wales, and HMAS *Nirimba* at Schofields, New South Wales.

As *Terrible* was the closer of the two ships to completion, construction was finished without major modification. The ship was commissioned into the RAN as HMAS *Sydney* on 16 December 1948. *Sydney's* maiden voyage saw the delivery of the first two squadrons operated by the Fleet Air Arm: 805 Squadron with Hawker Sea Furies, and 816 Squadron with Fairey Fireflies. The two squadrons operated as the 20th Carrier Air Group (CAG). *Sydney* returned to England in mid



1950 to collect the 21st CAG: 808 and 817 Squadrons, with Sea Furies and Fireflies, respectively.

During the Korean War, *Sydney* was deployed to Korean waters in late 1951, with a wartime CAG of 805, 808, and 817 Squadrons embarked. The Fleet Air Arm operated in a strike, ground support, and escort role during the deployment, which saw three RAN pilots killed and a fourth seriously wounded, while thirteen aircraft were lost. Nine of these were shot down by North Korean flak artillery, with aircraft damaged by flak on at least ninety other occasions. The other four were lost in deck accidents, or crashed because of foul weather.

Meanwhile, *Majestic* was undergoing major upgrades during construction to operate jet aircraft, including the installation of an angled flight deck, steam catapult, and a mirror landing aid. To allow the RAN to operate as a two-carrier force while *Majestic* was completed, the Royal Navy loaned the *Colossus* class light carrier HMS *Vengeance* to the RAN in late 1952. *Vengeance* arrived in Australia with three Bristol Sycamore helicopters for the Fleet Air Arm. Although not the first helicopters to see military service in Australia (that position belonging to a Sikorsky S-51 of the Royal Australian Air Force), the Sycamores formed the first Australian military helicopter squadron, and led to the establishment of Australia's first helicopter pilot school.

Vengeance was returned to the United Kingdom in 1955, with the crew transferred to *Majestic*, which was commissioned into the RAN as HMAS *Melbourne* on 28 October 1955. The new carrier deliv-



Left Hawker Sea Fury
Below Fairey Firefly





RAN Gannet aboard USS Philippine Sea

ered new aircraft to the Fleet Air Arm: the de Havilland Sea Venom jet fighter-bomber for 805 and 808 Squadrons, and the turboprop-driven Fairey Gannet anti-submarine aircraft for 816 and 817 Squadrons. These aircraft were due to become obsolete in the late 1950s, and the RAN considered purchasing modern aircraft of French or Italian design, which were smaller than British developments and better suited to light carrier operations. By the end of the 1950s, with *Sydney* decommissioned from service and refitted as a troop transport, it was decided that fixed-wing naval aviation would be re-



Above S-2 Tracker on the catapult of Melbourne
Below A-4 Skyhawk lands on Melbourne



placed by a force of 27 Westland Wessex anti-submarine helicopters, to operate from *Melbourne*. This decision was rescinded in 1963, with Grumman S-2E Tracker anti-submarine aircraft and Douglas A-4 Skyhawk fighter aircraft ordered for the Fleet Air Arm. Although *Melbourne* and her air group played no role in the Vietnam War, Australian naval aviators saw action as part of Royal Australian Navy Helicopter Flight Vietnam between 1967 and 1971. In 1972, the Fleet Air Arm's Wessex helicopters were replaced with Westland Sea King anti-submarine helicopters, although a small number of Wessexes continued to serve in utility and search-and-rescue roles.

Melbourne remained in service until mid-1982, when she was placed in reserve. The Australian government initially planned to purchase HMS *Invincible* from the Royal Navy and operate Harriers and helicopters from her, but the Falklands War resulted in the sale's cancellation, and the election of the Australian Labor Party to power in the 1983 Australian Federal Election led to the cancellation of plans to replace *Melbourne*. With no aircraft carrier, carrier borne fixed wing aviation in the RAN ended on 30 June 1983, though rotary wing aviation continued. The end of fixed-wing aviation in the RAN saw the FAA's Skyhawks sold to the Royal New Zealand Air Force, while many FAA aircrew decided to leave the service, transferring either to the Army or the RAAF, or leaving Australia altogether and joining the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm to fly Sea Harriers.

FAA Today

Today, the Fleet Air Arm is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the RAN's helicopter force. Helicopters are operated from the frigates of the *Adelaide* and *Anzac* classes and from the RAN's amphibious and support ships.

Current squadrons

RAN squadrons follow the same numbering system as those of the Royal Navy, with operational units numbered from 800 onwards and training units

Below A Sea King landing on HMAS Manoora in 2007



numbered from 700 onwards:

- 723 Squadron - Aerospatiale AS 350BA Ecureuil (Squirrel) and Agusta A109E: 723 Squadron is the Fleet Air Arm's primary helicopter training unit. It is employed as a conversion unit for newly qualified pilots to learn to fly helicopters and also provides aircraft and crews for ships' flights on the RAN's hydrographic vessels. In addition, 723 Squadron provides the RAN's helicopter display team.
- 816 Squadron - Sikorsky S-70B Seahawk: 816 Squadron provides Seahawk helicopters for use aboard *Adelaide* class guided missile frigates.
- 817 Squadron - Westland Sea King Mk 50: 817 Squadron is a land based squadron operating the Sea King helicopter in the medium lift role. 817 Squadron also has responsibility for maintaining and operating aircraft on the *Kanimbla* class, HMAS *Tobruk* and HMAS *Success*.

The *Kanimbla* class vessels are also capable of operating S-70A Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters from the Army's 5th Aviation Regiment and 171st Aviation Squadron, and regularly train with these aircraft during amphibious exercises.

Current Aircraft

Since 2000, when the last pair of HS748s was retired, the Fleet Air Arm has been an entirely rotary winged force. Air defence of the fleet is primarily the task of the *Adelaide* class guided missile frigates, armed with the SM-2 Standard SAM; these are supported when possible by the F/A-18 Hornets of the Royal Australian Air Force.

The most numerous aircraft is the Sikorsky S-70B Seahawk, with sixteen operated by 816 Squadron; these operate primarily in the anti-submarine warfare role from the *Adelaide* class frigates, but have supplementary roles in search-and-rescue and troop transport. In 2001, eleven SH-2G Super Seasprite helicopters were purchased to operate from the *Anzac* class frigates, which led to the reformation of 805 Squadron (which had been the FAA's last fast jet squadron). The project to upgrade these aircraft and introduce them into service proved unsuccessful, and was cancelled in March 2008. The Sea King provides the fleet's medium lift capability, but also performs over the horizon targeting for anti-surface warfare, and search and rescue capability. Prior to 1982, the Sea King was also used in the ASW role from the aircraft carrier *Melbourne*. The Squirrel was used in an operational capability aboard the guided missile frigates prior to the purchase of the Seahawk. Now, they are used by 723 Squadron for conversion training, as well as deployment from the RAN's hydrographic vessels.

CHIEF OF NAVY OUTLINES THE RAN'S STRATEGIC VISION

The Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Russ Crane AO CSM RAN, has unveiled the blueprint for Navy's future, launching the new edition of *Australian Maritime Doctrine* in Canberra.



"While the recent Defence White Paper outlined what's in store for Navy and the rest of the ADF in

terms of hardware, the *Australian Maritime Doctrine* details the philosophical and strategic concepts needed to meet the many future challenges to our maritime security.

"The maritime sector is already worth \$48 billion annually to the Australian economy. The continuing expansion in our use of the sea will see this amount grow further in the years ahead.

"It is an inescapable strategic reality that as Australians we live within a huge maritime realm," Vice Admiral Crane said.

"Unfortunately, not many of us are aware of it. We are surrounded by three great oceans that control our climate, generate enormous wealth and provide our most important transport medium. Too many Australians still see the sea as a barrier rather than as our highway to the world."

First released in 2000, this new edition of *Australian Maritime Doctrine* provides an authoritative guide to current naval thinking, describing the importance of the sea to all Australians and setting out the RAN's unique place in our national security.

Taking into account the many changes which have occurred in the past decade, this latest doctrine focuses on the need for international cooperation in dealing with global maritime threats both here and abroad. It also places added emphasis on the requirements of a joint approach to defending Australia and its interests.

"The ADF cannot operate effectively unless everyone works together," Vice Admiral Crane said. "*Australian Maritime Doctrine* formalises a strengthening partnership across Navy and the ADF, and is a key element in our work to ensure all Australians better understand the importance to their nation of the sea and sea power."

MOVES TO CUT ADF RELOCATION COSTS

I smell a rat and the rat would have to be the Australian Public Service!!!

By Ian McPhedran.

From: [The Daily Telegraph](#).

May 08, 2010 12:00 Midday

HORSES, cows, extra dogs and cats, boats, caravans and vintage cars owned by military staff will no longer be moved interstate at taxpayer expense.

And service personnel are preparing to dig in against another Government plan to slash free travel for family members from 'remote' bases in northern Australia.

Both are part of a review of entitlements under a Strategic Reform Program aimed at saving \$20 billion over 10 years to help fund \$250 billion in new planes, ships, vehicles and weapons.

Travel expenses and meal and mess allowances have already been slashed.

The Defence razor gang has focused on the \$200 million-a-year housing removal bill which traditionally covered all goods and chattels a member needed to move to a new posting.

These costs blew out as the number - and type - of possessions moved along with the 22,000 military families each year expanded.

Some removals involved 10 cats and several dogs, numerous horses and livestock, a number of motor and sailing boats, several vehicles including vintage cars and motor-bikes, and also caravans.

Defence sources said there was wide scope to tighten the system.

"Two cars and one boat might be justified but two cars, three boats, jet ski, caravan and horse float are possibly not," a senior source said.

Individuals will have to meet the cost of moving the extra lifestyle items.

By contrast top brass were warned there would 'hell to pay' if Canberra-based bureaucrats tried to tell those serving in Darwin or Townsville those cities were no longer 'remote'.

Under the 'remote locality leave travel entitlement' a Defence member based in Darwin or Townsville or similar remote place, and their families, get free return airfares to a southern capital once in a two-year posting cycle.

"These places are remote and it should not be up to Canberra to decide whether the services there make it less remote. They are still a long way from the major cities and their families," the source said.

TIPS TO MANAGING STRESS

1. Look after yourself

When we don't take care of our mind and body, we are far more susceptible to feeling stressed and worn-out. This is particularly relevant in the cooler months, when energy levels aren't at their highest. Taking care of yourself will allow you to be more engaged with the people and activities that are important to you. It's as simple as regular exercise, eating a healthy diet, getting a good night's sleep, drinking moderately and not smoking. Incorporating meditation or yoga can also help you to become more mindful and focused in the ways you spend your time.

2. Get organised

Being surrounded with physical clutter leaves us feeling like there's unfinished business. In turn, this doesn't let us switch off and truly relax. Start with one room in your house, so that the act of decluttering your life doesn't become a stress in itself. Throw away the things that you no longer use, file paperwork and wipe down dusty surfaces. Removing the physical clutter is a guaranteed way to eradicate the mental clutter.

3. Find a personal interest

Finding a personal interest allows you to put your energy into something rewarding. It will give you time each day, week, fortnight or month to switch off from the stress of day-to-day life and just enjoy yourself. It can also be a great way to meet new friends and broaden your knowledge or skill-set.

4. Know your boundaries

It is okay to say no. By setting clear boundaries, you will find that people respect you more. You'll feel confident in your ability to articulate your wants and needs and will get more out of your relationships, as you won't have reason to resent anyone.

5. Have fun

Life doesn't have to be serious all the time. Sing in the shower, catch a wave on a boogie board, dance around the house and let yourself laugh until tears roll down your cheeks. Remembering how it feels to be young and carefree is good for the soul and a sure way to de-stress.



LEGACY PRESENTS

THE BIG BAND SOUND

THE BAND OF THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
IAN McLEAN AM CSC

SATURDAY 28TH AUGUST
7.30 PM CANBERRA THEATRE
TICKETS \$50/40
www.canberraticketing.com.au

Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

JACOBS

ACT GOVERNMENT

FUJITSU

**Canberra Legacy and the
Band of the Royal Military
College, Duntroon,
present
'The Big Band
Sound'
on
Saturday 28 August 2010.**

This is a two and a half hour spectacular performed by fifty of Australia's finest musicians on stage and featuring exciting Concert Band works, swinging Big Band Tunes, soloists and small ensembles.

The band will be led by the Officer Commanding and Music Director, Major Geoff Grey, CSM.

Proceeds from this fabulous evening of entertainment will go to Canberra Legacy to help support the Canberra widow(er)s, children and disabled dependants of Australian service men and women killed in war or who lost their lives as a result of service'.

**EARLY BIRD tickets are
on sale until 30 June
for \$40 (full price \$50).**

LIVING A HEALTHY LIFE WITH LONG-TERM CONDITIONS

This **FREE** six week course run by ACT Health in partnership with Arthritis and SHOUT Inc. aims to help people with diabetes, asthma, heart disease, arthritis, cancer, back pain, obesity or any condition that lasts for longer than 6 months. The course involves 2½ hours a week for 6 weeks with a health professional and a person with a long-term condition.

Benefits of the course include improved communications with health professionals, improved physical functioning, improved emotional and social well-

being, enhanced ability to manage symptoms and reduced visits to emergency department and days in hospital.

Courses are run in Weston Creek, Belconnen, Erindale, Phillip and Tuggeranong. Carers, partners and friends are welcome. For further information and to enrol, contact Arthritis ACT on 6288 4244; SHOUT Inc 6290 1984 or Community Health Intake, 6207 9977, or email selfmanagement@act.gov.au.

ANZAC FRIGATES' LOCALLY DESIGNED AND BUILT RADAR IS A NATIONAL FIRST

In a few weeks the first radar designed and built in Australia for a modern warship will be delivered to BAE Systems' shipyard at Henderson WA.

There, it will be fitted to the ANZAC frigate HMAS *Perth*. By the end of the year the ship will be back in the water with what the Navy expects will be a quantum leap in its aircraft and missile defence capabilities.

Canberra electronics firm CEA Technologies has been working for nearly 20 years on the solid-state Phased Array Radar system for the Ceafar radar, and its smaller Ceamount stablemate.

In the ANZAC frigate Anti-Ship Missile Defence Project, Sea 1448, both radars will be installed atop a new, lightweight radar mast aboard HMAS *Perth*.

The Ceafar and Ceamount use technology similar to the Aegis SPY-1D(V)3 radar on the Navy's new *Hobart*-class Air warfare destroyers, but are much lighter.

The six-face Ceafar radar will detect and track incoming aircraft and anti-ship missiles. The four-face Ceamount radar is an illuminator – its radar energy will bounce off the incoming target to guide the ship's Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile all the way to impact.

As well as being extremely accurate, this combination allows the ship to deal with multiple incoming missiles at once. How many? That's classified, but Defence says it can handle enough to cope with foreseeable threats right out to the retirement of the



ANZAC frigates in about 2033. The ANZACs weren't designed for a hostile environment and, at present, can only engage one target at a time because their current illuminator, with its traditional dish-type antenna, can only point one direction at a time. The PAR technology means Ceamount's beam can skip backwards and forwards instantaneously between multiple targets to provide continuous guidance for several ESSMs going in different directions.

Achieving this performance in such a small package has put CEA technologies at the leading edge of global radar technology.

The radar project is part of a \$158 million programme to fit HMAS *Perth* with the Ceafar and Ceamount arrays, a lightweight mast to carry them, and an upgraded combat system. If next year's sea trials are successful, the other seven ANZAC frigates will get the same upgrade.

If all goes well, the new radars on *Perth* will be declared operational before the first of the Aegis-equipped AWDs is launched.

(*Weekend Australian* 29-30 May)

BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA

Those shipmates who have a current email address will have received notification from the Secretary of a new video about the Coral Sea.

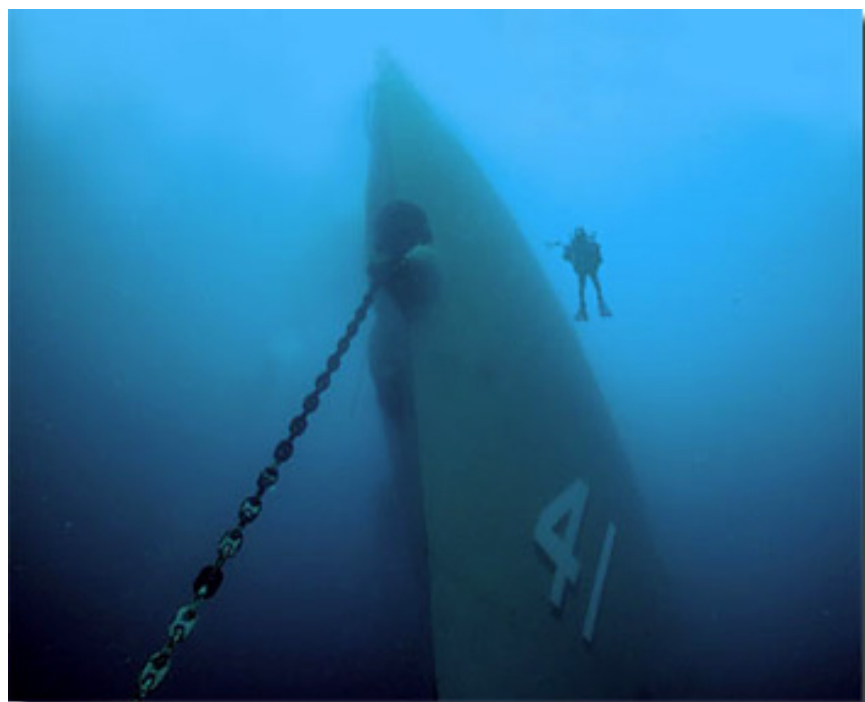
He has been informed that the original DVD from the producer is available from David Evans (6288 5767 or email davpat1@tpg.com.au), should anyone wish to borrow it.

Five Minute Quiz

1. The fossa and the lemur are both endemic to which island?
2. Who became king of Sweden in 1654 when Queen Christina gave up the throne?
3. Which of the following is spelt incorrectly: abscess, anaesthetic, archeaology?
4. The small archipelago of Socotra is a part of which Middle Eastern republic?
5. Venustiano Carranza Garza was one of the leaders during which revolution?
6. Woomera is an Aboriginal word for what weapon-related object?
7. What type of animal is a hinny?
8. What colour is the zircon jacinth?
9. In what year did Samoa become independent from New Zealand?
10. By what name is the Wanderer butterfly, found in Australia, otherwise known?

Answers on Page 13

HMAS *Brisbane*'s bow shortly after she was scuttled on 31 July 2005





Rivers Dining

At the Sports Club Kaleen
(sponsoring the printing of Bosun's Call)

...relax and enjoy yourself!!

Open 7 Day Lunch and Dinner

Lunch 12–2.00 pm (Fridays 11.30 am)

Dinner 6.00 –9.00 pm

**Daily Lunch Specials
\$7.50 Saturday to Thursday**

**Friday Lunches
Chicken Schnitzel, T. Bone, Rump or
Fish (crumbed or battered) \$9.50**

**Sunday Evening Roast
Adults \$13.50,
Children \$6.00**

The Sports Club Kaleen Your Function Venue

**Complimentary Room Hire (NPO)
Its an ideal venue to suit all
occasions.**

**Birthday, Engagements, Family
Reunions, Farewells and
Christmas Parties**

**For Bookings , Please call
Meighan or Liz on
02 6241 1560**

**Let us take the stress out of your
next Function**

ITEMS FOR SALE

NAA Ties	\$22.00
NAA Car Decals	\$ 2.00
NAA Name Badges	\$15.00
NAA Key Ring	\$ 5.00
RAN Key Ring	\$ 5.00

See Secretary Peter (6282 2475)



A Happy Birthday to you all.

John Brown , John Gellibrand, Angus Gibbons,
Sam Hall, Lionel Mead, Sir Richard Peek,
Wayne Rooks and Sylvia Sinfield



The NAA ACT Section is very grateful
for the support provided by the
Canberra Southern Cross Club

Answers to Five Minute Quiz:
1. Madagascar; 2. Charles X Gustav; 3. Archaeology
(archaeology); 4. Yemen; 5. The Mexican Revolution; 6.
Notched stick used to hurl spears; 7. The offspring of a
male horse and a female donkey; 8. Reddish-orange;
9. 1962; 10. Monarch butterfly.