OFF TO SEA: HMAS Choules departs the Cruiser Wharf at Fleet Base East in Sydney. Photo: ABIS Sarah Ebsworth

READY TO GO

HMAS Choules is ship-shape and set for action

On guard
Australia’s Federation Guard ready for Anzac Day

First in line
MH-60R Romeo taking shape in the US
Choules reports for duty

Michael Brooke

NAVY’s biggest and newest ship, HMAS Choules, is unit ready after successfully completing a compressed work-up program and is now on target for Exercise Sea Lion.

Choules achieved her mariner skills and unit-readiness evaluations this month and is scheduled to participate in two major amphibious exercises in Far North Queensland – Sea Lion next month and is scheduled to participate in Sea Lion with embarked elements of the Army’s 3rd Brigade in Townsville,” he said.

He said the ship’s company had “moved at speed” during the work-up to achieve her mariner skills evaluation. “The first week focused on damage control exercises, seamanship and gunnery,” LCDR Cox said.

The second week consisted of a combination of mine countermeasures and general warfare, while the final week consisted of a 30-hour unit readiness evaluation and force protection certification.

The crew also boarded combatants from a fictional country.

Choules’ military lift includes the capacity to load and transport up to 32 Abrams tanks, or 150 light trucks. She can carry a normal load of 356 troops, or up to 700 in operationally required.

She is designed to operate over the horizon, using helicopters and landing craft to get personnel and equipment ashore.

With Choules’ return to sea, Navy’s amphibious capability includes ADV Ocean Shield, three LCHs and HMAS Tobruk, and will be augmented by the NUSHIP Canberra in 2014.

Minehunter ready to respond

Michael Brooke

HMAS Gascoyne completed her unit readiness work-up program on April 12, living up to her motto of “return to sea”. The HMMS Waterhen-based minehunter started her four-week work-up in the Eastern Australian Exercise Area and Jervis Bay last month, after a short notice change in the ship’s program.

CO Gascoyne LCDR Aaron Cox said the biggest challenge during the work-up was integrating an almost entirely new crew since her last unit readiness assessment more than 18 months ago. “The first week was dedicated to mine counter-measures, the second week focused on damage control exercises, seamanship and gunnery,” LCDR Cox said.

The third week consisted of a combination of mine countermeasures and general warfare, while the final week consisted of a 30-hour unit readiness evaluation and force protection certification.

The crew also boarded combatants from a fictional country, such as having to protect us from air or surface threats, while we lead them through a minefield using our own precise navigation system and high-definition sonar,” he said.

LCDR Cox said the collective training gave Gascoyne’s and Yarra another opportunity to demonstrate mine counter-measures for the benefit of Fleet operations.

“Minehunters have a tremendous capability and are always ready to help the major Fleet units because it is all part of training the way we need to in order to fight and win at sea,” he said.

LCDR Cox said the minehunter was ready to respond to a range of Fleet operational tasks including strategic route surveys and also a deployment to the South West Pacific with HMAS Huon later this year.

Minehunter ready to respond

TECHTIME: ABMT Sean Ebsworth conducts rounds on the Azimuth Thruster on board HMAS Choules.

Photo: ABIS Chantell Bianchi

GETTING READY: Above and below, HMAS Choules’ flight deck team and standing sea, fire and emergency party respond to a simulated helicopter crash.

Photo: ABS Chantell Bianchi

MINESWEEPING: HMAS Gascoyne’s 723SQN helicopter transfers critical stores to the ship during her work-up.

Photo: PDS Phillip Hunt

Keeping Watch: (L-R) SIG Mark Parson, of 3 Bde, stands with ABCIS Benjamin Heron on the 5-inch Aldis Lamp and ABCIS Andrew Hetherington of 723SQN helicopter during Exercise Area and Jervis Bay last month.

Photo: POIS Phillip Hunt

Michael Brooke

Contact Us

Email: navynews@defence.gov.au
Phone: 02 6266 7701
Address: The Editor, R8-LG-038, PO Box 7909, Department of Defence, ACT 2600
Website: www.defence.gov.au/news/navynews

Advertising and Subscriptions

Advertising Manager
Trish Dillon: 02 6266 7607
tdillon@defence.gov.au
Assistant Manager advertising/surplus
Jodie Murphy: 02 6266 7552
jmurphy@defence.gov.au

Disclaimer

Navy News is published fortnightly by the Directorate of Defence News, Department of Defence. Printed by Horton Media Australia. Published under authority of the Minister for Defence. Navy News is not an official publication of the Australian Defence Force. The publisher reserves the right to refuse advertising if it is deemed inappropriate and to change the size of the ad, print type or other specifications if material is not compatible with our system. The fact an ad is accepted for publication does not mean that the product or service has the endorsement of Defence or Navy News.

Navy News is available online at
Rss: www.defence.gov.au/RSS_Feeds
Twitter: @Australian_Navy
YouTube: www.youtube.com/RANMedia
Facebook: www.facebook.com/RoyalAustralianNavy

address@defencenews.gov.au
advertising@defencenews.gov.au
Kicking butt on board

Michael Brooke

HMAS Sydney’s 7th Fleet embed promises to be a challenging time for those taking up the captain’s challenge to give up smoking.

CO Sydney CMDR Karl Brinckmann said the opportunity to quit smoking during the deployment would help sailors improve their health, save money and assist the ship’s adopted charity.

“I have been a smoker for 25 years but now it is time to stop and I am looking forward to the benefits to my health and wallet,” he said.

The challenge is voluntary for personnel on board Sydney. “I don’t want to force anyone, but those who take up the challenge will stop smoking after we have been at sea for a few days and have settled into our routine,” CMDR Brinckmann said.

“Anyone who takes up the challenge will be improving their health and, based on someone who smokes a pack a day, will save $2760 during the deployment.”

To help smokers kick the habit, CMDR Brinckmann has acquired enough nicotine gum and patches for 40 personnel.

The officers and sailors who participate in the challenge will each pay a $20 entry fee, which is equivalent to one packet of cigarettes.

CMDR Brinckmann said the entry fees and any other money saved that otherwise would have been spent on cigarettes could be donated to the ship’s adopted charity, the Infants’ Home in Ashfield.

Any person who resumes smoking on the deployment will automatically forfeit their entry fee. The challenge is supported by Director General Navy Health CDRE Liz Flushing who has donated $100 to the ship’s charity.

“I strongly support any initiative that brings a direct health benefit to our personnel,” she said.

“I wish Sydney the best for her deployment and look forward to regular updates on how the team is progressing in their desire to quit smoking.”

Sydney’s stop smoking campaign coincides with the release of the amended Joint Health Command directive for management of smoking cessation in nicotine-dependent Defence members.


Michael Brooke

NAVY will take another important step toward operating a task group with Hobart-class DDGs and Canberra-class LHDs when HMAS Sydney embeds with the US Navy’s Seventh Fleet next month.

Sydney was scheduled to depart Fleet Base East on April 22 for Japan to participate in a range of multinational maritime exercises with the George Washington carrier strike group.

CO Sydney CMDR Karl Brinckmann said his ship would conduct carrier strike group integration and participate in exercises, including Talisman Sabre 13, while operating as a unit of the strike group’s Destroyer Squadron 15.

“The embed with the Nimitz-class George Washington carrier strike group in Yokosuka, Japan, will enable Sydney and Navy to increase knowledge and skills relating to air defence procedures, strike group integration and other high-end defence capabilities,” he said.

Sydney’s embed reflects Navy’s forward-thinking approach to training in order to upskill sailors and absorb game-changing technologies.

“Any person who resumes smoking after we have been at sea for a few days and have settled into our routine,” CMDR Brinckmann said.

“Anyone who takes up the challenge will be improving their health and, based on someone who smokes a pack a day, will save $2760 during the deployment.”

To help smokers kick the habit, CMDR Brinckmann has acquired enough nicotine gum and patches for 40 personnel.

The officers and sailors who participate in the challenge will each pay a $20 entry fee, which is equivalent to one packet of cigarettes.

CMDR Brinckmann said the entry fees and any other money saved that otherwise would have been spent on cigarettes could be donated to the ship’s adopted charity, the Infants’ Home in Ashfield.

Any person who resumes smoking on the deployment will automatically forfeit their entry fee. The challenge is supported by Director General Navy Health CDRE Liz Flushing who has donated $100 to the ship’s charity.

“I strongly support any initiative that brings a direct health benefit to our personnel,” she said.

“I wish Sydney the best for her deployment and look forward to regular updates on how the team is progressing in their desire to quit smoking.”

Sydney’s stop smoking campaign coincides with the release of the amended Joint Health Command directive for management of smoking cessation in nicotine-dependent Defence members.

Sharon Palmer

A POSTING to a tropical paradise may seem like a dream assignment, but it’s not all snorkelling and sun-baking.

A Navy officer has helped save the lives of a group of canoeists off the coast of the Republic of Palau.

Working alongside the US Coast Guard and the Palau Division of Maritime Law Enforcement, LCDR Alan Willmore assisted in the rescue of 10 canoeists whose 17m voyaging canoe had partially sunk in waters 90 nautical miles north-east of Palau on March 4.

He said the rescue was made possible, and easier, by the preparedness of all aboard the canoe.

“The crew had planned their training voyage well and had the foresight to provide a plan of their passage before departing,” LCDR Willmore said.

Apart from their survival stores, they also had a sat-phone, which they used to call up details of their emergency.

The first information I received came to me via a phone call at home at around 7am from the Chief at Marine Law,” LCDR Willmore said.

“I was informed that a vessel described as a traditional canoe, which had been conducting a navigational training voyage en route from Koror to Yap, in rough seas.

“The number of people on board was not known at the time.”

LCDR Willmore said the canoe was hit by a freak wave at about midnight. “The weather at the time of the incident was choppy and one hull of the canoe was swamped by the wave,” he said.

LCDR Alan Willmore took up the post of Maritime Surveillance Adviser (MSA) in Palau in February 2011.

He said it was a challenging yet rewarding role.

“Achieving small steps has to be your objective as an MSA and it is rewarding to see the Police Marine Division I work with going about the business of maritime security in Palau’s exclusive economic zone,” he said.

“They operate similarly to Australia’s patrol boats in covering a considerable amount of sea space - the difference being they have just the one asset to accomplish the task.”

He forms part of the Defence Pacific Patrol Boat (PPB) Program, a region-wide Defence Cooperation Program initiative that provides participating Pacific states with a sovereign asset to protect and survey their maritime boundaries.

The PPB Program is also an important component of regional responses to transnational crime, with the platforms often operating closely with the various transnational crime units throughout the South Pacific, as well as the Forum Fisheries Agency in Honiara.

Underpinning Australia’s Defence engagement in the Pacific, the program has provided 22 patrol boats to 12 participating Pacific countries between 1985 and 1997.

“The PPBs provide participating countries with a credible maritime surveillance capability, enabling them to more effectively monitor the maritime resources in their own exclusive economic zone,” LCDR Willmore said.

“They are also used by these nations for tasks such as quarantine enforcement, search and rescue operations, disaster relief and general police work, thereby contributing to nation building in the region.”

The Defence Adviser South West Pacific based in Honiara, CMDR Geoff Turner, said the PPB program was enhanced by Navy’s network of in-country MSAs who, along with a CPO technical adviser, provided a wide range of mariner support, surveillance techniques, administration, ongoing maintenance and logistic support, and training for patrol boat crews.

“MSAs like LCDR Willmore are on the frontline of Australia’s regional engagement in the Pacific and in many cases are Australia’s Defence advisers to the individual nation’s government.” CMDR Turner said.

“Their positions are an invaluable part of Australia’s interests in our region.”

MSAs are located in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Tonga, Micronesia, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau and Marshall Islands.

**WHAT A DAY**

Above, LCDR Alan Willmore stands in front of the canoe, now undergoing repairs after it partially sank. Inset, the crew being rescued.

**APOSTING to a tropical paradise may seem like a dream assignment, but it’s not all snorkelling and sun-baking.**

**OWN A PROPERTY? LOOKING TO INVEST IN PROPERTY?**

**Defence Force specialist in Financial Education**

**Stage 1**

Education

**Stage 2**

Develop a personalised long term investment strategy

**Stage 3**

Implement and regularly review

**BOOK NOW FOR YOUR FREE APPOINTMENT**

Call 1300 784 246 or visit www.spect.com.au

The economy revolves around agriculture and fishing, but scuba diving in the pristine reefs is a growing-in-popularity tourism activity.

**Before and after:** Left, the traditional canoe Alingano Maisu sails off the coast of Palau. Above, under repair in Koror.
Defence Bank Limited ABN 57 087 651 385 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 234582 (04/13)

Great features, great rate

- No monthly fees
- 100% mortgage offset

DHOAS Saver Home Loan

5.59% p.a. 5.65%* p.a.
Annual variable rate Comparison rate

Call 1800 033 139 or visit your local Defence Bank branch

* Comparison rate is based upon $150,000 loan secured loan over 25 years. WARNING: This comparison rate is true only for the examples given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees and other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate. Terms, conditions, fees and charges change. Defence Bank's lending criteria, DHOAS eligibility criteria also apply. 100% mortgage offset available on variable rate loans. Interest rates current as at 10 April 2013, and are subject to change. Please refer to defencebank.com.au for current rates.

defencebank.com.au

Guards prepare for solemn day

Darryl Johnston

AUSTRALIA’S Federation Guard (AFG) Turkish and European contingents fine-tuned their drills at the Australian War Memorial in the lead-up to Anzac Day ceremonies on the Gallipoli Peninsula and the French and Belgian battlefields.

Guards perfected their precision and timing during the opening and closing ceremonies of the Hall of Remembrance and in the forecourt of the national shrine.

A total of 34 guards make up the contingents with 13 representatives from Army, 12 from Air Force and nine from Navy. The contingents also include three women.

Fourteen members will be in Gallipoli and 20 in France/Belgium.

On the Gallipoli Peninsula, the AFG will stand as solemn guards at the Gallipoli Memorial throughout the Anzac Day Dawn Service.

At Villers-Bretonneux and Bullecourt in France and Ypres in Belgium, they will feature during Anzac Day commemorations and at the Menin Gate service.

For many it is their first trip to the battlefields on Anzac Day.

Lt Simon Fitzgerald is Detachment Commander, drill instructor and Catafalque Party Commander. He joined the AFG in January last year.

He said being part of the Gallipoli contingent gave him an opportunity to see another country, experience their culture and conduct his duties in a very significant location.

“Before deploying to Gallipoli we performed a number of tasks to display our capabilities and assure the senior staff they had chosen the right people,” Lt Fitzgerald said.

“Not only drills, but there is a lot of physical and mental preparation as well to ensure everyone appreciates where they are going, the importance of what we are doing and who we are representing.”

When Lt Fitzgerald stands guard at Gallipoli his thoughts will be with family members who fought in WWII.

“One grandfather fought in the Army and another in the Air Force. So it gives me great pride to represent my service and my grandfathers on such a significant day at Gallipoli,” he said.

AB Kathleen Clifford will participate in commemorations in Villers-Bretonneux and Bullecourt.

“This is the first time I have been overseas with the AFG on such an important event and I will also celebrate my 23rd birthday in France,” she said.

But it won’t all be celebrations for the young sailor.

“I am a bit nervous,” AB Clifford said.

“A lot of people will be watching our every move, including my family in Dubbo. But, overall, I am really proud and I know my family is proud.”

Lt Andrew Cleghorn is Catafalque Party Commander for the Belgium contingent.

He has undertaken ceremonial duties with the AFG all over Australia and in Papua New Guinea during Kokoda commemorations and said he was excited to be part of commemorations in Belgium.

“There is no doubt the emotions will be running high for everyone in the AFG to represent Australia and be part of remembrance services on the Western Front is going to be amazing,” he said.

OC AFG MAJ Andre Le Masle said the tempo for the AFG would increase in the lead up to the Anzac Centenary in 2015 and there were opportunities for guardsmen to travel to Gallipoli, Villers-Bretonneux or Ypres to take part in commemoration activities.

“Any member of the ADF who is interested in representing their service and the ADF should direct their expression of interest to their career adviser,” he said.

STANDING PROUD: LS Simon Fitzgerald stands outside the Australian War Memorial in Canberra before deploying to participate in Anzac Day ceremonies at Gallipoli. Photo: Lauren Black
No catches. No tricks.

We offer a complete vehicle leasing solution.
Smartsalary is the only salary packaging provider for the Department of Defence.

Why go anywhere else?
Our specialist leasing division, Smartleasing, offers a total car leasing service, getting you into your new car quickly and saving you money!

Here’s what Smartleasing offers that the others don’t...

- Capped fees
- Choice of financiers
- Trade-in options
- Express lease set up
- Salary packaging administration
- Workplace appointments

Since other organisations are not contracted by the Department of Defence, you could end up paying unnecessary fees for a service Smartsalary already offers as your salary packaging provider!

To find out more about why your employer trusts Smartsalary to make your new car purchase easy, contact us today.

1300 115 947
www.navyleasing.com.au

Winner 2012
Australian Service Excellence Awards

saving money, made easy

by smartsalary
Modern-day Romeo

CAPT Scott Lockey

NAVY’s first MH-60R Seahawk Romeo is taking shape in the US, having just completed a road trip from Troy in Alabama to Stratford in Connecticut where the second of three assembly phases has started.

The helicopter is manufactured by two prime contractors in the US – Siksorsky Aircraft Corporation and Lockheed Martin.

Each aircraft takes 14 months to manufacture, with assembly occurring in three sites in the US.

The first four RAN Romeos are in various stages of production and were recently inspected by members of the Air 9000 Phase 8 Resident Project Team on a compliance assurance visit to the Sikorsky production facility in Troy.

Resident Project Team Leader CMDR Nyree Cornelius was the first RAN member to see the Romeo in production and said seeing them in-person really struck home how real and close this new capability was to being realised.

“The MH-60R Seahawk Romeo is no longer just the ‘selected solution’ for the RAN’s future anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare capability,” CMDR Cornelius said.

“This capability is now coming and it is coming fast, with aircraft assembly on track for the RAN. The RAN is now at the stage where it can see and touch these aircraft, which is truly令人印象深刻．”

“The RAN’s first Romeo in production is the 168th Romeo to be manufactured. R168, will be known as N48-001 once in service.

“Inspecting the first RAN Romeo on completion of its first stage of production is a memory I will doubtless treasure, and spin yarns about, for years to come,” CMDR Cornelius said.

“The DMO, CDG, RAN, US Navy and its contractors have been working hard since the Government approved this acquisition, but 2013 is clearly the make or break year. The current concerted, cooperative and focused team efforts being made by all parties will need to continue throughout 2013 to ensure the successful delivery of this capability and that the MH-60R in-service date can be achieved in early 2014.”

N48-001 is now on Sikorsky’s final assembly line in Stratford where it is being fitted with engines, gearboxes and the Lockheed Martin produced ‘Common Cockpit’.

Project Air 9000 Phase 8 was approved by Government in June 2011 at a cost of $3.2 billion. The project will acquire 24 Romeos, a range of training devices and mission and support systems from the US Navy via a Foreign Military Sales agreement.

The Romeo will deliver Navy’s embarked aviation combat capability for the next 30 years.

Lockheed Martin delivered its 400th Common Cockpit avionics suite to the US Navy on February 26. The cockpit is common to both the MH-60R Seahawk Romeo and the US Navy’s MH-60S Maritime Support helicopter and includes four large, flat-panel, multi-function, night-vision-compatible colour display screens, which provide the crew with instant updates on everything from weather to weapons and sensors.

Former WOATV Andrew Roach, of the Air 9000 Phase 8 Resident Project Team, saw the RAN Common Cockpit installed on a test bench ready for acceptance testing.

“For a clear reflection of the advancement in avionics systems since the days of the S-70B-2. The four full-colour mission displays and associated components appear nothing out of the ordinary in terms of hardware, however, when the system is powered up and operating, it is then you can really begin to appreciate the next generation in cockpit design,” Mr Roach said.

“Clearly the cockpit is all about operating and fighting the Seahawk Romeo and its sensors and weapons. It will also provide an important tool for maintenance to access and assess the many on board systems.”

Lockheed Martin’s 400th cockpit will shortly be installed in N48-001.

Terms and conditions, fees and charges and lending criteria apply and are available at www.adcu.com.au. *Comparison rate based on a loan of $150,000 over 25 years with monthly repayments. This comparison rate is true only for the examples given and does not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate. Rates are current at the time of publication and are subject to change. Visit dhoas.adcu.com.au for more details. Australian Defence Credit Union Limited ABN 48 087 649 741 AFSL No. 237 988 Australian credit licence number 237 988.

ADCURhoaS
Value Home Loan

5.59% p.a. Interest Rate 5.64% p.a. Comparison Rate*

1300 13 23 28 www.adcu.com.au

Talk to us about finding the right home loan for you.

Low rates Relationship rewards Great service

07 NEWS April 25, 2013
The world is complex. Your decisions don’t have to be.

Ensuring the continuous availability, maintenance and sustainment of naval fleets is increasingly complex. Working in partnership to understand your operational needs, work schedules and future requirements, Thales offers repair, maintenance and in-service support capabilities for commercial and naval vessels on the east and west coasts of Australia. With a proven track record across 50 navies and a commitment to delivery, our maritime and defence sustainment solutions focus on reduced risk, scalability and low lifecycle/whole-of-life costs.

To find out more visit thalesgroup.com.au
Shooters target top shot

Michael Brooke

NAVY shooters will hone their marksmanship skills at HMAS Cerberus for 10 days before launching their quest for victory at the 2013 Australian Army Skill at Arms Meeting (AASAM) next month.

Eleven Navy marksmen will benefit from intense training from former top shots of the Navy.

The 11 marksmen will vie for the honour of being crowned Navy’s Top Shot while carrying the challenge to Army’s sharpshooters as well as a host of international competitors at the Combined Arms Training Centre at Puckapunyal from May 6-16.

Kuttabul’s POMUSN Gordon Orr, ABBM Lewis Sullivan and ABBM Mitchell Vandergraaf earned their berths in the Navy team after displaying exceptional marksmanship with the F-88 or 9mm Browning pistol at a trial at Holsworthy range earlier this month.

The Navy’s reigning top shot, PO Orr, said he was confident the Navy team would do well this year because of better preparation.

“‘This is the first time in five AASAMs that we have a dedicated training camp with mentors to help us develop our skills,” he said.

“In previous years we have struggled because we have rolled straight into AASAM with only one or two range-shoots under our belts.”

PO Orr, of RAN Band Sydney, said AASAM 2013 marked a rebuilding phase for Navy, which did not enter a team in the 2012 competition due to lack of numbers.

“We have a good, young squad this year, who will benefit from the experience of competing in their first AASAM,” said the clarinet and saxophone player.

Kuttabul’s new-comers, AB Sullivan and AB Vandergraaf, will compete in the F-88 and 9mm pistol events respectively.

AB Vandergraaf said AASAM would mark a major learning curve for him as a pistol shooter.

“I don’t really know what to expect because I haven’t entered before, but I’m sure the experience will enhance my marksmanship skills,” he said.

“I did some shooting on the farm when I was young, so that carried through when I joined the Navy and I really enjoy competitive shooting.”

AB Sullivan will represent Navy in both the F-88 and 9mm pistol events.

“I jumped at the chance to represent Navy because I knew I would benefit from the training,” he said.

With scores of around 190 in LF5/6, AB Sullivan is aiming to qualify for a marksmanship badge, if not the distinction of being Navy’s Top Shot.

COMWAR CDRE Peter Leavy said the proficiency of naval personnel in the use of small arms was a key theme of New Generation Navy.

“Participation in AASAM is an excellent opportunity to reinvigorate the Navy’s profile in this important war-fighting skill,” he said.

AASAM consists of combat-focused matches, using in-service weapons such as the F-88/F-88A/F-88C and M-4 service rifle with standard 1.5 optic, or Wildcat enhanced optic sight, F-89 Minimi and MAG-58 light support weapon, 9mm self load pistol and SR 98.

AASAM consists of four major components: open sniper; Champion Shot of Army, Navy and Air Force; individual and team events; and the international competition.

Buy a new car with your Pre-Tax Salary and save thousands $$$$$

pick the car you want
it’s your choice
pay no GST on your new car purchase or its running costs
save with exclusive National Fleet Discounts
flexible trade-in options
your own dedicated Salary Packaging specialist

Call us for an obligation free quote NOW

1300 738 601 www.fleetnetwork.com.au

Fleet Network Pty Ltd *To qualify for this offer you must mention this advertisement to Fleet Network prior to the completion of your initial contract. Vehicle must be new and supplied by Fleet Network. Not valid in conjunction with any other current Fleet Network offers. Employees should consult their employer’s salary packaging policy before entering into a contract.
**Toward a common goal**

**Michael Brooke**

FLEET Support Unit Australia (FSU-Aust) is in its next stage of implementation and is an active participant in the reform of Navy maintenance.

From March 18-22, staff from across the organisation conducted a Reform Improvement Event to identify aspects of waste and improve effectiveness in the way the organisation manages its tasks.

Key staff from FSU-SE (HMAS Kurungh) and FSU-W (HMAS Stirling) met to discuss methods, techniques and tools that could help the bases better do their jobs.

Assistant General Manager CAPT Gavin Irwin said the workshop identified FSU-Aust as an opportunity-rich environment where effort could be reduced to enhance efficiency, significantly benefiting Navy.

FSU-W Operations Manager LEUT Emily Ruffin said she went to the workshop with the desire to improve standardised work processes and best practices developed in other work environments.

"The workshop identified issues created by local guidelines that must give way to improved and standardised work processes and best practices developed in cooperation," LEUT Ruffin said.

"Working together to illustrate the existing processes as flowcharts, clearly highlighted inefficiencies. We were able to streamline the process and procedures to create better flow."

"Through working together it was a lot easier to see where the waste in time, effort and money was."

Operations planning manager FSU-SE WO Brad Labey said he had high expectations about improving FSU-Aust’s reputation with its customers.

"The people at FSU-Aust work very hard and I understand their frustration with challenging processes," he said.

WO Labey cited one example of the quality management process where paperwork experienced time delays because it went through many unnecessary loops.

"Once that process was illustrated through a flowchart the solution became obvious, which was to ensure the paperwork goes direct from the floor to the quality manager," he said.

"It was a simple solution that should be implemented immediately.“

WO Labey said although competition was fierce between FSU-SE and FSU-W the workshop enabled staff to see value in each other’s work processes and solutions to mutual problems and issues.

"This workshop demonstrated that the coming together of east and west as FSU-Aust has real benefits for Navy," he said.

As a result of the workshop, an improved maintenance task management process will be trialled as a pilot scheme at both FSU-SE and FSU-W.

After the successful introduction of the pilot, the process will be refined and implemented across the remainder of the organisation.

---

**Hands-on training helps build skills**

**LCDR Maria Triantos**

SAILORS posted from Fleet Support Units have been building their own engines as part of the Skills Development program at HMAS Cerberus.

Building the scaled down workable engine, which is theirs to keep, develops skills required to meet Navy’s future engineering capability.

Under the direction of Head of Navy Engineering RADM Mick Uzzell, Navy has created a national FSU-Australia organisation with the intent of increasing and retaining the skills of technical sailors by doing more hands-on maintenance work.

Established in April 2012, the Skills Development Centre (SDC) program provides an appropriate and targeted environment for junior marine technical sailors to consolidate and develop their trade skills before completing their task journals.

The first graduates of the MT2010 Initial Technical Trade (ITT) course began their four-month training consolidation period at SDC on March 5.

The program covers diesel engine overhaul and maintenance, welding and fabrication including the production of a tool box or small scale ship, building electrical circuits in different configurations, valve refurbishment including repairing valve discs and bodies, machining and lapping of valve components and pump refurbishment/alignment.

The final assessment is the manufacture of a pump shaft.

SDC Training Coordinator Michael Burkart said sailors and Navy received huge benefits through the program.

"The main focus of the program is to assist sailors in progressing with their task journals," Mr Burkart said.

"We have the sailors here for up to six months and once they realise the activities they will undertake, especially building and running their own engine, we immediately notice an increase in their enthusiasm.

"The program gives them a taste of the different trades open to the MT category, so when they choose the stream they want to go down in the future they have a fair idea of what’s involved."

Recent program graduate ABMT Kaleb Cohen said he had some initial reservations about returning to Cerberus.

"I wasn’t sure about coming back to Cerberus but I enjoyed my time in the SDC,” AB Cohen said.

"I really enjoyed building the engine most and seeing it actually run.
Young friends remembered

SBTL Katherine Mulhern

THE 50th anniversary of the training of junior recruits at HMAS Cerberus was commemorated on April 6 with a ceremony attended by CN VADM Ray Griggs.

A plaque was unveiled in the Cerberus Memorial Gardens in honour of the service of junior recruits. It is inscribed with the message, "In memory of the boys who trained as junior recruits in HMAS Cerberus in 1963-1964 and who served in the Royal Australian Navy in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping since 1963."

From 1963-64, 325 junior recruits started their naval journey at Cerberus. Of those original boy sailors, more than 50 older and much wiser men attended the commemorative service and dusted off memories of training hard and sleeping in hammocks.

"Giving the welcome address, CAPT Mike Petch (red) reflected with great pride on his period as OOD HMAS Arvis Bay alongside his navigator, the then LEUT Griggs."

CAPT Petch said he was not surprised to hear of VADM Griggs’ appointment to CN and was honored by his presence at the memorial.

Memorial organiser Tim Mackey, who enlisted in the 1964 intake, said seeing everyone at the ceremony was special.

"A lot of the men here haven’t seen each other since leaving training, but you see a name and you feel like you’ve met an old mate," he said.

"Watching CN and Mike Petch together was really like watching old shipmates exchange a yarn about their shared times. They’re the epitome of Navy’s common bond and that feeling of inclusion."

The Junior Recruit Training Scheme was in effect from 1960-1984 and accepted male sailors as young as 15 to do a year’s junior recruit training, followed by employment category training before they joined the Fleet.

During the scheme, training was held at HMAS Leeuwin from 1960-1984 as well as Cerberus, and almost 13,000 boys entered service.

Many of those sailors experienced war and conflict and saw active service as 17-year-old members in a variety of units during the Gulf Wars and also took part in peace operations in recent decades.

STRONG FAITH: CHAP Colin Tett leads personnel in prayer during a service for National Day of Prayer in the Garden Island Chapel at HMAS Kuttabul.

Photo: ABIS Nicolas Gonzalez

Celebrating the power of prayer

Michael Brooke

NAVAL chapels around the country marked the National Day of Prayer for Defence by asking God to watch over deployed ADF personnel and veterans who have returned from operations.

Chapels at HMA Ships Stirling, Cerberus, Kuttabul and Watson opened their gangways to conduct prayer services on April 5.

Kuttabul held a non-denominational time of prayer in the chapel at Garden Island that was attended by sailors from resident units and warships alongside Fleet Base East and APS personnel.

The prayer service was conducted by CHAP Colin Tett who said the prayers were devoted to the well-being ofADF personnel.

"I wondered where people’s focus would be, because very often it is on family," he said.

"But today, the focus was on the people who are deployed, preparing for deployment, or have returned from active service."

A number of prayers were for people struggling with mental and emotional problems stemming from deployments.

"The thing we pray for most often is for peace, which as ADF personnel, we become God’s agents in making those prayers come true," CHAP Tett said.

The Kuttabul chapel is 140 years old and is one of the oldest Defence chapels in Australia. To ensure it remains accessible to everyone, it was recently fitted with an elevator.

The power of prayer was also a major theme among personnel, who heard one story about how a Defence padre asked God to improve the weather as a force protection measure in Iraq in 2007.

According to CHAP Tett, bad weather had grounded the UAV’s that provided security and surveillance for the Australian Overwatch Battle Group-West III, but when the chaplain wrote a prayer asking for God’s help, the weather suddenly improved and the UAVs were again operational.

"The thing we pray for most often is for peace, which as ADF personnel, we become God’s agents in making those prayers come true," CHAP Tett said.

The Kuttabul chapel is 140 years old and is one of the oldest Defence chapels in Australia. To ensure it remains accessible to everyone, it was recently fitted with an elevator.

Commemorating a long relationship

THE Naval Centenary Memorial was dedicated on April 9 in a commandeering position on Kangaroo Point Cliffs above the former headquarters of the Queensland Marine Defence Force.

After a march organised by the RAN Communications Branch Association, the memorial plaque was unveiled in the gardens of the Naval Church in Brisbane in front of a large crowd by Queensland Governor Penelope Wensley.

Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane Philip Aspinall gave the dedication before wreaths were laid by VIPs, including RADM Tony Dalton on behalf of CN.

Memorial Committee Chair CMDR Tony Townsend (red) said the memorial was a special reminder of the strong relationship between Queensland and Navy.

"Many of the historical reminders of our history in Queensland are now commercial redevelopments," he said.

"But we have built a permanent memorial, unique to Brisbane, which celebrates the long history of relations between the people of Queensland and the Navy in which so many of us here today served or are still serving – a memorial that honours the centenary of that Navy and a memorial that commemorates those naval people who paid the supreme sacrifice in the service of their country."

In a special message Governor-General Quentin Bryce said, "This year we mark the 110th anniversary of the radio trials that led to the first Australian ship-to-shore message transmitted from HMOS Gayundah off Moreton Island to the first Australian naval shore wireless station established on this memorial site. I commend your efforts to highlight the historic links between the State of Queensland, St Mary’s Church and the RAN, and to strengthen those connections with this significant memorial."

See page 15 for more on the 110th anniversary of the first naval ship-to-shore wireless transmission.
After completing an at-sea Fleet technical assessment in the Western Australian Exercise Area, HMAS Perth is on track for an exciting rest of the year.

Perth returned to sea in February after a four-month docking period in Western Australia. This year’s activities will include ongoing anti-ship missile defence (ASMD) trials, Exercise Talisman Sabre, advanced evolved Sea Sparrow missile live-firing trials at the Pacific Missile Range Facility in Hawaii and the International Fleet Review.

The assessment was combined with a number of more advanced warship serials as the ship progresses to full unit readiness.

CO Perth CAPT Lee Goddard said the work-up approach had been a little different than usual. “Due to programming constraints relating to the ASMD Phase 2 upgrade, Perth will not be conducting a traditional work-up package, so an innovative and more flexible approach has been developed by the ship in conjunction with Sea Training Group, Surface Force Group and other key Navy stakeholders,” CAPT Goddard said.

The training package will be conducted concurrently with a number of important ASMD and Anzac multi-link upgrade trials with the required Sea Training Group training, mentoring and assessment periods spread out over a three-month period.

“Although unconventional, this innovative approach will maximise all training opportunities involving the full spectrum of the Navy’s training organisation while taking advantage of both at-sea assets and ashore simulation facilities,” CAPT Goddard said.

“The end result was that Perth was assessed as unit ready in submarine warfare, which bodes well for later in the year when we will play a prominent role as task group commander leading up to Exercise Talisman Sabre,” CAPT Goddard said.
YUMMIY TREATS: ABML-C Corey Roberts displays Baklava and chocolate brownies prepared for Harmony Day at HMAS Kuttabul. 

WITH A SMILE: LSML-S Heidi Layland manages the canteen on board HMAS Parramatta. 

WISE WORDS: PO Justin Goodall speaks with boarding team members during training in Darwin Harbour. 

IN CHECK: LEUT Boman Trezise, of HMAS Parramatta, conducts checks on his boarding equipment. 

BE PREPARED: ABATA Daniel DeBritt, right, of HMAS Melbourne, helps prepare the refuelling lines for helicopter in-flight refuelling in Jervis Bay. 

TOP VIEW: Officer of the watch LEUT Kane Stuart stands on the bridge wing on board HMAS Newcastle at Fleet Base East. 

IN PORT: SMNET Alan Lucas, of HMAS Parramatta, alongside port in Darwin.

Naval Rate Winter Special

Mention This Advert And Get FREE Full Buffet Breakfast

$99* net per room per night single/double * GST incl. and subject to availability. Valid for stays until 30 Sept 2013.

Simply Comfortable Affordable!

- 3½ AAA Tourism star-rated
- Only 250m to Garden Island HMAS Kuttabul
- Tea/coffee facilities
- Reverse cycle air-con
- Digital HD LCD TV

Check us out!
1800 818 790
info@devere.com.au

Defence Force tax specialists - We have extensive experience across all ranks and specialities, including:
- Members who are currently deployed or have served overseas
- Members with investment properties
- Members who have fallen behind on lodging their tax returns

Phone consultations - All tax returns are completed over the phone, so you don't have to leave your base, ship or assignment.

One tax agent - We are not limited by locality so you and your family don't ever have to look for another tax agent again.

Maximum returns - We know all the specific deductions, so you get a great tax return every year!

Maximum returns - We know all the specific deductions, so you get a great tax return every year!

PHAT Tax Returns - We have extensive experience across all ranks and specialities, including:
- Members who are currently deployed or have served overseas
- Members with investment properties
- Members who have fallen behind on lodging their tax returns

Phone consultations - All tax returns are completed over the phone, so you don't have to leave your base, ship or assignment.

One tax agent - We are not limited by locality so you and your family don't ever have to look for another tax agent again.

Maximum returns - We know all the specific deductions, so you get a great tax return every year!

Now the #1 tax agent for ADF members!

Call 1300 76 35 75 24/7 or visit us online at www.phatreturns.com.au

IN port: SMNET Alan Lucas, of HMAS Parramatta, alongside port in Darwin.
Start of a long association

Communication is essential to modern war-fighting, yet it also played a vital role in Navy’s development, Lauren Norton reports.

On April 10, 1903, while conducting exercises in Moreton Bay in company with sister ship Paluma, His Majesty’s Queensland Ship Gayundah passed, using a bamboo fore-top mast measuring 110 feet and wireless telegraph equipment, the RAN’s first ‘Marconigram’ from sea,” CDR E Elliott told guests at an historic dinner on April 9.

Director General Maritime Development CDR E Elliott was a guest speaker at the RAN Communications Branch Association dinner at Kangaroo Point – the location of the wireless station that received the historic message.

It was received in a small shed in what is now St Mary’s churchyard via a 40m antenna mast and read: “Gun drill continued this afternoon and was fairly successful. Now off Mud island. Blowing squally, cold and rainy. Prize firing tomorrow. Marconi insulators were interfered with by rain but easily rectified and communication has since been good. Good night.”

This year marks the 110th anniversary of that message – the first navy ship-to-shore wireless transmission.

“The ability to relay information and coordinate actions with one another remains at the heart of tactical and operational advantage and is ageless in its execution.”

The message showed how wireless telegraphy could overcome the limitations of lights and flags and led to the establishment of the first Navy communications system.

This system, which evolved to allow ships to deploy and maintain vital links with Australia and its allies, helped to usher Navy into the modern era of war-fighting.

“In fact the last 113 years has taken us from 10 words per minute via flashing light into an era where today’s technology offers line of sight communications of greater than 10 megabytes per second,” CDR E Elliott said.

“Inde...
Most people would struggle to make it to the finish line of an ironman event, but when CMDR Doug Griffiths struggled to just get to the start line he knew he needed to find a new incentive.

A keen ironman, CMDR Griffiths' motivation plummeted after returning from Afghanistan four years ago. Since then he has entered five ironman events but, for a variety of reasons, failed to start any of them.

"Training and even getting to the start-line was a struggle," he said.

But lethargy gave way to inspiration when CMDR Griffiths started competing to raise money and awareness for the Soldier On charity.

"Soldier On is the incentive I was looking for, because it enables me to help the ADF's wounded warriors, which is something special to me after my time in Afghanistan," he said.

Motivation wasn’t an issue when he completed the Asia-Pacific Ironman Championships in Melbourne last month, raising $5200 for ADF personnel with physical and emotional wounds.

"I finished the 3.8km swim, 180km cycle and 42km run in 11hr 56min," he said.

"I was about 2hr 45min slower than what I have done in the past, but that didn’t matter. "What mattered was raising money and awareness while challenging myself to finish such a gruelling event."

The Commander of Australian Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Task Group, CMDR Griffiths said his posting in Afghanistan as the chief of exploitation for the HQ ISAF counter-IED branch made Soldier On an obvious choice as the charity he would support.

"When I contested the ironman I thought about a lot of things including those members of the ADF suffering from physical and hidden trauma," he said.

"An ironman is a long day, but helping Soldier On gave me a good feeling, which took a bit of the pain away."

Since 2004, CMDR Griffiths has completed six ironman events and is aiming to take on the Ironman Cairns event on June 9.

"Ironman is a fantastic sport that helps you challenge yourself, which explains why I am backing up again for another one just 10 weeks later," he said.

People can continue to donate at www.everydayhero.com.au/douglas-griffiths

For more information about Soldier On visit: www.soldieron.org.au
A small team of aircraft technicians has traded the flight deck for the desert, spearheading Navy’s first push in unmanned aerial vehicle maintenance, LSIS Paul Berry reports.

EGHT maintainers and one aeronautical engineering officer have joined Army’s 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition (20 STA) Regiment at Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane to get hands-on maintenance experience with unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV).

The RQ-7B Shadow 200 provides intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance support for land force operations.

The group has just completed Exercise Dragon’s Challenge in Shoalwater Bay – a two-month work-up for Shadow Group 3, scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan.

Navy technicians will form half of the eight-person maintenance team.

LSATA Kent Hanson said the team was looking forward to the deployment.

“It will be something completely new for me – way different than what I’ve ever done in manned aviation. Navy helicopters deploy to the Gulf on the back of a ship, but never on land,” LS Hanson said.

“Working with the Army has been a different experience for us as well. Going out bush and living in tents has made a whole lot of different ways and we’re still finding our feet with it,” PO Crockett said.

“I think there is a whole lot of capability that we could easily add to our ships through the use of UAVs. Simple things like reconnaissance available to platforms as small as patrol boats for boarding parties would be of great benefit to our Navy.”

Team leader and aeronautical engineer LEUT Dmytriy Stepchenkov said Navy was gathering momentum in the use of UA Vs.

“It will be something completely new to our Navy.”

In some respects there is a lot less complexity in the physical systems, but the use of it makes up for complexity in a whole lot of different ways and we’re very exciting to be at the front of it,” LEUT Stepchenkov said.

As far as UAV maintenance goes, we are the first push that Navy has had and it’s very exciting to be at the front of it,”

Navy Aviation – I think there will be a much fairer mix of people and it’s an opportunity that not many Navy people get.

“It’s a good stepping stone to future aviation – I think there will be a much larger UAV capability for all three services in the future.”

POATV Aaron Crockett said the experience gained from deploying and working with the Army would benefit the Navy in the future.

“The UAV side of things has been fairly simple, the challenges of working with the Army have been a different kettle of fish,” PO Crockett said.

Being an artillery unit (20 STA), they are very regimental, but it’s all going well. We’re working with Army aviation guys and they operate very similar to us, it’s just the artillery side of things that is different.”

Team leader and aeronautical engineer LEUT Dmytriy Stepchenkov said Navy was gathering momentum in the use of UA Vs.

“Being an artillery unit (20 STA), they are very regimental, but it’s all going well. We’re working with Army aviation guys and they operate very similar to us, it’s just the artillery side of things that is different.”

“Being an artillery unit (20 STA), they are very regimental, but it’s all going well. We’re working with Army aviation guys and they operate very similar to us, it’s just the artillery side of things that is different.”

“The UAV side of things has been fairly simple, the challenges of working with the Army have been a different kettle of fish,” PO Crockett said.

As far as UAV maintenance goes, we are the first push that Navy has had and it’s very exciting to be at the front of it,” LEUT Stepchenkov said.

“In some respects there is a lot less complexity in the physical systems, but the use of it makes up for complexity in a whole lot of different ways and we’re still finding our feet with it.”

“I think there is a whole lot of capability that we could easily add to our ships through the use of UAVs. Simple things like reconnaissance available to platforms as small as patrol boats for boarding parties would be of great benefit to our Navy.”

“Working with the Army has been a different experience for us as well. Going out bush and living in tents has made a whole lot of different ways and we’re still finding our feet with it.”

“I think there is a whole lot of capability that we could easily add to our ships through the use of UAVs. Simple things like reconnaissance available to platforms as small as patrol boats for boarding parties would be of great benefit to our Navy.”

“Working with the Army has been a different experience for us as well. Going out bush and living in tents has made a whole lot of different ways and we’re still finding our feet with it.”

“I think there is a whole lot of capability that we could easily add to our ships through the use of UAVs. Simple things like reconnaissance available to platforms as small as patrol boats for boarding parties would be of great benefit to our Navy.”
RemServ’s driving new year run-out deals your way.

As a member of the Defence Force, it’s never been easier to choose, insure and save on a new car – even while you’re serving the country.

We manage the details, you enjoy the benefits.

Call a RemServ representative today to find out more.

1300 73 14 29

benefits.remserv.com.au/defence

SIGN UP NOW FOR $1,000 CASH-BACK OFFER*

CONDITIONS APPLY • VALID UNTIL 30/06/2013

*Cash-back offer: Open to Australian Defence Force employees who arrange and settle their Novated lease through RemServ before 30/06/2013. Successful applicants will be sent by registered post $1,000 cash in the form of a cheque from RemServ made payable to the lessee named in the Novated Lease Schedule within 30 days of settlement.

Things you need to know: Your savings will vary depending your personal objectives, financial situation and needs. RemServ does not provide taxation or financial product advice and recommends you obtain independent advice before making any financial decisions. All salary packaging proposals and novated lease proposals will require the consent of your employer. Your employer or their nominated salary packaging administrator may impose additional criteria, fees and charges. Applications for a novated lease are subject to credit approval by the relevant financier. Terms and conditions are available on application. Fees and charges apply. RemServ receives commissions and rebates in connection with some of the products and services it provides or arranges to be provided by third parties.

Remuneration Services (Qld) Pty Ltd (ABN 46 093 173 089) Authorised Representative (No. 293159) of McMillan Shakespeare Limited (AFSL No. 238292); Reliance Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd (AFSL 345986), Swann Insurance (Aust) Pty Ltd (AFSL No. 238279), A&G Insurance Services Pty Ltd (AFSL 241411).
TOUGH SKILLS: POPT Andrew Corbett demonstrates headlock technique with LSPT Kristian Weldon at the Navy-run Military Self Defence course.

Photo: LSG Jo Dinamar

First line fighters

THE first Military Self Defence (MSD) course run by Navy for Navy has finished in Darwin.

Navy physical trainers, with assistance from Army, ran the course for patrol boat crews at Defence Establishment Berrimah from March 5-9.

Course manager POPT Andrew Corbett said although the course had been traditionally run by Army, Navy had identified the course as teaching crucial skills to boarding party crews who may encounter non-compliant people in the course of their work.

"Transit Security Element had been undertaking the course for a while, which has been supported by both RAAF and Army," he said.

PO Corbett said skills learnt on the course helped to increase the safety of boarding party crews while undertaking boarding operations.

MSD is an integrated program that incorporates the applicable use of force, physical self-defence concepts and techniques, with current weapon systems, combat equipment and individual and team tactics employed by sailors, soldiers and airmen in the operational environment.

PO Corbett said the course was challenging for participants, but the feedback was encouraging.

"All reported a high sense of achievement in successfully completing what they described as one of the most physically and mentally demanding courses they've ever participated in," he said.

Since the first course, a second has been conducted from April 2-6 with further courses set to run each month.

Aviation contract announced

A NEW $107 million contract has been signed to provide aviation technical training services for the ADF.

Defence Materiel Minister Mike Kelly announced the signing of the five-year contract with BAE Systems Australia on April 5.

"This contract means that BAE Systems Australia will train about 900 students annually at the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW," Dr Kelly said.

"The contract is for initial training for technicians and maintainers for all aviation-related trades, and a range of postgraduate courses, for aircraft and helicopters operated by Army, Navy and RAAF.

"The design of the new contract provides BAE with a high level of autonomy and responsibility for the delivery of the training.

"BAE will be introducing a contemporary training environment supported by modern training systems.

"BAE Systems Australia Ltd has sub-contracted the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and Pennant Pty Ltd in support of the services contract.

Students hone skills

A REVOLUTIONARY development in junior maritime warfare officer training is enhancing the preparedness of officers of the watch (OOW).

The new simulation-based training package provides trainee OOWs with increased exposure to bridge evolutions and war-fighting, which had previously been limited by platform availability.

It has been developed in close consultation with key warfare and navigation stakeholders as well as in partnership with national and international leaders in simulation training and education.

Head of Command, Navigation and Littoral Warfare within Training Authority – Maritime Warfare (TA-MW), CMDR Michael Letts, said the training package was designed to "grow" an OOW, rather than the immersion approach of previous JWAC warfare training.

"As a result, enhanced staffing at the Bridge Training Faculty at HMAS Brisbane, including highly experienced PWOs, navigators and warfare sailors, is providing high-quality tailored instruction," CMDR Letts said.

"Over 17 weeks of training, students undertake a total of 24 simulation periods of varying lengths performing the duties of the OOW.

Activities vary from ship manoeuvring scenarios, such as replenishment at sea and officer of the watch manoeuvres, to complex multi-threat warfare scenarios in a task-group environment.

Students who successfully demonstrate OOW warfare skills will be awarded a surface Bridge Warfare Certificate by TA-MW.

"On leaving Hutton the successful JWACs will enter the Fleet with a common standard of skills and warfare exposure," CMDR Letts said.

"They will post to sea to gain an MFU Harbour Watchkeeping Certificate and Platform Endorsement from their CO, at which time they will attain their primary qualification as a maritime warfare officer."

Recent graduate SBLT James Hill said the course was valuable.

"The opportunity to gain experience in a simulated environment allowing us to hone our core mariner skills is fantastic," SBLT Hill said. He is now at sea in HMAS Huon achieving his platform endorsement.

With this additional training it is forecast that the time taken to be awarded a platform endorsement will be considerably reduced from the current average of about 450 hours. CO Watson and TA-MW CAPT Will Martin said TA-MW had confidence in the new package.

"Aside from the significant saving in time, the highlight of this new package is the tremendous level of consistency we can now achieve," he said.

Program recruits acceptable behaviour

Teegan Worland

THE Living Navy Behaviours Program (LNB) has been integrated into all entry courses at Recruit School and HMAS Creswell to ensure consistent, up-front education for all personnel joining Navy, including initial and lateral entries, and reserves.

The program, officially launched earlier this year, is an amalgamation of the Making the Change (MTC) and Navigating the Change (NTC) programs.

Developed under New Generation Navy, the LNB program is now an integral part of Navy's cultural reform journey, one in which everyone in Navy is expected to participate.

It provides all personnel with an understanding of the Navy Signature Behaviours and the impact of unacceptable behaviours.

LNB is a mandatory learning requirement for all Navy personnel, and is a requirement for promotion, honours and awards and selection for contestable roles. Personnel who have completed MTC and NTC but feel they need a refresher may also undertake the new course.

To be awarded the LNB proficiency, members must have completed all MTC and NTC engagements and been awarded all eight proficiencies.

All personnel found to be MTC and NTC compliant will automatically be awarded the LNB proficiency over the coming months.

"Personnel who do not yet meet the proficiency can ask their divisional officer or a willing MTC/NTC facilitator to deliver the two-hour face-to-face LNB engagement.

For more information visit the NGN website: http://intranet.defence.gov.au/navy/sites/NGN/
Don’t fail to show

Finding it hard to help your people with financial issues?

Don’t fail to show

This film will help you.

Watch the video or order the DVD on the website www.adfconsumer.gov.au

THUMBS UP,
THUMBS DOWN

TWO sailors attended the scene of an accident at Five Dock on February 18 in which an elderly woman had fallen and received cuts to her chin and a possible fracture to her wrist.
The sailors applied first aid and immobilised her arm as best as possible.
The sailors remained with the woman and kept her calm before paramedics arrived.

A JUNIOR sailor has been charged by his CO with 23 charges of obtaining a financial advantage, under the Commonwealth Criminal Code.
The charges arose after the member swiped for duty meals that he was not entitled to receive.
The sailor was sentenced to seven days detention at Defence Force Corrective Establishment.

CAPT Scott Ritchie
Director Military Discipline Law

A MEMBER can be found guilty of an offence under the Defence Force Discipline Act 1982 if they are absent without leave (AWOL).
The only defence available for this offence is if the member is able to prove that their absence was due to circumstances outside their control.

Being AWOL has long been an offence in the military, as members are expected to report for their initial duty of the day or otherwise be at their particular unit, ship, barracks etc.

Failure to return from leave in time can have a significant effect on the ADF’s efficiency and effectiveness.

For example, if a sailor is AWOL before a ship is due to depart, this can directly impede a ship’s operational readiness.

Historically, being found AWOL meant the imposition of a severe punishment.

In WWI, a large number of military members were found guilty of being AWOL and were reduced in rank, sentenced to detention or discharged.

In recent years, the number of AWOL members has decreased. However, those members have tended to receive a significantly different punishment from their predecessors, with fines being more common.

Where a member is AWOL for 24 hours or more, payment of the member’s salary and allowances is suspended.

Upon conviction, in addition to any punishment that may be imposed, the suspended amount of salary and allowances will also be forfeited.

Where a member is AWOL for a continuous period of more than three months, their service may be terminated.

MARCH TRIAL RESULTS

Your CHOICE: Being absent without leave can have heavy consequences for both the member and the ADF.

Photo: CPL Aaron Curran
Leading way in avoiding injury


RADM Gilmore received the award on behalf of FSU 7 in early March at the WHS awards ceremony in Canberra and said he was proud of the unit’s efforts.

“I am pleased with this recognition as it is the first time such an award has been presented to a deployed element,” he said.

“WHS and force preservation is just as important while on operations and that unnecessary risks in the workplace should not be taken just because personnel are no longer in Australia.”

All FSU 7 members began their training at different levels of fitness and weapons-handling skills. To have the platform set for deployment injury and illness prevention, the challenge for the unit was to integrate these people and ensure every individual was up to the same high standard of preparation for deployment.

FSU 7 deployed in September 2012 and provides logistic support, base maintenance and theatre induction training for ADF personnel in the MEAO.

Lucky students embark on trip to Belgium and France

LEUT Andrew Ragless

THREE Top End high school students are about to embark on a once in a lifetime journey visiting WWI and WWII sites in France and Belgium to represent the Northern Territory at the Anzac Day Dawn Service in Villers-Bretonneux.

Years 9 and 10 students Tamara West, Shannon Hunt and Lauren Northcote will be joined by teacher Toni Stodd, of Dripstone Middle School, and Defence representative LEUT Karina Galliford in the 10-day Chief Minister’s Anzac Spirit Study Tour.

In a presentation at the Northern Territory Parliament Library, the students and chaperones met with NT Chief Minister Adam Giles to receive their tour packs and winter jackets.

Mr Giles said the tour was a once in a lifetime opportunity to honour an important part of Australia’s history.

“These awards aim at helping keep the Anzac spirit alive, of showing continued support for the ADF and pride in the Anzacs who went before them,” he said. The tour is funded by the NT Government and supported by HQ Northern Command and the RSL (NT), who helped select the winners.

Students from across the Territory were asked to submit an entry in any format that addressed the question: “What inspiration does the legend of the Anzac provide for youth in the 21st Century?”

Staff Officer Safety and Capability at the Patrol Boat Group, LEUT Galliford, said it was an honour to be chosen to accompany the students and represent serving ADF members.

“More than 3000 ADF members are deployed on operations around the world, including up to 500 ADF members in the Territory who work very hard conducting domestic maritime security tasks 365 days a year,” she said.

“This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the courage and mateship that was forged in the Anzac legend and help foster and encourage some of the values that we hold in very high regard in Defence today.”

Excellent job rewarded

Dallas McMaugh

ABATA Benjamin Duffy, of 723SQN, has been awarded the TAFE NSW Riverina Institute Aviation and Aerospace Excellence Award.

The training awards are conducted annually to recognise outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector.

AB Duffy said the Certificate 4 in Aeronautics course was interesting but challenging.

“I’d have to say the hardest part of the course was the transistor theory subjects, which dealt with analogue fundamentals,” he said.

“Because all this information was totally new to me, I found a lot of the concepts difficult to get hold of but thankfully I had very good instructors.”

The NSW TAFE Riverina Institute National Aerospace Centre of Excellence is located at RAAF Base Wagga and provides training in aerospace and avionics to Navy personnel wishing to pursue careers as avionic technicians.

On completion of the course, graduates are posted to HMAS Albatross to gain experience on a specific aircraft type and complete a trade journal, which is a mandatory requirement of their apprenticeship.

As for career goals, the next thing on AB Duffy’s list is getting through his competency journal. “It’s a big part of getting through our trade,” he said.

“After that, anything’s possible.”

DEFENCE TRANSITIONS

CVs – MED DISCH – CTAS – PEEP – SELCRIT

- Medical Discharges 100% FREE
- Level 2 & 3 CTAS 100% FREE
- Leading CV writer for ADF members
- CTAS...free resume updates for life
- No CTAS...from $248 for best ADF CVs
- APS selection criteria statements
- CTAS - face to face Interview coaching
- Spouse support under PEEP scheme
- We translate mil skills to civvy speak

Visit our website for FREE job tools

www.nextjobnow.com.au
Call 1300 112 114
Go the distance for pure running

There is no doubt that distance running can involve long and lonely hours, but CAPT Frank Kresse shows that it’s not all about the journey, but more about the destination.

The perception of distance running as an individual sport, that personifies the image of the lonely long-distance runner pounding the pavement, is largely due to the inability of the sport to be viewed as exciting and dynamic.

An advantage triathlon has over pure running is its ability to generate team spirit since the triathlon is both an individual challenge and has team components. Triathletes usually train and compete together, whereas runners seldom come together except in competition.

Running long distance is often viewed as not altogether exciting. In many respects, the myth is reality, so why fight it?

The myth surrounding distance running is equally alive and well in the ADF where running continues to play a vital part in training individuals to achieve the physical attributes required in the performance of military roles.

The challenge for Defence, in particular for the ADF Running and Athletics Association, is to overcome perception and old paradigm thinking.

Competitions include 10km road race, a State teams championship over the half marathon distance and track and field.

The principle focus for the Association has been to promote running as a means to create team spirit, personal fitness, diversity and challenge and fun.

There has been some resurgence in cross country and athletics carnivals and a general upturn in interest in distance running. The result has been increased participation and improved standards.

One aspect that we tend to forget is that running is a low risk, high-return activity and participation in the sport enables anyone to achieve, to excel and to challenge themselves irrespective of their ability.

Most runners will agree that through running they can achieve their ultimate challenge, no matter what the distance, terrain or environment, and that distance running in particular, presents endless scope for variety irrespective of one’s age, size or shape.

Anyone can become a distance runner and in doing so become a member of a team of competitors who take part.

No doubt everyone who has run, whether it was a marathon, half-marathon or shorter event, has at some stage experienced the immense exhilaration, excruciating pain, total physical exhaustion and disappointment that comes from tackling the sport.

But there is a dividend at the end, which makes it all seem worthwhile.

Distance running has its virtues – the pain of the run doesn’t last forever, but the memories that come with participation, personal challenge and achievement as a team do.


ON THE RUN: LSET Richard Gregory takes on what is considered to be the ‘beginner distance’ in distance running during a 21km half marathon in Perth. Photo: LSIS Nina Fogliani

ADVERTISEMENT

Australian Government

DON’T SUFFER IN SILENCE

If you are struggling with life after deployment or military service, the Department of Veterans’ Affairs AT EASE website can be your first step to recovery. There are videos about anxiety, depression and anger, and apps for PTSD or managing alcohol. You’ll find a self-help section, links to professional help and a section for families as well.

Get the support you need at AUSTRALIA.GOV.AU/AT-EASE

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra. Printed by Horton Media Australia, 17 Business Drive, Narangba, QLD, 4504
A STRONG batting performance by CPOPT Donna Edge, of HMAS Coonawarra, and a brave display by pitcher WO2 Virginia Morris helped the women's ADF softball team win the Trans Tasman Trophy by two runs against the NZ Defence Force.

The Australian Defence women's softball team downed the Kiwis 12-10 on March 9 at Rose Park Stadium in Auckland.

CPO Edge said without the efforts of captain-coach WO2 Morris the team would not have won.

"She pitched the entire seven innings over two-and-a-half hours with a leg injury," CPO Edge said.

WO2 Morris said she strained her quad muscle but, “didn’t want to let the team down.”

"Her leadership and experience assisted the team and helped achieve the results we did.”

CPO Edge, who plays centre-field, said despite a tough lead-up to the test, the team gelled well and performed outstandingly on the day.

“I have been playing with the ADF since 1995 and we have had some good teams over the years. This team was no different,” she said.

“The good thing with RAN softball is we seem to be getting some good players coming through and AB Julie Waller played really well at second base and batted consistently well.”

In hot and dry conditions the women began their successful campaign with a 6-5 win in the final against the NZ Army in the NZ inter-service championships.

After losing in the rounds and semi-final to NZ Army, the ADF team showed their wares in the final to take the championship.

Contingent Commander GPCAPT Peter Davis said the players managed to not only impress themselves but their opposition.

“Despite a gruelling schedule and obvious home turf and crowd support for the Kiwis, our teams played some fantastic softball and earned the admiration of the NZDF services and the NZDF Police for the manner in which they played the game and contributed to the tournament as a whole,” GPCAPT Davis said.

Such was the admiration for the ADF men’s and women’s teams, they were awarded the Spirit of Softball Trophy, which is usually awarded to an individual.

“That’s the first time I have seen the award go to a team,” CPO Edge said.

“Are we a visiting team so we tend to be a bit outgoing and friendly and we’re not afraid to have a chat to anyone so I guess we proved to be popular.”

She said playing the curtain raiser for the World Men’s semi-finals only added to the momentum.

“There was a lot more hype around because it was the world championships so we fed off that,” she said.

“The atmosphere was fantastic.”

While the ADF men were not successful, they proved competitive against more experienced and seasoned opponents.

They lost the test game 9-2 and narrowly missed out on a win in the interservice competition against Air Force, going down 6-5.

The ADF men’s team was well represented with coach CPO Justin Bayliff and Navy softballers LS Brendan Chappell, PO Linden Mooney, LS Chris Murray, LS Michael Taylor, PO David Williams, CPO Adrian Trevis and LS Josh Falls.

“Injuries took their toll on our men’s team who faced a much more experienced NZDF team in the test match,” GPCAPT Davis said.

“The Kiwi team included some international players who had played in the World Championships during the week.”


Brave win by Aussie women

ON THE BALL: PO Linden Mooney takes a spectacular diving catch in the outfield during the test match (above left) as LACW Tanya Smiljanic crosses home plate to put ASDA back in front (above right).
TOP OF TABLE
Establishments dominate Fleet Commander’s Cup