



**1910 Australian Commonwealth Naval Forces 2010**  
**Celebrating the Centenary of the Arrival in Port Phillip of**  
**HMAS Yarra (I) - HMAS Parramatta (I)**



**10 December 1910**



**Join in the celebration of the first arrival of Australian Navy ships acquired since Federation. This was the beginning of the replacement of the Commonwealth Naval Force's Foundation fleet of 1901-1910.**

In 1910 Australia acquired its first two new Naval Torpedo boat destroyers since Federation. They were nearing completion in the UK where CAPT F. Tickell CMG CNF, LEUT Thomas Wyburn Biddlecombe CNF (ex RNR), formerly Victorian Naval Forces (VNF) members, and LEUT Henry J. Feakes CNF (ex RNR) who joined the Australian Navy in 1907, were standing by to take command and sail them to Melbourne, Australia's inaugural capital city.

The State Customs and Excise revenue had been retained by the States since Federation and was about to be permanently transferred to the Federal Government giving it the means to extend its horizons and buy new naval ships. Prime Ministers Andrew Fisher and Alfred Deakin each contributed to this decision, and they were supported by CAPT R. Muirhead Collins CMG CNF (Ret'd) and then CAPT W. Rooke Creswell CMG CNF and his second-in-command CAPT Frederick Tickell CMG CNF, and Collins' successor as Defence Secretary, CMDR S.A. Pethebridge CNF (Ret'd), with Admiralty also offering advice. Navy clearly provided a significant input into these early years. The new Torpedo Boat Destroyers HMAS Parramatta and HMAS Yarra arrived Port Phillip on 10 Dec. 1910, and Australian citizens gathered to welcome them for they heralded the start of Australia's Naval expansion, echoing the not too distant past when the VNF expansion during the 1884-1897 period was still a significant event in their memories.

**FRIDAY 10th DECEMBER 2010 MERCURE HOTEL, 13 Spring Street Melbourne**

**DATE: Friday 10th December 2010. TIME: 1200 for 1230**

**LOCATION: Mercure Hotel, 13 Spring St. Melbourne**

**COST: \$45 per head (two course luncheon, wines and coffee).**

**PAYMENT: Cheque/ Money Order to "Navy League" P.O.Box 1303 Box Hill 3128.**

**INQUIRIES: 9842 4256 Emails: ausnavyleague@mac.com**

**RSVP: 18 November 2010 DRESS: Uniform - Day dress**

**Please Reply to : Victoria Division, Navy League of Australia P.O. Box 1303 Box Hill 3128**

**(BOOK EARLY)**

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**Centenary luncheon to celebrate the arrival of the first new Naval ships since federation - HMAS Yarra, HMAS Parramatta - 1200 for 1230, Friday 10th December 2010, Mercure Hotel, 13 Spring St., Melbourne.**

**Please reserve. . . . . seats at the Centenary celebration Luncheon for HMAS Yarra (I) and HMAS Parramatta (I) at the Mercure Hotel, 13 Spring Street, Melbourne, 1200 for 1230 on Friday 10th December 2010. \$45 per head.**

**I enclose my Cheque/Money Order payable to "Navy League" \$ . . . . . for . . . . . persons**

**RSVP - 18 November 2010**

**NAME. . . . . Additional Names . . . . .**  
*(For table allocations)*

**. . . . . Tel: . . . . . Email: . . . . .**