



From: Rear Admiral Allan du Toit, AM, RAN
Head Navy People and Reputation

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7 April 2011

Mr Les Dwyer
National President
Naval Association
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Dear Mr Dwyer

In the period 2011 – 2015, the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) will commemorate the centenary of a number of key historical activities and events to Navy and the Nation. Notably, in 2011 Navy is commemorating 100 years since the Royal Assent was provided by King George V on 10 July 1911. In 2013 Navy will commemorate 100 years of the first Royal Australian Navy Fleet entry into Sydney Harbour with an International Fleet Review. In 2014 Navy will commemorate 100 years of submarine service and later in 2014-2015 Navy will commemorate our service and significant events in World War I. Navy is focusing on these events of national significance, noting that there is limited funding and personnel available to support a broader range of initiatives.

The key events supported by Navy during this period are provided for your reference at the attachment. It is understood there will be a desire by various associations and organisations to host a number of activities related to these historic events.

In order to increase Navy's visibility of these associated events I would like to invite you to provide Navy with a consolidated list of activities and ceremonies your organisation is planning, ensuring that you indicate the type of Navy support you wish to receive at the regional level. All requests will be considered at the local command level in your region. Financial and personnel limitations will mean not every request for support will be able to be accommodated; therefore it is requested only significant event requests in priority order be forwarded for consideration.

It is important to note that there has recently been a change to the way Navy ships, aircraft and the RAN Band are allocated to events. Where a Navy ship is required in support of an event, the submission will need to be submitted 2-3 years in advance in order to be considered. This is due to a change in the planning process regarding domestic engagement by RAN ships. Approval of any future requests will also be dependent upon whether the Navy Activity Schedule coincides with (or is complementary to) the planned activity or event.

With respect to requests for the use of the RAN Band or Navy personnel and or assets, at least 12 months notice is required in order for local command to consider whether Navy has the capacity to support. Requests received by Navy with less than 12 months notice will only be considered if they align with other Navy activities or initiatives occurring in the same time frame in the same location.

The development of a comprehensive forecast of upcoming event requests will allow us to better coordinate and manage Navy assets and resources in a cost conscious manner around Australia.

The goal is to continue to provide a level of support to your associations around Australia, with the aim being to meet the future needs of the Navy and broader Australian community in relation to significant milestones or events.

I would encourage you to pass the information contained in this letter to any of your Naval Association colleagues or other interest groups who might have inadvertently been left off the initial distribution of this letter. Your continued support and interest in the work conducted by the Navy and its people is very much appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.K. du Toit". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

A.K. DU TOIT, AM
Rear Admiral, RAN
Head of Navy People and Reputation

Enclosure:

1. Commemorating the Royal Australian Navy's Service to the Nation – 1911-1915

COMMEMORATING THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY'S SERVICE TO THE NATION 1911-1915

Commencing in 2011 the Royal Australian Navy will commemorate the centenary of key historical events of significance to the Navy and the Nation.

Australia's Navy has been serving Australia with pride since Federation. It first came into being as the Commonwealth Naval Forces on 1 March 1901, as a small coastal defence force. In 1909, in response to increasing international tensions and the recognition that Australia needed to assume full responsibility for its broader maritime defence, the nation embarked on a significant naval expansion program. Its aim was to create a national navy capable of both defending Australia's maritime interests and contributing to regional defence.

To reflect this responsibility and maturity, on 10 July 1911, King George V approved Australia's request to have the 'Royal' prefix attached to the Navy's title.

This was promulgated on 5 October 1911, with the Commonwealth Naval Forces from this time known as the Royal Australian Navy.

Australia's new fleet took several years to build but, on 4 October 1913, the powerful flagship HMAS Australia (I) led a force of cruisers and destroyers into Sydney Harbour for the first time. The Australian Fleet was greeted by thousands of cheering citizens lining the foreshores; a moment of great national pride and importance, one recognised as a key symbol of Australia's progress to nationhood.

Less than a year later, as war loomed, the fleet was completed with the arrival of Australia's first submarines. The Royal Australian Navy went on to play a full and active part in defeating or deterring forces which threatened our national maritime interests during World War I.

2011- Commemorating 100 years since King George V approves the title the Royal Australian Navy.

- Launch of Royal Australian Navy commemorative silver coin in Perth February 2011
- Launch of two Royal Australian Navy commemorative stamps in June 2011
- Publication of a historical book 100 years of the RAN in Sydney in June 2011
- Reception and Navy band concert in Sydney in July 2011

2012 – Proposed Commemorative events

- Commemorating 100 years of RAN chaplaincy – book published
- Commemorating 100 years of RAN Rugby Commonwealth Rugby Cup

2013 - Commemoration of the first RAN fleet entry into Sydney Harbour

- International Fleet Review in Sydney in October 2013 including Australian and international ships and cultural and sporting events:
 - Tall ship regatta
 - Australian Surf Rowers League Battle of the boats
 - RAN Band concert

2014 Commemoration of 100 years of Navy's submarine service and Navy's service in World War I.

- Possible receptions and ship visits to Celebrate of 100 years of RAN submarine service
- Commemoration of RAN operations in New Guinea and the loss of *AE1* in September 2014
- Commemoration of the Australian New Zealand Expeditionary Force (ANZEF) troop convoy departure from Albany in November 2014
- Commemoration of the HMAS *Sydney* (I) – SMS *Emden* battle at Cocos Islands in November 2014

2015 - Commemoration of Navy's service in World War I including Navy support to Gallipoli landings

- Proposed STS Young Endeavour world voyage in 2015 involving youth from Australia and New Zealand and engaging youth in Turkey in April 2015
- Commemoration of Navy support to the Gallipoli landings and the loss of *AE2* in April 2015

The Director Navy Heritage Collection will support public agencies and museums for relevant commemorative events and exhibitions.

Navy will commemorate key events of significance at the national level.

Relevant Naval Associations may have plans for their own commemorative activities that do not require direct Navy support. You are encouraged to submit a request (via the Navy website) to have your event listed in the Commemorative Events Calendar.

Contacts:

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