**DIAMANTINA KEEL LAID**

Australian Defence Industries has formally laid the keel of DIAMANTINA, the fifth of the six Huon class minehunters for the Royal Australian Navy.

The 720 tonne coastal minehunters are being built at ADI’s Newcastle facility, a purpose-built shipyard opened four years ago.

The Huon project costing $1 billion, is on schedule and within budget, ADI told Navy News. Full story page three.
Kath’s scholarship is a first for RAN
By Graham Davis

Marine Engineering Officer from HMAS NEWCASTLE has been awarded the prestigious Lloyds scholarship to complete a Masters Degree in Marine Engineering at the University of London. She is LEUT Kath Richards. “She beat 160 others seeking the scholarship — most of them civilians,” her commanding officer, CMDR Steve Hamilton, told Navy News. “She is very good,” he added. LEUT Richards is the DMEO on NEWCASTLE. She is the first female in the RAN to be awarded a marine engineering charge qualification. LEUT Richards was due to leave Australia in mid-August.

Minister won’t seek re-election
Mr Ian McLachlan will complete his time as the Australian Defence Minister where he has served in the present Federal parliamentary term comes to an end. Earlier this month Mr McLachlan announced he would not seek re-election to the seat of Barker in South Australia. His announcement came during a fund-raising dinner in Mount Gambier on August 7. Mr McLachlan said “personal” and “family” reasons prompted him not to stand. He pointed out that he originally planned to serve just two terms in Federal politics, but had served three. The Minister’s announcement came after he returned from PNG where, along with the CDF, ADMN Chris Burr, he had inspected the West Sepik tidal-wave disaster area. After Mr McLachlan announced he would not stand for a fourth term, newspapers reported Mrs Bronwyn Bishop, the current Minister for Defence Personnel, as saying she would like to step up to the more senior position of Minister for Defence.

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LEEUVIN put to test
Nuship LEEUVIN has completed the first phase of her contractor sea trials in the waters east of Cairns. The ship undertook a wide variety of tests and trials, including main propulsion, manoeuvring systems, cranes, windlass, capstan and anchors. Even the man overboard davit was put through its paces. The tests were carried out under the watchful eyes of representatives from the Hydrographic Ship Project Authority and RANTEA. Members of LEEUVIN’s ship’s company were also able to embark in the ship during the trials, for familiarisation with the many state-of-the-art systems that are the core of the ship’s functioning.

LEEUVIN is currently undergoing fitting-out and fine-tuning at the NQsea yard in Cairns before returning to sea in October for trials of the ship’s hydrographic survey system. This period will also include a capability demonstration cruise in Foulden Passage, near Townsville. The ship’s hydrographic survey officers and marine science sailors are currently preparing for the forthcoming trials by undertaking systems courses at the RAN Hydrographic School, HMAS PENGUIN.

On completion of this training they will undertake LOE preparations and an LOE and then man the ship for the remainder of the trials program.
Minehunters are on target

by Graham Davis

AD1 has formally laid the keel of DIAMANTINA, the fifth of the six Huon class minehunters for the Royal Australian Navy.

The 720 tonne coastal minehunters are being built at ADI's Newcastle facility, a purpose-built shipyard opened four years ago.

The Huon project, costing $1 billion, is on schedule and within budget, an ADI spokesman told Navy News.

HUON commenced sea trials last June and the second ship, HAWESBURY, was launched in April.

DIAMANTINA's keel was laid by the secretary of the Department of Defence, Mr Paul Barrant.

Mr Barrant was the keynote speaker.

The primary speaker from the Navy was RADM Simon Harrington, Support Commander-Navy.

Managing Director of ADI, Mr Ken Harris, said the laying of DIAMANTINA's keel continued the minehunter project's excellent performance.

"The commencement of HUON's sea trials emphasised the successful on-shore integration and setting to work of the Huon class combat system," he said.

While the combat system has to be validated at sea, a major achievement of this project has been that we have been able to install it on HUON and it is already tested and co-ordinating with the completion of the ship's platform trials," Mr Harris said.

The Huon class ships will be distinguished by the most advanced mine warfare system of any ship in the world today, according to ADI.

Reflecting the electronic systems that will define modern warships, the Huons will be equipped with a mine-hunting sonar that can simultaneously search, detect, classify and route survey in depths exceeding 150 metres along with fibre-optic link controlled mine disposal vehicles carrying searchlights, closed circuit TV camera and a disposal charge.

HUON and HAWESBURY are in the water, NORMAN, GASCOYNE and now DIAMANTINA are under construction, while YARRA is still in plans.

YARRA is expected to be launched in September 2001 and commissioned in August of 2002.

HUON should be commissioned at the end of this year.

Each minehunter will have a ship's company of 36.

The Huon class ships will be distinguished by the most advanced mine warfare system of any ship in the world today.

The Huon class ships will be distinguished by the most advanced mine warfare system of any ship in the world today.

The Huon class ships will be distinguished by the most advanced mine warfare system of any ship in the world today.
What flag was that?

A mid the saga of events in Jakarta over recent times the red over white horizontal halves of the flag of the Republic of Indonesia have figured in high prominence.

Displayed vertically, those red and white colours for long have been recognised by seafarers the world over as the international pilotage flag while white over red, horizontally, has long since been the national flag of Poland.

When men of the 2200-tonne frigate HMAS HAWKESBURY first sighted the horizontal red over white flag in the first days of November away back in 1945, just weeks after the end of WW2, it puzzled them a shade.

It was spotted as the “Free Indonesia” movement’s flag displayed by a small group of agitators at a colourful ceremony at a place called Poso in what was then the Dutch East Indies.

HAWKESBURY had given naval escort to Japanese prisoners of war and had raced to Timor for the surrender of the 48th Japanese Army Division at Kupang.

Returning to Morotai, the warship took on board a contingent of AIF troops, headed by Major D. C. Wilson, plus a group made up of Netherlands East Indies experts, interpreters, RAAF intelligence personnel, seeking knowledge of “downded” wartime airmen, plus a range of other experts.

HAWKESBURY then undertook a prolonged and detailed surveillance of vast areas of the Japanese-occupied Netherlands East Indies.

The Official Proclamation declaring the cessation of hostilities and reintroduction of civil administration was promulgated at a series of colourful ceremonies and local Japanese surrenders the welfare of the local people was checked, Japanese forces pinpointed and their stores usually were dumped in deep waters.

At Poso, HAWKESBURY landed the contact party from its motor-cutter and brought back on board the Rajah of Poso District, a little wizened old man who spoke only the Toradja dialect, which necessitated use of the interpreters aboard the warship.

The Japanese army officer who commanded the local force in Poso was also brought aboard the frigate and given orders for the disposal of arms, stores, money etc and was informed he would be obliged to surrender his sword to Major Wilson at a public ceremony next day.

That evening HAWKESBURY put on a searchlight and pyrotechnic display with its two 20-inch searchlights piercing the night sky as a variety of rockets added touches of colour, much to the delight of the local populace.

At 0800 next day, when the surrender ceremony took place following the reading of General Blamey’s Proclamation, there was a slight delay. The new “Free Indonesia” flag was flapping over a small section of the crowd.

Leaders of this section were found to be two agitators from Macassar. They were asked to remove the flag and compiled.

Within five years the movement had won the nation’s independence and that horizontal red over white flag has long since come to be recognised as the national flag of the Republic of Indonesia.

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**Defence links in sea rescue**

By Graham Davis

He was 480 nautical miles north-east of Brisbane when around 2am on Monday, August 17 his radio team in St Louis received a signal suggesting he was in trouble.

"At about the same time, our RCC in Canberra received a signal from his distress beacon, which had been relayed by satellite," Mr Hill said.

He said there were some suggestions the balloon may have been damaged by a thunderstorm. It plunged 9000 feet to the sea.

"There was a line of rain with some storms in the area at the time," Neil Fraser from the Sydney Weather Bureau said.

Fossett's call for help was acted upon immediately with a French military Guardian rescue aircraft dispatched from Nantes.

"Around 8.10am the same day the Guardian came upon Fossett at his given position and noted he was in an open rubber dinghy.

"The French dropped a 15 person raft to him. It was equipped with another EPIRB, a two-way radio, food and water," Mr Hill said.

The Guardian was replaced by a RAAF Hercules from RAAF Richmond which had eight hours of fuel to circle the venturer.

Arrangements were made to send two RAAF Orions, in rotation, to take over from the Hercules.

There was plenty of action on the surface also with the New Zealand oiler, HMSNZ Endeavour, which was on her way to Townsville to link up with HMAS Tobruk, answering the call for help. Both are going to Darwin for a FCP.

In addition the container ship Papanui Chief and a 20-metre yacht Atlanta answered the mayday and made best time to the area.

Master of Atlanta, Mr Launce Piper, formerly of Eden in NSW, said by radio phone: "I have been in some rescues before but this is the first time I have had to help a balloonist."

At 9.30pm on the Monday night Mr Piper negotiated the reefs to take Mr Fossett aboard.

The following day Atlanta met Endeavour and transferred the adventurer to the New Zealand oiler. Endeavour was due in Townsville on Thursday, August 20. 

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**NAA joins web site**

The Queensland section of the Naval Association of Australia is the latest Navy related organisation to go on the World Wide Web.

The site can be found on the Internet at: http://www.powerup.com.au/~naval

The site links to the national naval association's website and that of the RAN.

Listed are names, addresses and contact details of each State association sub branch, services available to members, the latest news, links to sister organisations, merchandise and a comprehensive list of HMAS Ships with a growing database of photographs.

The Queensland section also is producing a series of CD-ROMs preserving the World War II services' books, H.M.A.S., Soldiering On and These Eagles.

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**Navy News**

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WATSON talks test organisational skills

HMAS WATSON (CACT Mary Bell) played host to high level visitors when the annual AUSMIN talks were held at the base.

The discussions involved heads of defence and foreign affairs in Australia and the United States, rating between Sydney and Washington.

Defence Minister Mr McNicholas and Foreign Minister Mr Downer were joined by their US counterparts, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Secretary of Defence William Cohen.

CDF, Admiral Barrie, was present for the talks as were the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Shelton, and the Commander in Chief of US Pacific Forces, Admiral Pothier.

For WATSON the logistics of hosting such an event were daunting. In addition to the large number of people visiting the ship, the ship was on a Northern Command sortie and had to be prepared for a COBRArespuesta.

There are obvious requirements for increasing naval movements and activities in northern waters. Her first task will be to tow targets for the forthcoming Fleet Concentration exercise to be conducted in this month in the Timor Sea.

By Mike James

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VICTORIA BARRACKS
28 NOVEMBER 1998

SYDNEY MILITARY OFFICERS' BALL

“Swing to midnight, Rock till dawn”
When former HMAS TOBRUK captain, CMDR Glen Robinson, handed over the weight a few months ago, he had completed his 5000th day at sea. Many aren't even in the Navy for 2000 days. Assuming Glen had no time off or holidays, that's more than 13 years and six months on the go. Give him a spot of holidays and one long service break and he's pushing a solid 15 years aboard.

Since he retired from the Navy last year, Capt Joe Morrice has kept himself more than busy. Not only is he in the public eye at the helm of Sydney Legacies, but now his picture has bobbed up in his old school's magazine in a cricket team reunion... on the golf course. Seems command came easily to him. He was captain of the Sydney school, Barker College's Under 13A cricket team in 1977, the year he left school and entered the RAN as a HMAS CREWSWAIN submariner.

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When you see the Wavepipe logo, you know it's good.

be, its Miss Australia Awards entrant, Lisa Field of South Australi-a, who's trying to raise at least $100,000 to help those with cerebral palsy. Lisa ran her own snuff bar in Adelaide for two years from age 16, she competed for Australia in rhythmic gymnastics through the Australian Institute of Sport, danced with the Australian Dance Theatre and operated her own dance school, took part in the opening of the inaugural Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix and was a dancing girl in the Adelaide FL! (costly) cheer squad. Lisa's already arranged to raffle a $20,000 MG, with only 1000 tickets at $100 each. Get together and give Lisa a call on 8412 108 494.

It was serious stuff! But at this point, the rifleman's computer just refuses to accept the new telephone number across Australia for longtime friends of Navy News and indeed sailors. Glendinning in Sydney the numbers now start with a 9, in the west (58) then 9 and in CERBERUS (63) followed by 59.

The Defence Force Recruiting Unit show the navy just keep on keeping on. The display is still running, the dollars round and round the clock, and there is another attraction. During the past year the ADFRU has won over recent years. This time, it is a first prize at the Townsville Show, following a first at the Rockhampton Show. The 1000 enquirities would have been enough to make the staff happy, so the award's a bonus. So cheers to the Navy team of LS Rebecca Broadhead and her shipmates for their part in the success.

Not Place, however benign or isolated is beyond the reach of terrorism," a senior officer has warned. "In fact in many ways, any nation that considers itself remote from the prospect of politically motivated violence and fails to maintain appropriate vigilance, risks attracting the attention of terrorist groups seeking opportunity through an easy target." BRIG Phillip McNamara, the Commander of Special Forces, said. His remarks came at the RAN's Pyramid naval support centre.

BRIG McNamara outlined how for the next two years the Army, particularly the Perth-based SAS (commandos) and the Townsville-based 5 Aviation Regiment (Black Hawk helicopters) will be involved in regular anti-terrorist training in the Sydney area. The Brigadier was at Plymouth to see three Black Hawks practice accessing buildings using the DUSTO high rise building which is within the REVY grounds. With streets around REVY sealed off by police and with fire tenders and ambulances standing in the carpark of the old casino, the trio of helicopters, each worth $20 million, flew in from the Harbour Bridge. "The training series were dropped from the open doorways of each aircraft, then followed nine commandos, each wearing black coveralls and a black barrels and equipped with sidearms and Stret rifles. The assault was over in under a minute, with the raiders quickly disappearing into the building. It was the first time the unit had been used in Sydney. More than 100 personnel were involved in the vitals training.

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Rimpac sails into the sunset

The RIMPAC series is the final restig place for many of the ship's 1177 crewmen who lost their lives during the operation Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The 144 foot long memorial spans the northern breakwater allowing visitors to look down onto harbor and see where they were lying. The memorial is a tribute to the heroes who lost their lives in the attack.
Upgrade for ANZAC class

Mother ruins a day

The Defence Minister, Mr McLachlan, has released a Request for Proposals to upgrade the RNZ's ANZAC frigates. The request was issued under Project SEA1443 ANZAC Warfighting Improvement Program was issued to four companies: ADI Limited, the Australian Submarine Corporation Pty Ltd, British Aerospace Australia Limited and Tenix Defence Systems.

"It is a further step in implementing the Coalition's policy of enhancing combat capability within the ADF," Mr McLachlan said.

The four companies have been asked to submit their proposals by December 22 to upgrade the anti-ship missile defence and air warfare capability of the frigates to allow them to contribute better to Australia's defence in the 21st Century.

After studying the proposals from industry, Defence will make recommendations to the Government on upgrade options that are suitable for implementation.

STIRLING CSP

Mr McLachlan says the proposed move to civilian contracting at the Explosive Maintenance and Storage Area at HMAS STIRLING would bring benefits to the local community.

"These proposed changes would be positive for the local community especially as the explosive organisation is to be expanded with 22 new jobs shortly to be advertised," Mr McLachlan said.

Safety levels at STIRLING will be ensured as commercial service providers will be required to meet Commonwealth and NATO explosive regulations and their compliance will be closely monitored - any bidder must meet these mandatory requirements, Mr McLachlan said.

A further milestone has come in the life of the ANZAC class frigates with the graduation of the weapons crew for the new ship TE MAKAU. TE MAKAU is the second of the RNZN frigates and the first ship in the world to be fitted with all new 'stealth' Mk 45 Mod 2 gun.

The gun shield has been redesigned to include stealth technology in its shape, affectionately called the "Square Gun" for its looks.

The course, conducted by Lopac Pty Ltd at the ANZAC Ship Operations Support and Training Centre in Williamstown, was attended by both Kiwi and Aussie weapons sailors.

Instructed by Peter Oliver, a former WOETW, and Wayne Richards, ex CPOETW, the course involved 14 weeks of intensive training and testing at the OTSC.

In presenting the United Defense Dux Award to POET Richard Miles, LOPAC Managing Director Mr Stephen Youl, said the Navy and defence industry put a lot of importance on material achievements such as the launching of new ships and the acquisition of new equipment.

"At times, however, we seem not to fully appreciate the human dimension and personal achievement.

"Most naval training is demanding, but none more than that involving new, sophisticated equipment such as the MK 45 gun and MK 41 Vertical Launching System," he said.

"Training in weapons systems is especially important as it has elements of safety as well as maintaining and operating the ship's reason for being its firepower."

The graduates were CPOETW Kerry Dornbach, POET Keri Weeks, LWF Dwayne Tristram and AET Damo Lister, all of the RNZN and POET Richard Miles (United Defense Dux Award), LSET Craig Lewis (for the Royal Canadian Navy), ABET Paul Forsyth, SMNET Chris Matterson and SMNET Justin Sheppard of the RNZ.

First course learns stealth

PWO students in swap

Officer of the Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand Navies swapped ships for a series of exercises off Jervis Bay earlier this year.

New Zealanders seeking their principal weapon officer ticket went aboard HMAS NEWCASTLE while Australian students seeking the grading went aboard the Leander Class destroyer HMAS WELLINGTON.

The New Zealand fleet officer ENDEAVOUR accompanied the vessel WELLINGTON had been at Fleet Base East for several weeks undergoing maintenance.

The trio left Port Jackson on Monday, June 23, with plans to be at sea for a week.

NEWCASTLE planned to take on her Sea Hawk while in the Eastern Area training zone.

Australian and New Zealand PWOs do their theory training at HMAS WATSON.
 Probe of great interest to RAN

By Graham Davis

The premise that an electromagnetic impulse sent into seawater and "bounced" against the bedrock or the seabed or the sediment or any metal resting on it will return a differing "echo" is the basis for vital anti-submarine and anti-mine research being undertaken by a Sydney scientist.

He is Dr Julian Vrbancich, a senior research scientist of the Maritime Operations Division of the Defence Science and Technology Organisation.

With contractors CecoTech-Dehng he has been using a device which, when suspended beneath an aircraft, sends electromagnetic impulses into the ocean. The return field is dependent on the seawater depth, seabed type and diverse metallic objects contained within the seawater.

"Generally the airborne method of determining sea depth and also detecting metal objects is of great interest to the Navy for its purpose of amphibious operations, seabed properties and detection of mines in coastal harbours and submarines in shallow waters," he told Navy News.

"For this purpose, the RAN has tasked me specifically to examine the feasibility of this methodology," he said.

"The seabed of Sydney Harbour is one of the best charted harbours in Australia. It has been subjected to many sonar scans and we have an accurate layout of the holes and the plateaus (or seabed topography) of the harbour."

Dr Vrbancich and his colleagues hired a helicopter and with the probe suspended beneath it flew a grid pattern bounded by Bradleys Head, Middle Head, South Head and Shark Island.

Dr Vrbancich is now studying the data obtained in the two days of flying.

Hayman Island Resort, a 5 star property located in the Whitsunday region of North Queensland is seeking to appoint a:

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A person in uniform ($76,000), a "defence civilian" ($46,000), or a "contractor" (at less cost again).

The rules state that each of these types has different skills and limitations. A new rule states that you must have 50,000 of the uniformed type. You must choose where and how many of the other types you will use.

Most of us would start building our combat force from the "sexy" end with the best ships, planes, artillery and surveillance satellites. Then we might invest in the best training for our staff.

Unfortunately, we would soon be looking anxiously at the balance sheet and wondering how we could afford all the other "administrivia" that the context requires. Wouldn't it be nice to have a partner who is an expert in such dollar- that has been set at $10. All that DCS aims to achieve must be done with a minimum of cost."

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from the distractions of running the support business. Our ideal would be to have as reduced as possible are available for the highest priority jobs.

For more information on DCS look through the DCS Program Implementation Plan. If you have not already seen one, ask your local DCS office in charge for a copy.

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NAVY NEWS, August 24, 1998 (255) 11
Steam club all fired up

A group of HMAS Cerberus vintage vehicle enthusiasts headed to the River Murray town of Echuca for a major rally, but it almost ran out of steam before it left. It was the RAN Steam Club's visit to the 35th Annual Steam, Horse and Vintage Rally at the historic river port, but the weekend got off to a slow start.

The club's 1923 Foden steam lorry suffered a few teething problems ... or rather shortness of breath... as it had been more than six months since the boiler was last fired.

It was not until Sunday that the Foden appeared at the rally grounds, but it was there in time for the grand parade, the first time in more than two years since the Foden was displayed at Echuca.

But the smart appearance of the truck and the enthusiasm of club members generated much interest and members had to decline regretfully the many requests for rides.

Also on display was the 1971 Leyland Scammell low loader, an ex-Australian Army vehicle now maintained and operated by the steam club. The Scammell is used to transport the Foden to activities such as the Echuca rally.

Although extensive effort was needed to have both the Scammell and the Foden road and show-worthy, members said the high of being on show at Echuca was worth the work.

The culmination of effort developing Navy Reserve policy was the award of a Chief of Navy Commendation to LCDR Derek Abraham-Jones, Staff Officer Reserves in the Directorate of Naval Officers' Postings.

Derek was presented with his commendation by CDRE Tony Christie, Directer General Career Management-Navy, at an impromptu function in Canberra.

For once, the usual ebullient Derek was lost for something to say but assured the gathering that situation wouldn't last long.

The Chief of Navy, RADM Don Chalmers, said Derek's efforts and enthusiasm were instrumental in the revitalization of the Force Mix Review Board working group and laying a very positive groundwork for implementation of Navy's Total Force policies.

HMAS MANOORA's Able Seaman Cook Fiona Corry is good at her job ... and she can prove it.

Fiona entered this year's International Salon Culinaire during the Catering Trade Fair at Sydney's Darling Harbour last month, taking part in the "three-course meal for one person" section.

ABCK Corry, still regarded as an apprentice for the competition, now has a handsome silver medal to show her skills with a skillet, her prowess with the poultry, her finesse with the fish.

The Salon Culinaire series throughout Australia is widely regarded as the food industry's benchmark of culinary excellence, attracting the top local restaurateurs and chefs in each district.

LEGACY NEVER FORGETS

Legacy cares for the widows and children of Veterans of the two World Wars, Korea, Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam as well as those killed in peace-keeping operations. Legacy also cares for the dependants of regular and reserve forces killed on hazardous service or in training accidents such as the Blackhawk helicopter tragedy and the recent fire on HMAS Westralia.

Support Legacy by buying a badge during Legacy Week, starting on Tuesday, 1 September. You will help us care for some 130,000 widows throughout Australia plus about 3,000 children and disabled dependants. If you would like to know more about the work of Legacy, please contact the Legacy club in the city or large town nearest to you, or write to PO Box 333, Deakin West ACT 2600.
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Australian troops disembark from the Coriolanus at Port Moresby in 1943.

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THE SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIA
New badge for communicators

In the modern RAN there are many ways of communicating. Flags are still used, so is the Aldis lamp. More convenient is radio, including the signals bounced off satellites. Training in communications is now a single entity with the first class of trainees beginning their course on July 6. It was realised there was a need to have a uniform "rate" badge which reflected all facets of communications covered by the course and their ongoing duties in the RAN.

A request went out to uniform staff to design such a badge. A total of 156 designs were submitted. A sailor aboard HMAS HOBBIT had his design judged the best. He is LS Todd Burden.

A veteran of 13 years in the RAN he designed the badge during off-duty time while HOBBIT was at sea.

The badge depicts a sphere, the Southern Cross and a lightning bolt.
A team of RAN sailors has tackled Western Australia's infamous Avon Descent, a whitewater kayaking event recognised as the longest and greatest in the world. And the four Navy representatives—among more than 900 entries raced their way over the 134km two-day course in "STIRLING" fashion, with a first place to its credit in its first entry.

Representing HMAS STIRLING were LSPT Wayne Sharpe and AUSTRALIAN members ABCD Joe Caruthbertson, ABCD Steve Lusk and ABCD Kristian Malipham, all in the single kayak classes.

The descent was contested over the rapids and obstacles of the Avon River between Northam and Perth early this month, with fewer than half the entrants completing the course.

The Navy team's training of three to five cold, early morning weeks paddling around the chilly Cockburn Sound waters along with long hours of weight training in the STIRLING gym paid off over the 15 hours of bough racing.

All Lusk topped the RAN list winning the KI plastic novice class and coming 38th overall, in 13 hours 45 minutes.

AB Sharpe was 14th in the KI plastic class and 60th overall, in 14hrs 28 min. AB Cuthbertson came in 93rd in 13hrs 42 min and AB Malipham was close behind in 96th in a time of 15 hours 30 min.

Even before the race the team was off to a great start with sponsorship from the Australian Defence Credit Union, the senior sailors' and junior sailors' messes and fund-raising through sausage sizzles and raffles.

Night bird an ideal start for Harriers

"On your marks, check your torches, Go." Such was the scene at HMAS WATERHEN when the establishment played host to 50 night runners of the "Fosh" branch of the Hash House Harriers.

After a start from WATERHEN's carpark, the runners, among them CDRE Nick Helyer, spent the next two hours scrambling up cliffs, running through parks and jogging along streets, their only guide to where they were going being the occasional chalked arrow on the concrete or a patch of flour dropped on the grass.

"A good torch is a must for these events," CDRE Helyer told Navy News. "You need it to find the chalked arrows and the floor, as well as seeing where you are going," he added.

The first Hash House Harriers group was formed 30 years ago. They are made up of enthusiastic runners and joggers keen to keep fit but because of work commitments, confined to running at night.

There are at least six branches of the H H Harriers in Sydney with the "Fosh" branch getting its name from the perception its members are well-to-do North Shore residents. Ages range from 18-60.

Not unlike the sport of orienteering, the Harriers are called upon to run a course set by a "trailmaster" just before the event.

CDRE Helyer was the "Fosh" trailmaster last year and admits: "I have run across some parks I had never known existed."

HMAS WATERHEN became involved in last month's event when club members suggested to CDRE Helyer the Waverston base would be an ideal start and finish line for a run. The "Fosh" runs every Monday night.

BUNGALOW PARK

Located at Burrill Lake, 4km south of Ulladulla on the mid South Coast of NSW, Bungalong Park fronts the shores of Burrill Lake and is only minutes from the beach. Burrill Lake offers safe swimming for children and is ideal for fishing and all water sports.

A highlight at Bungalong Park is the spectacular daily bird feedings.

Contact the manager, Ken Veitch for bookings or further information.

TELEPHONE : (02) 4455 1621 FAX: (02) 4455 4197

AMBLIN CARAVAN AND CAMPING PARK

Situated 240km south west of Perth, on the Bussell Hwy just south of Busselton. Amblin Park is right on the shore of Geographe Bay which offers safe swimming for children and is ideal for fishing and all water sports.

Amblin Park also has a fully enclosed heated swimming pool.

Contact the manager, Frank Friston for bookings or further information.

Amblin Caravan Park, PO Box 232 Busselton WA 6260

TELEPHONE : (08) 9755 4079 FAX : (08) 9755 4739

FORSTER GARDENS

Occupying a prime location in Forster on the mid-North Coast of NSW, 331km from Sydney. Located at 1-5 Middle Street, Forster Gardens provides a pleasant village atmosphere with all the delights and attractions of Forster only a few minutes walk away.

Contact the manager, Ian McLaughlin for bookings or further information.

Forster Gardens, PO Box 26 Forster NSW 2428

TELEPHONE / FAX: (02) 6554 8021

Bookings for Holiday Units accepted up to TEN months ahead for Navy Personnel and up to NINE months ahead for all other patrons. Bookings for Caravan and Tent sites will be accepted up to TWELVE months ahead for all patrons. Retired RAN personnel (20 years or more) are eligible for full Service discounts and all those with less than 20 years are entitled to up to 20% discount at all Holiday Centres.

Write to Staff Officer (Canteens), DSUP-N, CP3-1/B1 Campbell Park Offices, CAMPBELL PARK ACT 2600 to obtain your discount card.

Telephone: (02) 6266 4985 Fax: (02) 6266 2388

Your Holiday Your Resort
HMAS MANORA has won the annual Sydney Area volleyball title to justify her favouritism from the Sydney, South Coast and Newcastle areas.

In its 17th year, the 18-team competition brought 150 competitors to the Navy Indoor Sports Centre with clever volleyball demonstrated throughout the tournament.

MANORA progressed in the semi-final play-off where she encountered a determined MRB team.

In a tense match both teams were locked at 42 points with only 10 seconds of play remaining.

However MANORA won the crucial point to qualify for the final against HMAS BRISBANE, last year's champion.

Despite taking the early lead, BRISBANE was unable to beat the expertise of MANORA, who powered on to take victory in two sets, winning 15-11, 15-13.

In the other semi-final, HMAS PLATYPUS took on BRISBANE in one of the closest games of the tournament, going down narrowly by 46-39.

In the consolation plate final, ALBATROSS took an early lead over HMAS WOTTON to win two sets to love, 15-7, 17-15.

HMAS WORT

Hey Chief!

If nothin' sticks to Teflon....

...how do they stick it to the fryin' pan?

The hole jubilee

HMAS ALBATROSS will host a major golf tournament as part of the celebrations for the Fleet Air Arm's 50th anniversary celebrations.

The HMAS ALBATROSS Golden Jubilee Golf Tournament will be held at the Novaa Golf Club on November 2.

The tournament will be open to all past and present Defence members and personnel from Defence-related industries who have been associated with the establishment.

Kaman Aerospace is the major sponsor for the tournament, which is open to all players regardless of their handicap or ability.

There will be several grades within which players, male or female, can compete. Trophies will be provided for scratch and handicap grades, specific holes and novelty awards.

The cost of $20 a head includes sponsors' gifts, lunch, drinks on the course and at the club house presentations and a buffet dinner.

For enquiries or nominations contact WO Steve Cottam on (02) 4421 1778 or (08) 589 990 or Squadron Leader Ray Sutherland on (02) 4421 1260 or (0411) 405 145.