



NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
South Australia Division
A.C.N. 008 451 063

PATRON Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC

SOUTH AUSTRALIA DIVISION NEWSLETTER – Issue 1 Jan/Feb 2022

Web: <http://navyleague.org.au/>

HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE FRANCES ADAMSON AC
GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA



The South Australia Division Executive and Members are delighted and honoured that the 34th Governor of South Australia has continued the tradition of accepting patronage of the Navy League.

HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE FRANCES ADAMSON AC

Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC is a proud sixth-generation South Australian - her mother, the Honourable Jennifer Cashmore AM, was a South Australian parliamentarian and her late father, Ian, was a manager at Hills Industries. Her late step-father, Stewart Cockburn AM, was a distinguished Walkley award winning journalist.

Her Excellency studied economics at the University of Adelaide, while there becoming the first female captain of the rowing club in its 103 year history and went on to join the Commonwealth Department of Foreign Affairs in 1985. She worked in Hong Kong during the early years of China's reform and opening, eventually becoming Australia's Ambassador to China from 2011-2015.

In 2016, Her Excellency was appointed head of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, pursuing Australia's interests as world powers shifted and the COVID-19 pandemic took hold. She also led the department through a period of cultural change, encouraging more women into senior ranks.

She has also been International Adviser to the Prime Minister and Chief of Staff to the Foreign Minister and Defence Minister.

In June 2021 Her Excellency was made a Companion of the Order of Australia for eminent service to public administration through the advancement of Australia's diplomatic, trade and cultural interests, particularly with the People's Republic of China and the Indo-Pacific region, to innovative foreign policy development and high level program delivery, and as the 36th Governor appointed in South Australia.

Her Excellency is married to Mr Rod Bunten, a former British diplomat and high school teacher. They have four adult children and a cavoodle, Alfie



MR ROB BUNTEN

Mr Bunten grew up in Cornwall and Gloucestershire. He studied Physics as an undergraduate and postgraduate at the University of Oxford.

In 1984, he joined the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and began a successful career as a diplomat, undertaking postings in New York, Taiwan and Canberra. He met Her Excellency the Governor, then an Australian diplomat, while they were both posted in Hong Kong.

In 2009 Mr Bunten left the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and, after completing a Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education at the University of Canberra, commenced a second career as a secondary school teacher of physics and mathematics.

For the next decade he taught at Melba Copland Secondary School, pausing from 2012-2015 when he accompanied Her Excellency to China, where she was Australian Ambassador.

Mr Bunten has also been a tutor to students at the Australian Defence Force Academy and Canberra University.

In his youth, he was a Sea Cadet in England

We welcome he and his family to South Australia.

‘TAKING THE WEIGHT’ NAVY HEADQUARTERS SOUTH AUSTRALIA



“Taking the Weight” is a Navy tradition symbolising the transfer of the prestige, privilege and burden of command.

Commander Alastair Cooper ADC RAN relinquished his command on 10 December 2021, after two years of coping with bushfires, covid lockdowns and carrying out his normal Commanding Officer Duties. In addition, he gave most welcome support to Navy League of Australia South Australia Division. Best wishes to Commander Cooper, and his family, on their return to Canberra.

The ceremony included a special ‘WELCOME TO COUNTRY” when the Kangaroo Skin Mantle was passed to Commander Emma McDonald-Kerr ADC RAN, as she assumed the role of Commanding Officer, Navy Headquarters South Australia. CONGRATULATIONS from Navy League – South Australia Division.



COMMANDING OFFICER – NAVY HQ-SA COMMANDER EMMA McDONALD-KERR ADC RAN



Commander Emma McDonald-Kerr was born in Gisborne, Victoria, and joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1999, as a Midshipman at the Australian Defence Force Academy. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 2001, majoring in Oceanography and Politics.

Upon graduation she commenced Maritime Warfare Officer professional training, and in 2004 was awarded her Bridge Warfare Certificate in HMAS Success. Following a period as an Officer of the Watch in Success, she was posted as the decommissioning Navigator in HMAS Launceston (II). After decommissioning, she joined a cross-functional team in the Defence Community Organisation Darwin, supporting ADF members and their families, often in times of crisis.

In 2009, she posted to the Defence Force Recruiting Centre in Melbourne, before commencing a land-based deployment to Timor-Leste in 2012. After returning from operations she managed the Navy's overseas recruitment program, and subsequently accepted dual specialisation as a Maritime Warfare and Management

Executive Officer (human resource management).

In 2013, she deployed as the Military Assistant to the Commander of Combined Task Force 150, responsible for maritime security and counter terrorism operations in the Middle East and Indian Ocean region. Back in Australia she undertook a workforce planning role, before returning to sea as the Executive/Boarding Officer in Cape Class Patrol Boats *Cape Byron* and *Cape Inscription*. Her selection as the Staff Officer to the Chief of the Defence Force in late 2017, provided a unique opportunity to work for the ADF's most senior military officer. After this role she studied at the Australian War College, before her appointment as the Deputy Director Navy Workforce Requirements Planning.

Commander McDonald-Kerr's career highlights include navigating a ship through the busy Singapore Strait, and working alongside colleagues from allied and partner militaries. She has a Master of Business from the University of New South Wales and a Master of Military and Defence Studies from the Australian National University.

HMAS ARUNTA DEPARTS FOR THREE-MONTH DEPLOYMENT



HMAS Arunta sailed from her home port of Fleet Base East on 28 January for the first regional deployment of 2022.

The ship's CO, Commander Samuel Woolrych said "During the deployment, Arunta will have a number of opportunities to increase our inter-operability and deepen our understanding of a complex region by working alongside regional partners through various navy-to-navy activities.

"We expect to build on the respectful and trusting relationship that have been built over many years between Australia and other like-minded nations in the region." (Ref: Lieutenant Gary McHugh. Photo: Leading Seaman Matthew Lyall)

NAVY CELEBRATES AUSTRALIA DAY 26 JANUARY 2022 IN SYDNEY

The Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan, AO, RAN said “that it was a proud opportunity for Our People to join the Salute to Australia on Sydney Harbour.

He thanked the Men and Women of HMAS Diamantina II and HMAS Parramatta IV, who replaced HMAS Adelaide III which was now assisting our Pacific Family in Tonga. For the crew of HMAS Parramatta, the day took on a greater significance as their ship provided the backdrop for the 'Salute to Australia' on Sydney Harbour.

Commander David Murphy, Commanding Officer of HMAS *Parramatta*, said it was an honour for the ship's company to join Sydney's Australia Day festivities. “Australia Day is a great day to be in Sydney Harbour and see the community celebrating together,” Commander Murphy said. “The crew and I are very proud to step in on behalf of HMAS Adelaide, given her important mission to support our Tongan friends in the Pacific.”

HMAS Diamantina carried Her Excellency, the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales, and members of the official party. By Lieutenant Nancy Cotton Photos: Leading Seaman Matthew Lyall



HMAS PARRAMATTA ANZAC Class Frigate
Commissioned 1999



HMAS DIAMANTINA HUON class minehunter
Commissioned 2000



On the last note of *Advance Australia Fair*, all eyes were lifted to the skies as an Royal Australian Air Force F-35A Lightning II aircraft provided a spectacular display. The stealth fighter was flown by Flight Lieutenant Ross Bowman, who said it was a privilege to be part of the activities.

The ADF Parachuting School's Red Berets parachute display team brought the day to a close, jumping over Sydney Harbour and landing in the waters near the Sydney Opera House as a Royal Australian Navy Seahawk helicopter carried the Australian national flag past HMAS Canberra during Australia Day celebrations in Sydney. Photo AB Seaman B. Ricketts

HMAS ADELAIDE III OPERATION TONGA ASSIST 2022

Under the command of Captain Stuart Watters, HMAS Adelaide arrived in Tonga on 26 January with 250 pallets of humanitarian supplies and over 600 personnel and equipment to support engineering, medical and logistic taskings. The crew conducted a COVID-19 safe and contactless unload of 88 tonnes of humanitarian supplies on to Vanu Wharf in Nuku'alofa. Provision of further immediate support has been delayed when Adelaide suffered a major . electrical failure. HMAS Adelaide recently experienced a power outage while anchored near Tonga. However, essential power supplies were quickly restored. The situation is being closely monitored and the safety of the ship and the embarked forces remains our highest priority. Read more: <https://bit.ly/ADE-Statement> #AusNavy #YourADF

HMAS Adelaide has many of the ship's company and also some of the embarked ADF personnel with humanitarian work experience from the 2020 Mollacoota Bushfires Assist and Operation Fiji Assist 2021.



HMAS ADELAIDE launched a light landing craft in the waters off Nuku'alofa and Australian Army soldiers from 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment practised small boat handling for a surface reconnaissance task.

Photo: POIS Christopher Szumlans





HMAS SUPPLY II OPERATION TONGA ASSIST

HMAS Supply has departed from her home port in Sydney, bound for Tonga with half a million litres of fuel and humanitarian and disaster relief stores.

HMAS Supply is an Auxiliary Oiler and will be ready to sustain other vessels supporting recovery efforts in Tonga, including HMAS Adelaide

AUSTRALIAN JOINT OPERATIONS COMMAND

ADF Headquarters Joint Operations Command has established a new cell to co-ordinate the international effort to assist with the response to the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano eruption in Tonga last month.

The Humanitarian and Disaster Relief International Coordination Cell brings together defence personnel from Tonga, Fiji, Japan, France, New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom and the United States.

Contributing nations are drawing on their combined knowledge to coordinate arrival schedules, acquisition and delivery of specialist assistance equipment and supplies, and the integration of recovery work. This will ensure Tonga's international airport and ports are not overwhelmed.

Royal Australian Air Force transport aircraft also continue to deliver Australian aid to Tonga.

A new phase of disaster relief assistance under Operation Tonga Assist has commenced. At the request of the Government of Tonga, ADF personnel will begin to clear debris and repair or stabilise buildings and infrastructure on Atata Island. An advance team of 30 personnel embarked in HMAS Adelaide, landed ashore. This team consisted of Army engineers, a DFAT liaison officer and a Navy Chaplain. A larger contingent will go ashore on Atata Island later to commence recovery work.



Royal Australian Navy sailors from HMAS Adelaide's flight deck team prepare an Australian Army CH-47F Chinook helicopter during Operation Tonga Assist.

HMAS GASCOYNE IHUON-CLASS MINEHUNTER



HMAS Gascoyne at Adelaide's Outer Harbour in mid-November 2021 nearing the end of its circumnavigation of Australia. During the deployment, Gascoyne conducted vital route surveys of Australia's most important and strategic waterways.

NUSHIP ARAFURA LAUNCHED AT THE OSBORNE NAVY SHIPYARD IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



- THE FIRST OF 12 ARAFURA-CLASS PATROL VESSELS -

First Assistant Secretary Ships Division, Sheryl Lutz, said the Arafura-class Offshore Patrol Vessels were one of the foundational projects in the 2017 Naval Shipbuilding Plan. Building the first two OPVs in South Australia enabled experienced shipbuilders from the Hobart-class destroyer to be retained then transitioned to the new Hunter-class frigates, setting the foundation for a continuous sovereign shipbuilding industry.

By 2030, the shipbuilding workforce will grow to over 2000 here at Osborne as part of the 15,000 workers directly employed under the government's Naval Shipbuilding Plan. The 80 metre long OPVs will primarily undertake constabulary missions and maritime patrol and response duties. They will incorporate state-of-the-art sensors, command and communications systems to improve operational capability alongside Australian Border Force vessels, other Australian Defence Force units and Australia's regional partners.

COMMONWEALTH JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS ADELAIDE 1951

South Australia celebrated the Commonwealth Jubilee with a public holiday on 9 MAY 1951.

A procession moved along King William Street from South Terrace to Torrens Parade Ground. Headed by Police Greys, they were followed the Ex-Navalmen's Band and the Navy contingent seen passing Trims Emporium on King William Street. Army and Air Force were next, followed by numerous floats and groups from both industry and the community.



NAVY LEAGUE – SOUTH AUSTRALIA DIVISION NEWS

As Australians begin to enjoy more freedom from covid-19 restrictions, NLA-SA sincerely hope that our many Naval commemorations, social events and meetings will return to full capacity in Adelaide and elsewhere. Further details to be advised.

- March Celebration of Women's International Day for Defence
- April ANZAC commemorations
- May 80th Anniversary of The Battle of The Coral Sea 1942
- June HM The Queen's Official Birthday
- June Navy League Annual Luncheon

To join Navy League of Australia – South Australia Division, please go to our web page or contact us for further details. We would be delighted to welcome you aboard!

*Fair Winds and Smooth Sailing from President & Executive Committee
Diana, Jean, John, David and Dean*

President: Diana Hill diana.adelaide@bigpond.com Mobile: 0421-799-149
Hon Secretary: Jean Gill Tel (08) 8272-6435 Email: jeangill2@bigpond.com
Vice President/Treasurer: John Evans
PO Box 3008 Unley SA 5061 Web: <http://navyleague.org.au/>