

Ancient Mariners Lunch Cruise 2019

Presidents Introduction Speech

Guest Speaker Deputy Commissioner Graeme Finney, Fellow Ancient Mariners, Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Annual Ancient Mariners Cruise & Luncheon.

Unfortunately His Excellency The Governor General is unable to join us today, as affairs of state are holding his attention.

We would like to congratulate Captain Alan Tait OAM, Ex Officio Vice President on being inducted into the Australian Maritime Hall of Fame for his more than six decades of service to the Australian Maritime Industry at the 2018 DCN Australian Shipping & Maritime Awards.

Sister Mary is unavailable today to keep us on the straight and narrow, due to her duties calling her to New Zealand so Mrs Finola McMahon has been deputised to say Grace.

During the last year Mr John Harding has stood aside as League Secretary and has been succeeded by Captain John Cardelli. John Harding has remained a member of the committee.

It is with sadness we remember those members who have Crossed the Bar since our last luncheon.

1. Captain Mark Walsh – Past Secretary /Treasurer MN
2. Lt Commander Ian (Peter) Wrigley MBE RD RANVR Ret
3. Captain Edward Liley – Life Member, Past President, Committee Member, League Historian and author of “Sons of the Sea” MN
4. Captain John Haines MN
5. Mr Ian Kiernan AO, Honorary Member
6. Captain Bob Walton MN
7. Mr Rabbit Holland
8. Mr Milner Patey (2017)
9. Mr S.I. Ridland (Lloyds Surveyor) 26th March 2018.
10. Captain C.S Hull MN 26th March 2019
11. Captain Neil Aiton MN 7th April 2019
12. Captain Brian Druce 14th April 2019

At the Committee Meeting following on from the AGM on 28th March 2019 your committee agreed to contribute \$500 to the erection of a memorial to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the launching of the Antarctic vessel HMAS Wyatt Earp (as Norwegian vessel MV Fanefjord). The memorial will be erected in Hobart in September, refer to our website for more details.

I will also shortly ask Captain Ten Van Bronswijk to come forward to give you a short chat on proposals for new works at the Merchant Navy National War Memorial in Canberra. After which we will pass around the hat.

The Treasurer has asked me to remind members when they change contact details that they inform him so mail-outs can proceed smoothly. He is also moving to direct debit system for payments but remember if using this method put your surname in the reference section so he knows where the money is coming from.

I also commend our Web Site to members, to stay updated with the League's activities.

Our sales team also have a selection ties, caps, badges and umbrellas for sale.

I ask all members and guests to show respect for our guest speaker and remain silent during his presentation.

Next cruise booked for 1st Saturday in May 2020.

I would also ask everyone to depart expeditiously on our return so our friends at Captain Cook can turn the vessel round for its next cruise.