

The 2018 Cruise was another great success ...

Once again, it was an excellent day out on Saturday, May 5 on Sydney Harbour for members and guests, all enjoying the perfect conditions that prevailed for the day and the hospitality of the crew of Captain Cook Cruise vessel, Sydney 2000.

In all, there were about 175 who attended, wining and dining and having a great time with live musical entertainment, the cruise departing Circular Quay at 1230 and returning at 1545.

Special guest was Rob Bryson, Australian Antarctic Division. Rob is the Modernisation Program Manager of the Australian Antarctic Division and delivered a presentation on the new research vessel, RVS Nuyina which is at present under construction in Romania and will be fitted out in the Netherlands. The ship is larger than previous research vessels and is scheduled for completion in 2020/21. The name of the new ship is an aboriginal word meaning 'southern lights'.

Sister Mary Leary OAM, never fails in getting everybody's attention with her entertaining Grace and this she did in great style. Her recent award of the Croce Pro Ecclesia et Pontifical (Declaration of Honour) by Pope Francis for her dedicated work as Stella Maris Port Chaplain tending to seafarers.

The Committee was also pleased to have Mrs Elizabeth Sandeman-Gay wife of the late Captain Richard Sandeman-Gay former committeeman, attending as our Guest and is now an Associate Member in her own right.

We are very pleased to say that everyone on board was in fine voice singing the sea shanties and we hope passing vessels noted the enthusiasm of the singing and applauded accordingly.

A special award of a Gold Badge was made to the League's Auditor, Lt Col. K Tunbridge RAEMA Rtd as a thank you for his much appreciated work as Auditor of the League.

The Cruise is a firmly established event on the League's calendar allowing members to gather, rekindle old friendships and make new ones. We thank all those who joined us for the Cruise to make it a great success and in particular, thank those who worked to make it all happen.



Left to Right. Rob Bryson, Australian Antarctic Division; Capt Murray Doyle, President AAM AFNI; at the lectern Dr Paul Scully-Power AM DSM, Patron.