



Royal United Services Institute  
New South Wales

# Newsletter

Issue No 2 - August 2014

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## ***Introduction***

Welcome to this second issue of the electronic newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of NSW (RUSI NSW), the aim of which is to provide members, stakeholders, and other interested parties up to date news of our latest activities and events. Last month's first issue was well received with over 100 members registering to receive it which is certainly sufficient interest for us to continue with its production. The Newsletter will normally be issued during the second week of the month following the monthly Council Meeting which is scheduled for the second Monday of the month.

To receive this newsletter electronically new recipients will need to register their email contact details to the following link <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/Newsletters>. There is no charge to receive the newsletter and recipients are not required to be a member of the RUSI of NSW.

## **Latest News and Events**

### ***Institute News***

- ❖ The monthly Council Meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> August at the Institute's Offices in the Defence Plaza Sydney. Nominations are open for Councillors, specifically for a new Treasurer and members who are appropriately qualified are asked to consider nomination. See the nomination sheet at end of this newsletter.
- ❖ Events to commemorate the centenary of the declaration of World War 1 have been held in many locations and are the start of 4 years of commemoration of the centenary of World War 1. The Institute was represented at some of these events and has a number of special events to contribute to the Commemoration – see this Newsletter for further details.

### ***Upcoming RUSI NSW Events***



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2014 – the 126th Anniversary Luncheon will be held on 4th Floor Masonic Club, 169-171 Castlereagh Street at 12 noon for 12.30pm. A two course lunch with wine included at a cost of \$80.00 person. Registration must be made through the Institute's Office by telephone (02) 9393 2325.



Tuesday 26 August 2014 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street – the speaker will be Professor Alan Dupont, Director Institute for International Security and Development, University of NSW and his subject will be “The White Paper - Challenges Facing Defence”. The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.



Tuesday, 30 September 2014 – Seminar at 1.00 to 5.00pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street. The subject will be “The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF) Centenary Seminar”. At the outbreak of World War I, the ANMEF was raised to seize and occupy German colonial possessions in the Pacific. It was formed in August 1914 and, supported by the Australian Fleet, it captured Rabaul and began occupying German possessions, especially wireless stations, in New Guinea, Nauru, the Solomon

Islands and nearby islands in September 1914. A panel of five naval and military historians will outline the background to war in 1914, naval operations in the Pacific in 1914, the raising and training of the ANMEF and its subsequent operations in New Guinea, and the aftermath. The seminar is open to anyone but prior booking and payment (\$30.00 for members and \$45 for non-members) is required through the office, phone (02) 9393 2325.

Tuesday, 30 September 2014 – The RUSI of NSW Annual General Meeting 5.00 to 5.30pm at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts Theatre Level 1, 280 Pitt Street. Registration is not required. Please note that this meeting will follow the ANMEF Centenary Seminar at the same location.



Tuesday 28 October 2014 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at Wesley Conference Centre, 220 Pitt Street – the speaker will be Major James Nol, of the Royal Australian Medical Corp and his subject will be “Understanding Islam and conflict in the Middle East”. The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.



Tuesday 18 November 2014 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the SMSA Theatre (Level 1) 280 Pitt Street – the speaker will be Mr Peter Hartcher, Political and International Editor, the Sydney Morning Herald, and his subject will be “The 2014 Sir Herman Black Lecture: 2014 - the Year in Review”. The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.

Tuesday 2 December 2014 - Christmas Lunch a Victoria Barracks – Details and costs to be advised.



Tuesday 27 January 2015 – Lunchtime Lecture at 1.00pm at the Wesley Conference Centre, 220 Pitt Street – the speakers will be Commodore Michael Flynn and Colonel John Hutchison, MC, of the Royal United Services Institute, New South Wales, and the subject will be “The 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre as we observed it” The lunchtime lectures are open to anyone interested.

## ***Upcoming Events by other Organisations***

- Saturday 16 August 2014 – Meeting of Ku-ring-gai Historical Society at 2.00pm – the speaker will be Michael McKernan, former Deputy Director of Australian War Memorial and his subject will be “The Unexpected War, Australia, August 1914”. Visitors are welcome and afternoon tea will be served. The contact for those who wish to attend is Ken Broadhead whose contact details can be obtained from the Institute’s Office.
- Saturday 30 August 2014 – Street Parade (start time 1.00pm) to commemorate the formation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Horse in 2014 Macquarie Street Parramatta and then afterwards at the Lancer Barracks Parramatta.
- Sunday 31 August 2014 – An invitation to all RUSI members to attend a Choral Evensong at St James’ Church 173 King Street Sydney at 3.00 pm to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of Admiral Arthur Phillip, first Governor of New South Wales. RSVP - 24th August 2014 Ms Dianne Ward, St James' Parish Office, Level 1 169-171 Phillip Street, Sydney, NSW 2000  
Email: office@sjks.org.au Tel: (02) 8227 1300 Fax: (02) 9232 4182
- 9–14 September 2014 - New Guinea Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force Centenary Battlefield Tour - This tour is being offered by Military History Tours Australia Pty Ltd and is tailored to the needs of those wishing to visit the Rabaul battlefields prior to the Institute’s Centenary Seminar. For further details, including registration, [Click Here](#)
- 22–24 September 2014 – Land Forces 2014 - Australia’s premier land defence exhibition and a leading land defence forum for Australia, Asia and the Indo-Pacific region to be held at Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. It will provide an opportunity to connect to the land defence community. Further details at [www.landforces.com.au](http://www.landforces.com.au)

## ***Recent Past Events***

- 27 May 2014 – The Amphibious Operations Seminar held at the Wesley Conference Centre on 27 May was a great success. Feedback from attendees indicates that for both currently serving personnel and others present it filled a vital need. It was attended by 65 members, 27 non-members, 5 invited speakers and one media representative.
- 24 June 2014 – the Lunchtime Lecture by Lieutenant General Angus Campbell, DSC, AM; Commander, Operation Sovereign Borders on the topic “ Operation Sovereign Borders” was another most successful event which was reported in a wide range of newspapers and on TV throughout the country.
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - Lunchtime Lecture at by Dr Brendan Nelson, Director Australian War Memorial, on the topic “The Australian War Memorial – it’s past and future” was extremely well received and attended by 73 members and 11 visitors.





- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014 – Following the lunchtime lecture the Institute hosted a Public Consultation Forum on the 2015 Defence White Paper (DWP). The event was well attended by and was chaired by Rear Admiral James Goldrick (Ret'd) a member of the Expert Panel which has been established to advise on the development of the DWP and attended by 2 other members of the Panel. The Forum was asked to give its views on five key questions based on the Defence Issues Paper which contains a summary of the key issues under consideration for the DWP. However, the question on defence industry policy was not put as it is being considered by another Forum to which the Institute will also have an input. The Institute will be making a submission to the DWP and members and the public can also make submissions which will be accepted until 29 October. Further details on the consultation process and how to make submissions can be found at [www.defence.gov.au/whitepaper/](http://www.defence.gov.au/whitepaper/)



- 4-5 August 2014 – Centenary of World War 1 – Events to commemorate the Centenary of World War 1 commenced on 4 August to commemorate the centenary of the declaration of war by Britain. The Institute was represented at the following events organised by the NSW Government and the NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council;

- A State Government Service at the ANZAC Memorial Hyde Park to mark the commencement of World War 1 at 11am on 4 August
- Wreath Laying at graveside of Private Edward George Henderson at Cowra General Cemetery at 2.30pm on 4 August
- A Service to commemorate the Centenary of the Commencement of the First World war at Australia's Peace Bell at Cowra at 4pm on 4 August.
- A reception at the NSW Parliament House to commemorate the centenary of the commencement of World War 1 at 6pm on 5 August.



## *General Defence News*

- **Department of Defence Senior Appointments** The Chief of the Defence Force, Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, AC announced that Major General John Caligari, AO, DSC will succeed Vice Admiral Peter Jones AO, DSC, RAN as the Chief of Capability Development Group. Major General Caligari will be promoted to Lieutenant General and assume his appointment in October.



- **Defence Exercises**

- ***Exercise Hamel 2014*** was conducted in North Queensland in areas stretching from Townsville, Atherton, Innisfail, Tully and Cairns, making it the largest Army training activity of the year. It was completed at the end of July and its aim was to evaluate the Army's reconnaissance, surveillance and intelligence capability as an enabler to its combat force.



- **24<sup>th</sup> Rimpac Exercise** More than 800 Australian Navy, Army and Air Force personnel took part in RIMPAC, the world's largest naval exercise, which was conducted in Hawaii during July. Australia sent the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) ship HMAS Success and Submarine HMAS Sheean, a rifle company from 5th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment and three Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) AP-3C Orion aircraft to the exercise to conduct military training with defence forces from 21 other Pacific Rim nations. RIMPAC is a biennial military training exercise conducted to strengthen international maritime partnerships, enhance interoperability and improve the readiness of participating forces for a wide range of potential operations.



- **Exercise Pitch Black 14** - Participants from Australia, the United States, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and French Armed Forces in New Caledonia will take part Exercise Pitch Black 14 in the Northern Territory from 1 to 22 August 2014. During the exercise the RAAF will practise offensive counter air and offensive air support operations with large formations of foreign aircraft.



- **Defence Minister Announces First Principles Review Panel** The Defence Minister has announced the First Principles Review Team, an initiative designed to ensure Defence is fit for purpose and able to promptly respond to future challenges. The focus of the review will be on achieving more streamlined decisions on defence acquisitions and sustainment programs and the Minister has asked the Team to report to him early next year to allow consideration of the report in the DWP. David Peever will chair the review and lead an independent and expert panel comprising: Professor Peter Leahy, Mr Jim McDowell, Professor Robert Hill and Mr Lindsay Tanner.



- **The Defence Science Partnerships Program** A new partnership program between the Department of Defence and the innovation sector was launched in July with the aim to strengthen and enhance the impact of Defence science research in Australia. The Defence Science Partnerships program, led by the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO), will enable Australian universities to work in a coordinated way with Defence and national security agencies on collaborative research projects. The program complements DSTO's Industry Alliance program which forges closer collaborative research and development activity with industry.



- **Introduction of Counter-terrorism Measures** The Government will introduce a range of counter-terrorism measures to give security agencies the resources and legislative powers needed to combat home-grown terrorism and Australians who participate in terrorist activities overseas. The measures will include:



1. More than \$600 million in additional funding over the next four years for agencies involved in counter-terrorism activity (including ASIO, the AFP, ASIS, ONA, and Customs and Border Protection).
2. Further legislative measures (in addition to those currently before Parliament) to toughen national security laws.
3. A review of Australia's counter-terrorism coordinating machinery (to report by the end of the year).



- **HMAS Toowoomba departs for Middle East** HMAS Toowoomba departed recently from HMAS Stirling in Western Australia to the Middle East Region as part of Operation MANITOU to provide maritime support to international efforts to counter and deter terrorism and the trade of narcotics on the seas. HMAS Toowoomba relieves HMAS Darwin, which is heading home to Sydney after a five month deployment. HMAS Toowoomba will be captained by Commander Catherine Hayes, who has become the first female in the Royal Australian Navy to command a warship in the Middle East region.



- **Closer Australia-Chinese Defence Ties** The Minister of Defence has hailed the forging of closer defence relations between Australia and China following his meeting with General Fan Changlong, Vice Chairman of the People's Republic of China Central Military Commission. During talks with General Fan and other senior Chinese military officials in Canberra, the Minister strongly endorsed an agreement to conduct joint military exercises involving China, Australia and the United States. Exercise Kowari – a land exercise – will be held in October in northern Australia and marks the first trilateral military exercise involving Australian, Chinese and United States personnel.



- **Australia/US Science and Technology Cooperation** Officials from Australia and the United States have advanced opportunities for bilateral science and technology cooperation in support of national security initiatives, the Australian Department of Defence has announced. Delegations from the two countries - led by Australia's Assistant Defence Minister and the US Undersecretary for Science and Technology – discussed in Canberra potential collaboration across a range of sectors, including cyber security, chemical, biological and radiological defence, infrastructure protection, and transport security.





- Aircraft Carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth Floated** HMS Queen Elizabeth was floated for the first time at docks in Rosyth, Scotland in July. The ship is the largest warship ever built for the Royal Navy and will remain in Rosyth until it is handed over to the Ministry of Defence in 2016 ahead of being put into service in 2020. Six shipyards from across the UK and more than 10,000 people were involved in building parts of the vessel. The estimated cost of the ship and its sister ship, the HMS Prince of Wales, is £6.2bn, well over the initial projected cost of £3.65bn. The warship is as long as 25 buses and can carry 40 jets and helicopters at a time. It will have a permanent crew of almost 1,600. Once the carrier has been fitted out with equipment, it will make way for the assembly of its sister ship which is set to start later this year at Rosyth.



- Another Milestone for the RAN's Seahawk Romeo Helicopter Program** The new generation Seahawk Romeo helicopter maritime warfare helicopter will replace the RAN's ageing fleet of S-70-B Bravo Seahawks. Another milestone was reached for this project with the firing of a Hellfire air-to-surface missile by Navy's 725 Squadron from an aircraft currently deployed to the United States Navy's Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Centre off the Florida coast.



## **About the RUSI of NSW**

Founded as the United Service Institution of New South Wales in 1888, the Royal United Services Institute of New South Wales today is one of seven self-governing constituent bodies of the Royal United Services Institute of Australia.

The aim of the Institute is to promote informed debate on, and to improve public awareness and understanding of, defence and national security. To this end, the Institute:

- contributes to the national debate on defence and security policy;
  - publishes a highly-respected professional journal;
  - organises visits to defence and security establishments;
  - conducts social and networking functions for members. arranges regular lectures and occasional seminars on military history, defence and security issues;
  - operates a public library, specialising in defence and security literature dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the current day; and



The Institute's rooms and the Ursula Davidson military history Library are on Level 20, Defence Plaza, 270 Pitt Street, Sydney – very close to Town Hall and Museum railway stations. Tea/coffee and biscuits are available without charge and members and visitors are encouraged to use the facilities for reading or research, or just as a base when visiting the city of Sydney. However, prior to visiting for the first time please contact the Office Manager to arrange access to the Office. For additional information please visit our website at [www.rusinsw.org.au](http://www.rusinsw.org.au) or call the Office at (02) 9393 2325.



**Royal United Services Institute of New South Wales  
Incorporated**

**Election of Office-Bearers and Councillors for 2014-15**

**NOMINATION FORM**

I hereby nominate: .....

[Print in capitals the title and full name]

for the position of: .....

[Insert title of position]

Nominator: .....

[Signature of nominator]

[Date]

.....  
[Print in capitals the title and full name of nominator]

Seconder: .....

[Signature of seconder]

[Date]

.....  
[Print in capitals the title and full name of seconder]

I accept nomination: .....

[Signature of nominee]

[Date]