



# FHSM NEWSLETTER

## President's Report

Welcome back everyone from your Christmas break and I hope it was a good one for you and your family. Also, best wishes for 2022 to you all and I hope, despite the Covid pandemic and other issues, that it turns out to be a good one for you.

I am pleased to report that the Friends Association's (FHSM) work for the Holbrook Submarine Museum is powering on. Morrie Jeppesen has several projects steadily moving ahead, and Thor Lund and the Development Team are moving ahead with publications and other projects whilst other Committee members each have their own projects in hand.

So, all is good except that in one area we do need help and that is to find a suitable Honorary Secretary for the FHSM who is able to handle taking us into incorporation and then dealing with the regulatory aspects that follow from being an incorporated body and accountable not only to members but also to the New South Wales government regulating body.

I should be much obliged if anyone who knows of a suitable volunteer for this role would contact me or a member of our committee to discuss it. (My phone number is 0402 003 872 and my email [m.white@uq.edu.au](mailto:m.white@uq.edu.au)).

Our best wishes to John Goss who was going to do the job but has had to relinquish it due to health issue – good luck John with everything and we look forward to seeing you on deck hale and hearty soon.

All the best everyone.  
Michael White President.

## EDITORIAL CONTACT

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## Inside this issue

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## CURATORS CORNER

2022 has been a very busy year at the Museum. To give you an idea, some of the current projects include:



A grant application for the restoration and framing of the Jolly Roger and the Digitising of the tape recording of CMDR Holbrook's first visit in 1956 is in progress. A letter from the FHSM outlining the historic significance on both will support our application.

### AE2 REPLICA

The tunnel to the AE2 is complete and we are waiting on a quote for painting it. It looks like the Council will approve the expenditure.

We are also seeking quotes for lighting and an air conditioner for the AE2 display and a new display cabinet. The next shower will show if my leak repairs in the AE2 have been successful!

### eHIVE PROJECT

This project which will record the museums artefact and origins in detail will be done in May, I am still sorting the 50 objects which will form the basis for the Regional Museums Initiative sponsored by a Regional Councils grant.

## AUSTRALIA DAY AT THE MUSEUM

It was a bit quiet over Australia Day visitor wise with the majority passing through on Australia Day ex-submariners or their partners. However, a lot was achieved

Thanks to the Volunteers' help the Ship Badges have been mounted on the wall above the exit and an Onslow plaque was mounted in the Oberang Room.



And of course, the Otway casing has been cleaned of rubbish.

## AUSTRALIA DAY VOLUNTEERS AT THE MUSEUM

*A good roll up at the museum for the fifth Australia Day 'clean-up'. Well done to all*



Between thirty and fifty volunteers and partners turned up in Holbrook to celebrate Australia Day. However, the previous nights' celebrations prevented some from helping on the day. Redders, Morrie, Mick Carew, Whitey, Richard Coathup were the ones that managed to rise in time for turn to. Blue Lees turned up but didn't know how to open the door. The star appearance was from Millie Milburn who arrived in a dress with accompanying red wig and tartan beret, he

was pulled over for RBT on the way down, pretty sure the cops are still shaking their heads. Retired Commander Mick Carew was found under the after casing, some thought that he obviously had been there since last ANZAC day as he was absolutely covered in spider webs and had them coming out of all crevices.

## AUSTRALIA DAY VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE

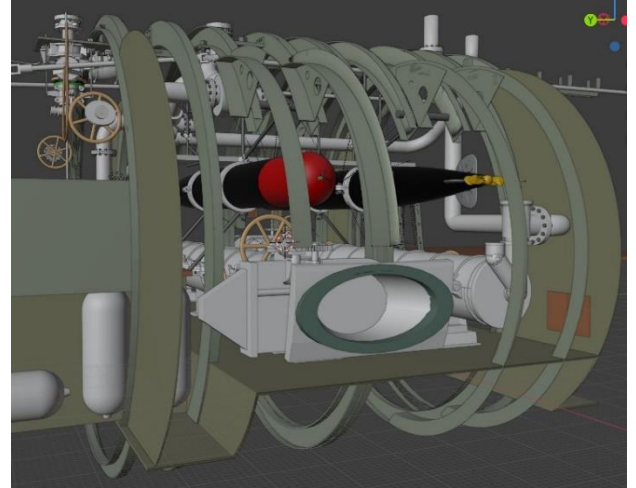
As the top pub is still closed the RSL and the middle pub were used extensively. Murray (the owner) and his staff made us very welcome providing rounds of beer and fifteen pizzas and chips and gravy on the last night. We had a BBQ on Australia Day and everyone chipped in some coin for meat. Next year will be our sixth get together and every year we have our regulars with a healthy turn up of new faces I've not seen in over thirty years. Why don't you join us? Finally, a special thanks must be given to Morrie for his tireless commitment to the museum. See you in Holbrook for Anzac Day.

Gary Redman



## DEVELOPMENT TEAM UPDATE

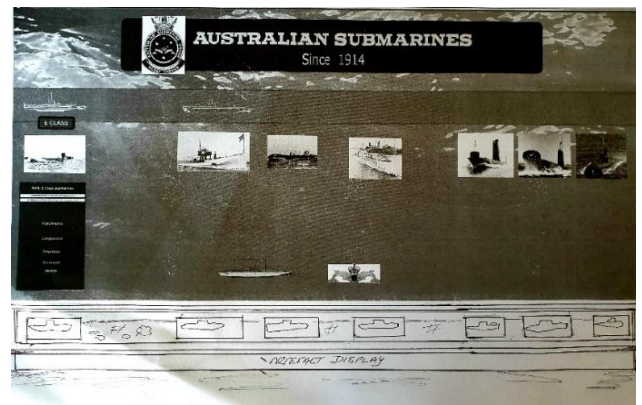
**3d Modelling** – Towards the end of 2021 we commenced a series of 3d modelling experiments. Roger Neill bought a good quality 3d printer and recent work looks encouraging with the production of pre-SWUP Oberons. These will be the plugs for resin cast models.



The longer-term plans are to include plaque models of all the classes of submarines for the Timeline Banner) and to produce a 1.5m cutaway model of AE2 to accompany the Replica exhibit. We have begun extensive work on the STL and cad files of AE2 and hope to have the model produced commercially using a resin flow machine that can handle the size. Funds permitting the finished model will sit in a case that can be viewed from both sides and with QR code links to the various cutaway parts.

**Timeline Banner** – This is progressing well. We have a cost estimate for the Banner of \$300 and are working on the display cabinet design and costings. This will likely be one of our big projects for 2022 and will include the Roger Neill's 3d modelling work as well as Thor's audio and video triggers and QR coding.

**QR Coding and self-guided tours** – Helen and Thor have been working with Morrie on linking the eHive information with the museum exhibits using QR Codes that can be both online and visible at the individual exhibit point.



Given the wide use of the QR code system during Covid restrictions, most visitors would be familiar with the process. For those not familiar with the concept a small, coded patch (see below) can be scanned by phone or tablet and opens a nominated URL link where text, audio or video info is stored. It is expected that this approach will also make for a good virtual tour and self-guided tours of the museum.

**New Team Member** – We welcome Dr Douglas Randell to the Development Team and his role in our education and outreach programs like the Submariners Challenge and the various activity-based apps and publications aimed at kids

### Publication Update

2 new books are planned for release early this year.

**Escape from the deep** – This book(let) sprang out of the July 2021 Webinar on SMER. The book is almost finished. Peter Horobin and Terry Rowell have acted as credible editors to our collected information.

**Plats** - Following the October webinar we put together a short book(let) on 'Plats' We are currently finishing the book. We have a multitude of memories and stories from both ex-sailors and some RANTE folk.

### Call for stories

We are planning a book on submariners' families and their experiences of living as a spouse, partner, or family member of a serving submariner. We want to capture the other side of submarining and the experiences you had, good and bad. We are happy to do over the phone interviews to save you time and effort. Alternatively, you can send your copy in Word format to: [Helen Wyatt - kewyatt@bigpond.com](mailto:HelenWyatt - kewyatt@bigpond.com)

## AS IT HAPPENED



HMAS OTWAY flying her paying off pennant. (flown on the last entry before paying off  
Decommissioning - 17<sup>th</sup> February 1994

*1<sup>st</sup> March 1967*



*Unfurling of the new RAN Ensign at Australia House*

The Royal Navy White Ensign, which has been lowered, was presented to the Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice-Admiral Sir John Bush who represented the First Sea Lord at the ceremony. The 'old' Ensign was lowered by bearded 38 year-old Chief Petty Officer Leonard Meakins of Mackay, Queensland, and the new Ensign was raised by the youngest member of the Royal Australian Navy at present in Britain, Able Seaman Thor Lund (18) of Sydney. Both were stationed in Scotland standing by the construction of the new submarine Otway.

### February

3rd February 1976  
Captain Bill Owen appointed  
Commanding Officer, HMAS  
Platypus and the RAN Submarine  
Squadron for the second time.

14th February 1929  
HMAS Oxley (I) and HMAS  
Otway (I) arrived in Sydney

17th February 1994  
De-Commissioning of HMAS  
Otway (II) and Re-dedication of  
HMAS Onslow

23rd February 2001  
Commissioning of HMAS  
Dechaineux and of HMAS Sheean

28th February 1914  
Commissioning of HMA  
submarines AE1 and AE2 at  
Portsmouth, England

### MARCH

4th March 1987 Jolly Roger flown  
on HMAS Ovens after firing an  
armed Mark 48 torpedo to sink  
HMAS Colac.

8th March 1991 Vice Admiral Ian  
MacDougall appointed Chief of  
Naval Staff.

16<sup>th</sup> March 1990 HMAS Oxley left  
Stirling for 4.5 month deployment  
to Seychelles, Suez Canal, Gallipoli,  
Rome.