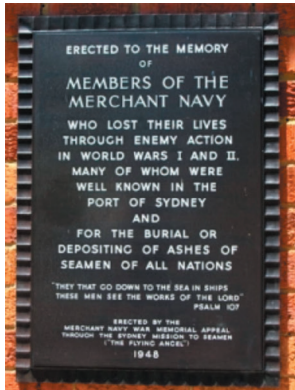


# 54TH ANNUAL COMMEMORATION

## MERCHANT NAVY MEMORIAL & COLUMBARIUM

### ROOKWOOD NECROPOLIS, SYDNEY

COORDINATED BY BOARD OF THE MERCHANT NAVY WAR MEMORIAL FUND LTD (MNWMF)



#### Description:

Roofed columbarium of brick and wood construction set within a memorial garden.

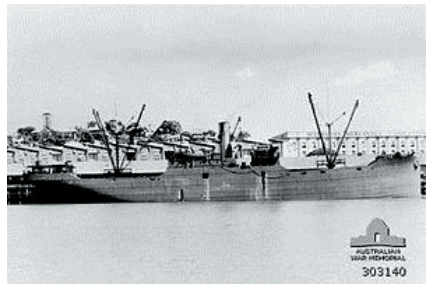
#### Inscription:

‘Erected to the memory of MEMBERS OF THE MERCHANT NAVY who lost their lives through enemy action in World Wars I and II, many of whom were well known in the Port of Sydney AND the burial or depositing of ashes of seamen of all nations

They that go down to the sea in ships these men see the works of the Lord... Psalm 107 Erected by the Merchant Navy War Memorial Appeal through the Sydney Mission to Seamen (‘The Flying Angel’) 1948’



SS FINGAL, a Norwegian Merchant Ship (2137GRT) on charter to the Australian Government. Sailing from Sydney to Darwin shipping cargo and ammunition, escorted by the USS Patterson she was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine off Nambucca Heads on 5th May 1943.



COAST FARMER - Australian War Memorial photograph captioned “Starboard side view of the American transport Coast Farmer (3290GRT) which brought U.S. troops to Australia as part of the Pensacola Convoy in 1941-1942. She was torpedoed and sunk by a Japanese submarine 15 miles off Jervis Bay on 7th July (Naval Historical Collection)”



Sunday 8th April, 2018  
Within the Merchant Navy Memorial Garden  
1030 for Commencement at 1100 hours

Followed by refreshments within the Memorial Garden

## IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE CROSSED THE BAR

(Since those recorded in the 2015 Rookwood Order of Commemoration)

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crost the bar.

*Poem By Alfred, Lord Tennyson 1889, Poet Laureate*

### Merchant Navy Man

### A Title Emblazoned in Battle and Honoured in Freedom

#### NEW SOUTH WALES

*Michael Gerald Coombes* WWII 20/3/17

*William (Bill) Wilkinson Shaddock* WWII 03/04/17

*John Benson* 12/04/17

*Capt. William T Wilmott* 13/4/17

*Ernest Frederick Emerson* (US Army Small Ships)  
WWII 27/4/17

*Capt. Richard Sandeman-Gay* 11/5/17

• Prime Warden and Hon. Editor "Master Mariner", CMMMA

• Vice President Merchant Navy Association of NSW

*Cedric Day* WWII 26/5/17

*Frederick Richards* (US Army Small Ships) WWII 5/6/17

*Vaughn Richards* WWII - 2017

*Charles Edward Shields* 22/06/17

*Charles (Charlie) Weldon* 09/07/17

*Capt. Ross Gregory Fletcher* 19/08/17

*Capt. John Spiers* WWII 19/8/17

*Capt. Michael Thomas De Meaune* 29/8/17

*Patrick 'Taffy' Sweetensen* WWII 03/09/17

*James (Jim) Steele* 03/09/17 WWII

*Anthony John William Foden* (US Army Small Ships)  
WWII 17/09/17

*Joseph Harold Palmada* (US Army Small Ships) WWII  
19/09/17

*Capt. Arthur Michael (Mike) Downes* MN, LCDR, RNR  
& RANR (ret) WWII 24/9/17

*Noel Mervyn (Speed) Smith* WWII 02/10/17

*Thomas Augustine Brady* 18/10/17

*Denis Ashton* 14/2/2017 RAN WWII

*John Hunter Brown* 10/12/17 WWII US Army Small  
Ships

*Raymond Roy Young* 13/12/17 WWII US Army Small  
Ships

*Capt. Lynn Feldman* 20/12/17

*John Carroll* 16/01/18 WWII

*Trevor Johnson* 1/02/18

*Capt. Arthur Joseph Roberts* 21/2/18 WWII

*Keith Stirling Butler* 7/03/18 WWII MN & US Army  
Small Ships

#### VICTORIA

*Edwin (Ted) Ireland* (Pres. AIMPE Victoria) 27/3/17

*Richard John Hein* AM 02/10/17

(Director P&O Australia Ltd. 1970 - 2005 and Managing  
Director 1990 - 2005)

*Allen Renwick* 16/3/18

• U.S. Army Small Ships Assoc. Inc. and Merchant Navy Assoc.

#### QUEENSLAND

*Warren Francis (Bill) Phillips* (US Army Small Ships)  
WWII 16/4/17

*Capt. Rodney (Mac) Coates* 29/01/18 WWII

#### TASMANIA

*Capt. Daryl Smith* R.D.F., R.D. 1/4/17

Member of the Committee which persuaded the Australian  
Government in 2008 to declare 3rd of September  
each year as Merchant Navy Day.

*Capt. Ross Gregory Fletcher* 19/8/17

*Capt. Thomas Martin North* 18/12/17

#### Western Australia

*Capt. Lynn Feltman* December 2018

#### IN MEMORIAN

*David Lloyd Raymond* 28/6/17 - Post Commander - Post AUI American Legion

**Music Program**  
**The Bankstown City Band**  
*Music Director Mr Ken Bradley*  
*Accompanied by Mr. Garry Marks, Treasurer & Librarian*

- **Welcome** • **Acknowledgement of Country**  
• **Introductions** • **Opening Remarks**

*Peter Sinclair, AM, CSC, RAN Retd.*  
*The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund Ltd (MNWMF)*

**Introduction of Officiating Clergy**

- *Sister Mary Leahy OAM, Chaplain, Apostleship of the Sea, Sydney & Regional Co-Ordinator Oceania.*  
• *Rev. Canon Garry Dodd, Chaplain*  
*The Mission to Seafarers (MTS), Newcastle and Regional Director of Aust. and PNG.*

## **Hymn / Psalm 46: God is our Strength and Refuge**

Tune: The Dambusters March  
(Composer Eric Coates, 1886-1958)

1. God is our strength and refuge  
our present help in trouble;  
and we therefore will not fear  
though the earth should change!  
Though mountains shake and tremble  
though swirling floods are raging  
God the Lord of Hosts  
is with us ever more.
2. There is a flowing river  
within God's holy city;  
God is in the midst of her -  
she shall not be moved!  
God's help is swiftly given,  
thrones vanish at His presence -  
God the Lord of Hosts  
is with us evermore!
3. Come, see the works of our Maker  
learn of His deeds all powerful;  
wars can cease across the world  
when He shatters the spear!  
Be still and know your Creator,  
uplift Him in the nations -  
God the Lord of Hosts  
is with us evermore!

## **First Reading: Gospel according to Matthew 8:23-27**

*Mrs. Phylis Solomon, Patron The Merchant Navy Association of NSW (MN)*  
*Widow of the late Gordon Solomon OAM 1923 - 2008*  
*Immediate Past President M.N.A., Founder of "The Red Esig" in 1970, often known as "The Father of the Merchant Navy"*

## Hymn: From All Around the World

Tune: Anchors Aweigh

1. From all around the world  
From sea to sea  
We praise our Mighty God  
Who gives us strength to fight for victory.  
People from every shore  
Bring Him their praise;  
Lord of the Ocean's roar  
Until the end ('til the end of) days.
2. God brings us victory  
God, Three in One;  
The whole world stands in awe  
Of the mighty things that He's done  
His deeds bring shouts of joy  
From Land and Sea;  
Our faults defeat us, but  
Our God can make us (He can make us) free
3. Some sail across the sea  
Toiling each day  
They see what God can do amid  
The Ocean's stormy spray, for  
He calms the raging storm,  
Saves them from harm  
He brings them safe to shore  
And to a haven (to a haven) calm.

## Second Reading: from the Prophet Isaiah 43:1-3

*Mr. Robert Talbott OAM, JP.*

*Member Merchant Navy RSL Sub Branch*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name  
Thy Kingdom come  
Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen

## INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OF HONOUR

*Captain Mike Drake - Vice Chairman, The Nautical Institute South East Australia Branch*

### Guest of Honour & Delivering the 2018 Address

*Lieutenant Commander Desmond Woods RAN Rtd.*

*Lieutenant Commander Desmond Woods has served for more than 40 years in the RNZN, the Royal Navy the British Army and the RAN as an education officer teaching naval and military history and strategic studies to officers.*

*In 2009 he was posted to the staff of the Australian Command and Staff College where he ran the CDF's Counterinsurgency conference.*

*He was Military Support Officer to the Defence Community Organisation in Canberra for two years before joining the staff of the RAN's International Fleet Review in 2013.*

*This was followed by a year as Staff officer Centenary of Anzac (Navy) before joining CN's personal staff as his Research Officer.*

*He is now a reserve officer serving as a Heritage Research Officer at the RAN's Seapower Centre in Canberra.*

*He is a councilor of the Australian Naval Institute and the Australian Institute for International Affairs and is a regular contributor of naval articles and book reviews to Australian and international historical journals.*



### Hymn of Her Majesty's Armed Forces Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Words: William Whiting, Winchester, England 1860

Tune: 'Melita' John B. Dykes 1861

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Eternal Father, strong to save,<br>whose arm hath bound the restless wave,<br>who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep<br>Its own appointed limits keep;<br>Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,<br>For those in peril on the sea!            | 3. O Holy Spirit! Who didst brood<br>Upon the waters dark and rude,<br>and bid their angry tumult cease,<br>and give, for wild confusion, peace;<br>Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,<br>For those in peril on the sea!            |
| 2. O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard<br>And hushed their raging at Thy Word,<br>Who walkest on the foaming deep,<br>And calm amidst the storm didst sleep;<br>Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,<br>For those in peril on the sea! | 4. O Trinity of love and power!<br>our brethren shield in danger's hour;<br>from rock and tempest, fire and foe,<br>protect us whereso'er they go;<br>thus evermore shall rise to Thee<br>glad hymns of praise from land and sea. |



# ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

## MEMORIAL PRAYER

**Ode - Mr. Don Kennedy JP**

- President Merchant Navy RSL Sub Branch
- Veterans Advisor to the Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund Ltd. (MNWMF)

*They have no grave but the cruel sea;  
No flowers lay at their head;  
A rusting hulk is their tombstone, afast on the ocean bed.  
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning;  
We will remember them.*

**All say: We will remember them**

**Mr. Don Kennedy JP: Lest we forget**

**All say: Lest we forget**

**THE LAST POST - Bugler, David Young, The Bankstown City Band**

*(In military tradition, the Last Post is the bugle call that signifies the end of the day's activities. It is also sounded at military funerals to indicate that the soldier has gone to his final rest and at commemorative services)*

**ONE MINUTE'S SILENCE - a sign of respect and a time for reflection, concluding with 8 bells.**

*(Signaling the conclusion of the one minute's silence, 8 Bells will toll which is recognised on board ships as 'the end of watch' but is also a way of saying, a Sailors or Merchant Mariners own watch is over...a nautical euphemism for "finished". The MNWMF thanks the Bankstown City Band for arranging the 8 Bells)*

## ROUSE

*(After the one minute's silence and 8 bells, flags are raised from half mast to the masthead as the Rouse is sounded. Today it is associated with the Last Post at all military funerals, and at services of dedication and remembrance).*

*Flag Attendants - Siena and Tasya Bhutan, The Bankstown City Band*

## LAYING OF WREATHS

Introductions by: *Merrill Barker, Secretary Merchant Navy RSL Sub Branch*

*Co-Ordination of Wreaths to be laid: Sean Barrett RNZN (Rtd), Director The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund, Merrill Barker, Secretary, Merchant Navy RSL Sub Branch & Stan Moriarty, Secretary, The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund*

## BLESSING OF NEW MEMORIAL PLAQUES

***In Memory of Victor Ross Totman***

**WWII VETERAN**

**16-11-1926 – 24-1-2017**

**Merchant Navy WWII**

**SS Taroona**

***In Loving Memory of Bernard O'Brien***

**WWII Veteran**

**4.12-1925 - 25.12.2015**

**Survivor of Sinking SS Fingal 5-5-1943**

**at age 17**

**Continued at Sea in Wartime to serve his Country...**

**Rest In Peace**

**Joseph Ernest Miller**  
WWII VETERAN  
CROSSED THE BAR  
3.7.1913 – 20.3.2017  
Survivor from sinking of  
S.S. Coast Farmer on 20.7.1942 off Jervis Bay

**Rex Richard Lesslie**  
WWII VETERAN  
CROSSED THE BAR  
13.2.1928 – 22.2.2015

**Norman Gaffey**  
WWII VETERAN  
CROSSED THE BAR  
11.4.1925 – 14.7.2015

**Ian Donald Heather**  
1918 – 1994  
Trained as a Cadet in Sailing Ship “Maisie  
Graham” (Later re-named “Prince Louis”  
“AQUITANIA” 1940-1948  
His dedication and enthusiasm to all his pursuits  
will be remembered by all who knew him.

(Plaque retrieved from the former Mission to Seafarers (MTS)  
Sussex Street premises)

**In Memory of**  
**Sir James Bissett** KT, CBE, R.N.R., D.D. (HON)  
Master Mariner  
Died 29-3-1967  
AGED 83 YEARS

(Plaque retrieved from the former Mission to Seafarers (MTS)  
Sussex Street premises)

## Hymn – Amazing Grace

Words: English Poet & Clergyman John Newton (1725-1807)

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.
3. Thru many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.
5. When we’ve been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise  
Than when we’d first begun.

## FINAL PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

### The Australian National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice  
For we are young and free;  
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil;  
Our home is girt by sea;  
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts

Of beauty rich and rare;  
In history’s page, let every stage  
Advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing  
Advance Australia Fair.

## CLOSING COMMENTS AND VOTE OF THANKS

## PLEASE JOIN FOR REFRESHMENTS WITHIN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Jointly hosted by Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust (RGCR) and  
The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund Ltd (MNWMF)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr David Field FAICD, Chairman  
 Capt Ted van Bronswijk  
 Mr Peter Sinclair AM, CSC, RAN (Rtd)  
 Mr Sean Barrett, RNZN (Rtd)  
 Rear Admiral Steve Gilmore AM, CSC, RAN (Rtd)  
 Mr Stan Moriarty, Company Secretary

**VETERANS ADVISOR**

Mr. Don Kennedy, President  
 Merchant Navy RSL Sub-Branch



## The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund Ltd

ABN 29 000 052 059

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 FAIRLIGHT NSW 2094  
 Telephone: 61 2 9907 8345  
 Email: davidandmaryfield@bigpond.com



GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
SYDNEY

Message from

### His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales

As we approach ANZAC Day, when we honour and pay homage to our fallen comrades from all wars, we remember the important role of the Merchant Navy throughout our service history. I would like to especially acknowledge our elderly mariners and our World War Two Veterans present at this 54<sup>th</sup> Merchant Navy Commemorative Service.

Thousands of Australian merchant mariners served during both World Wars on Royal Australian Navy ships, including on submarines and armed merchant cruisers, and in the merchant navies of Allied nations.

In the First World War, the merchant ships transported all of our troops to Gallipoli, and in many cases landed our troops on the beach at ANZAC Cove in the ships' lifeboats, which came under the deadly fire from Turkish guns. The great majority of wounded in that campaign were taken in the ships' lifeboats to the hospital ships which were waiting offshore. The merchant ships evacuated most of our troops from Gallipoli to Alexandria, Lemnos and Cyprus and then transported the wounded home to Australia.

It was widely recognised at the time of the Second World War that both the European and Pacific theatres could not have been won without the bravery, dedication and service provided by the Merchant Navy. Australian merchant seamen played their part with distinction in earning our final victory. Many paid the ultimate sacrifice and their resting places lie on shifting tides far and wide across the oceans.

On behalf of the people of New South Wales, I pay my respects to Merchant Navy veterans and their families, and convey my thanks to our merchant mariners, past and present, and to our heroes of the sea who have, indeed, 'crossed the bar'.

*Lest we forget*

General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd)  
Governor of New South Wales

Government House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
 telephone: 02 9228 4111 | website: www.governor.nsw.gov.au

## CONFIRMATION OF FUTURE COMMEMORATION DATES

### National Merchant Navy Commemoration, Kings Park Canberra

\*Sunday 21st October 2018 \*Sunday 20th October 2019 \*Sunday 18th October 2020

### Merchant Navy Memorial & Columbarium, Rookwood

\*Sunday 14th April 2019 \* Sunday 12th April 2020 \* Sunday 10th April 2021