



HMAS Sydney II

75th Commemoration Service

Remembering the 645 lives lost on HMAS Sydney II in 1941, 75 years ago.

5.00pm | 19 November 2016 | Gummer Avenue, Geraldton

Order of Service

The rest is silence

19 November 1941



HMAS Sydney II

75th Commemoration Service

Piper Tom Powell leads the Veterans' march in.

Record of service read throughout the ceremony by MC Commodore Bob Trotter, OAM, RAN (Ret'd), FIE Aust.

Order of Service

Official Welcome - All stand

All to be upstanding as the Royal Australian Navy Catafalque Party march in under command and mount the guard.

Master of Ceremonies Commodore Bob Trotter, OAM, RAN (Ret'd), FIE Aust.

Prayer of Remembrance - All stand

Spoken by ADF Chaplain Garry Hamersley

Official Messages

- The keynote address from Mrs Bridget Colless, daughter of Captain Joseph Burnett RAN
- A message from Commander Milton Treeby on behalf of the Chief of Navy
- A message from Wing Commander Des Mitting, Royal Australian Air Force, on behalf of the Chief of Air Force
- A message from past Chairman of the Finding Sydney Foundation Ted Graham AM
- A message from His Worship the Mayor of the City of Greater Geraldton Shane Van Styn

Hymn - Eternal Father, Strong to Save - All stand

Conducted and performed by the Royal Australian Navy Band Western Australia, under the musical direction of Chief Petty Officer Natalea Erskine and led by Leading Seaman Kristy Hicks

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to thee, for those in peril on the sea!

O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard and hushed their raging at thy word,
Who walked'st on the foaming deep, and calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to thee, for those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease, and give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to thee, for those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power! our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to thee, glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

The Unknown Serviceman - All sit

*Eulogy to the Unknown Soldier by Mr Paul Keating, Remembrance Day 1993,
HMAS Sydney version; read by Julian Canny, Australian youth of the Year 2016*

Laying of Wreaths - All sit

Master of Ceremonies announces the laying of the wreaths

HMAS Sydney II

75th Commemoration Service

The Naval Ode - All stand

Spoken by State President of the Naval Association Australia, Mr Ian Holthouse

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 (repeated by all present)

Lest we forget (repeated by all present)

The Last Post - All stand and hats removed

Spoken by State President of the Naval Association Australia Mr Ian Holthouse
Bugler, Leading Seaman Nigel Barrett

One minute silence

Naval Reveille - All stand

Bugler, Leading Seaman Nigel Barrett

Flag raised to mast head by TS Morrow Navy & 711 Squadron
Australian Air Force Cadets.

The Naval Prayer - All stand

Spoken by ADF Chaplain Garry Hamersley

O Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea; who has compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end: Be pleased to receive into the Almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us thy servants, and the Fleet in which we serve.

Preserve us from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our land may in peace and quietness serve thee God; and that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to praise and glorify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Warden Recognised - All sit

Master of Ceremonies Commodore Bob Trotter to acknowledge position of
HMAS Sydney II Memorial Warden Mr Don Rolston

HMAS Sydney II

75th Commemoration Service

National Anthem - All stand

Conducted and performed by the Royal Australian Navy Band Western Australia, under the musical direction of Chief Petty Officer Natalea Erskine and led by Leading Seaman Kristy Hicks

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.

Catafalque Party dismount - All stand

All to remain silent as the Royal Australian Navy Catafalque Party dismounts

Walk of Remembrance

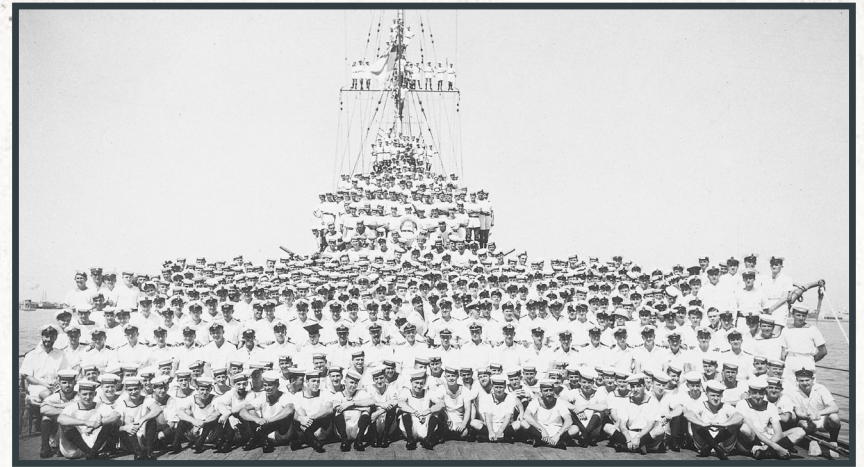
Master of Ceremonies invites any family members who wish to do so to place a floral tribute. Master of Ceremonies then invites members of public to place a floral tribute if they wish.

Sunset Ceremony

Performed by the TS Morrow Cadets.

Music by the Royal Australian Navy Band Western Australia

As a final tribute Geraldton Volunteer Marine Rescue will release a flare into the harbour as the sun goes down



*A group portrait of the 645-man crew of the HMAS Sydney II, taken in 1940
Courtesy of the Finding Sydney Foundation*

Acknowledgements

City of Greater Geraldton

Royal Australian Navy

Naval Association of Australia

WA detachment of the Royal Australian Navy Band

Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL)

The Rotary Club of Geraldton

TS Morrow Navy Cadets

711 Squadron Air Force Cadets

MC Commodore Bob Trotter, OAM,
RAN (Ret'd), FIE Aust.ADF

ADF Chaplain Garry Hamersley

Piper Tom Powell

Warden Don Rolston

Buswest TransGeraldton

Geraldton Voluntary Tour Guides

Geraldton Volunteer Sea and Rescue

State Emergency Services (SES)

West Coast Fireworks

The Geraldton Guardian

Midwest Times

For more information on the event visit

<http://www.cgg.wa.gov.au/hmas-sydney-75th-anniversary-commemorative-service.aspx>

Cover photo: Taken at Suda Bay, Crete, on 6 November 1940, courtesy of the Imperial War Museum