

## ***Sailors, Ships and Imperial Defence: the early Australian Naval Forces to 1922***

At the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Saturday 27 April 2013

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

#### **Saturday 27 April 2013**

8.00 – 9.00 am

**Doors Open**  
**Conference Registrations**

**RHSV Conference Entrance:** Corner A'Beckett and Willis Streets, Melbourne

#### **SESSION ONE |**

#### **An 'Imperial' Australian Navy**

9.00 - 9.02 am

**Welcome**  
Major-General Jim Barry, AM MBE RFD ED (Rtd)  
Patron, Military History and Heritage Victoria  
Welcome and introduction of Guest Speaker

9.03 am

**Opening address**  
Rear Admiral James Goldrick AM CSC RAN (Rtd)  
Fellow, Sea Power Centre - Australia

9.18 am

**Opening of the Conference**  
Colonel Marcus Fielding  
Conference Chair and President, MHHV Inc.  
Introduction of Keynote Speaker

9.20 – 10.00 am

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Paper:** "A Vision Splendid": the Australian Navy and Imperial Defence  
Dr David Stevens  
Director Strategic and Historical Studies,  
Sea Power Centre - Australia

10.00 -10.30 am

**Morning Tea**

#### **SESSION TWO |**

#### **First Watch**

**Session Chair:**

Captain Joseph Lukaitis, RANR  
Military History and Heritage Victoria

10.30 - 11.10 am

**Paper:** The Victorian Colonial Navy  
Mr John Rogers,  
President, Friends of the *Cerberus*

11.15 – 11.55 am

**Paper:** The Lower Deck  
Dr Kathryn Spurling  
School of History, Australian National University

## Sailors, Ships and Imperial Defence; the early Australian Naval Forces to 1922

12:00 – 12.40 pm

**Paper:** First Steps: Submarines and the Commonwealth 1905–1922.  
Dr Ronald Sulman (Commander RAN Rtd)  
Fellow, School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne

12.40 – 1.25 pm

Lunch at the MHHV /RHSV Exhibition –  
'Fear God and Honour the King: HMAS *Melbourne* 1912-1928'

### SESSION THREE |

### The Great War

**Session Chair:**

Commander John M Wilkins OAM RFD\* (Rtd)  
Navy League of Australia (Victorian Division)

1.30 – 2.10 pm

**Paper:** The Battle of Bita Paka and the Island Campaign of 1914  
Dr Ian Pfennigwerth (Captain RAN Rtd)

2.15 – 2.50 pm

**Paper:** A Tale of Two Cities: HMA Ships *Melbourne* and *Sydney* in the Great War  
Mr Andrew Kilsby, Author (with Greg Swinden) of 'The Forgotten Cruiser: HMAS *Melbourne* 1912-1928'

2.50 - 3.15 pm

Afternoon Tea

### SESSION FOUR |

### Sea Planes and Sea Lords

**Session Chair:**

Mr Rex Williams  
President, Naval Historical Society of Australia (Victoria)

3.15 – 3.50 pm

**Paper:** The Beginnings of Australian Naval Aviation  
Rear Admiral Neil Ralph AO DSC (RAN Rtd)

3.55 – 4.35 pm

**Paper:** Big Brother - the RAN/RN Relationship 1901-1922 (Federation to Washington Naval Conference)  
Commander Greg Swinden, RAN  
Deputy Director, Sea Power Centre - Australia

4.35 pm

**Close of Day**  
Colonel Marcus Fielding – Conference Chair