



Members' Newsletter

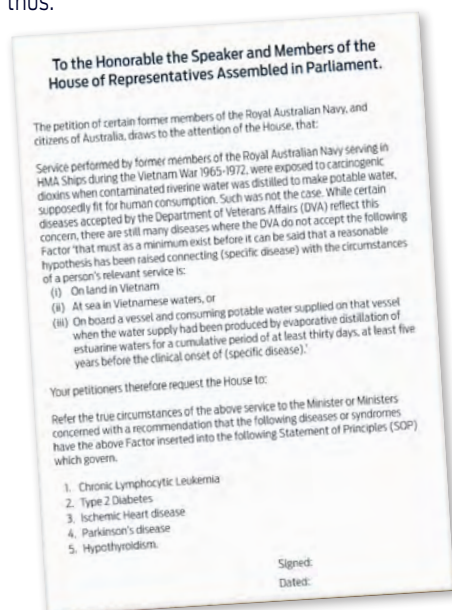
September 2019



PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES :

It has been suggested that a Petition to the House of Representatives be drawn up along the following lines to make Members of the House aware of certain problems our association is having getting the following Factor inserted into certain diseases which can be attributed to the consumption of potable water contaminated by defoliants, primarily Agent Orange.

The petition would need to be formulated thus:



To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Assembled in Parliament.

The petition of certain former members of the Royal Australian Navy, and citizens of Australia, draws to the attention of the House, that:

Service performed by former members of the Royal Australian Navy serving in HMA Ships during the Vietnam War 1965-1972, were exposed to carcinogenic dioxins when contaminated riverine water was distilled to make potable water, supposedly fit for human consumption. Such was not the case. While certain diseases accepted by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) reflect this concern, there are still many diseases where the DVA do not accept the following Factor 'that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting (specific disease) with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:

- (i) On land in Vietnam
- (ii) At sea in Vietnamese waters, or

- (iii) On board a vessel and consuming potable water supplied on that vessel when the water supply had been produced by evaporative distillation of estuarine waters for a cumulative period of at least thirty days, at least five years before the clinical onset of (specific disease).'

Your petitioners therefore request the House to:

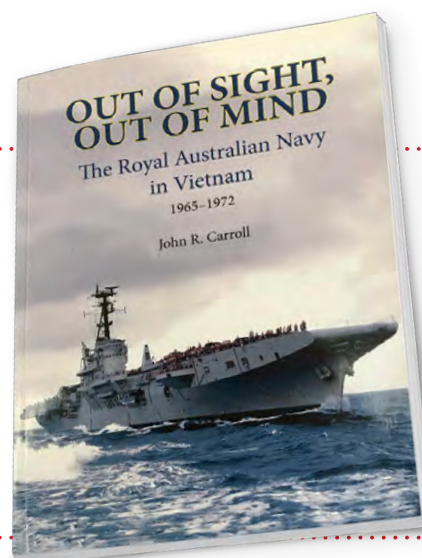
Refer the true circumstances of the above service to the Minister or Ministers concerned with a recommendation that the following diseases or syndromes have the above Factor inserted into the following Statement of Principles (SOP) which govern.

- 1. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
- 2. Type 2 Diabetes
- 3. Ischemic Heart disease
- 4. Parkinson's disease
- 5. Hypothyroidism.

OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND - SECOND EDITION

The second edition of Out of Sight, Out of Mind, the RAN in Vietnam 1965-1972 has been proof read (again) and edited where required. The publisher has since advised that he has sent the proof to the printer and, seeing that the book has been expanded somewhat, the retail cost to the average

consumer would be \$34-95c. Members could expect an author's discount of about 40%. In this instance, the royalties obtained from the sale of the book have been assigned, by the author, to the Shrine of Remembrance (SOR) Education Centre.



Visit our website www.hmassydney.com for helpful links & information

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SHIPP DIVISION PRESENTATIONS

Shipp Division Presentations have been carried out on a regular basis throughout the year thanks to the efforts of several association members. These include the ever-reliable Haydn Whitfield and Gary Taylor, and my Army compatriot, Rob Edgell, President of the Vietnam Veterans of Australia Education Team. I am always on the lookout for others who would like to assist in this very rewarding experience.

Shipp Division passing out parades are dedicated by class to those of us who served in Vietnam, insofar as one of the classes is named after HMAS Sydney 3. Your association presents a prize to the recruit who has achieved high academic attainment during their eleven weeks of recruit training. Members of the association are always welcome to attend.

Members would no doubt be moved by the untimely departure of Timothy Andrew Fischer (1946-2019), aged 73. A friend to all who served in Vietnam. Tim's parting gesture to this world was the revelation that he and his medical specialists suspect that his immune system was compromised by exposure to Agent Orange leading to the disease, acute myeloid leukemia. ABC News 22 August 2019 refers. Tim traveled home in Sydney February 1969.

Your Hon. Secretary, David Dwyer, has asked me to pass onto all members that 'Rabbits' can be obtained by email at davidgdwyer@hotmail.com, or by phone on 9720 8183 or 0423 675 146.



Gary Taylor, presenting the prize for academic attainment at Shipp Division Passing Out Parade. Summer 2019.

The 'Rabbit' store will be open at the AGM which is scheduled for 15 Sept. 2019, 1100 for 1130. Please make note of this important date and make every effort to attend.



The solid pine blanket box, based on the NS1 toolbox which was carted everywhere with us during our time in the RAN will be raffled at the AGM.

As a service to the Association I have made another solid pine blanket box, which is based on the NS1 toolbox which Bob Dutton and I had to cart everywhere with us during our time in the RAN. This will be raffled on the day. They have proven to be most popular over the years.

Keep well.

Sincerely
Dr John Carroll

UPCOMING EVENTS

Melbourne Cup Function,

Tuesday 5 November, from 1100,
\$20-00 per head. Children under 12
Free! At the Navy Club, 36 Barrett's Road
Langwarren.

**Commemoration Service for HMAS Sydney
2 and 3 at the Shrine of Remembrance,**
Sunday 17 November, 1130 for 1200.

Children's Christmas Party
Sunday 24 November,
at the Navy Club Langwarren.
Starting at 1200.



Visit our website www.hmassydney.com for helpful links & information