



# FEDERATION of NAVAL SHIP ASSOCIATIONS

New South Wales Australia.

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Dear Representatives of ALL FNSA Affiliated Member Associations,

I am well aware that our hard working Secretary, Ken Street, has issued much information concerning several Events which can affect us between now and Anzac Day 2009. In an attempt to reinforce Ken's information I will attempt to summarise and provide further detail on ALL FOUR (4) events which I hope will interest our YOUR Members. It would be sincerely appreciated if you could get this information out to you Members, either by email or snail mail as soon as possible. This will enable them;

- a. To be kept informed and,
- b. To elect to attend one or all of the events mentioned.

Details of Events are as follows;

**A. FLEET ENTRY- FLY PAST AND GG'S REVIEW ON FRIDAY 13 MARCH**

A brief summary of activities as follows:

- a. HMA Ships taking part in the following order. SYDNEY, NEWCASTLE, DARWIN, ANZAC, BALLARAT, STUART, HMNZS TE MANA, HMAS SUCCESS, MANOORA, KANIMBLA, 4 MINE HUNTERS AND SIRIUS.
- b. Ships will enter Sydney Harbour from 0715 and will come to anchor between 0800 – 0900 and prepare for Divisions.
- c. Fleet Commanders and Fleet Commodores Divisions complete by 09.40
- d. Admirals Barge collect Her Excellency The Governor-General at Kirribilli at 10.00
- e. 21 Gun Salute to Governor General at 10.01.
- f. 10.00-10.40 GG to Review the Fleet
- g. Flypast between 1010-1040.
- h. O/C approx 10.40 ALL ships up anchor and return alongside Fleet Base East

To enable Naval Veterans, Partners and families to view this Grand Event the FNSA has booked a cruise with Majestic Cruises. Details are;

- a. Cost \$22.00 per person (regret no child fare)
- b. Board at No 6 wharf Circular Quay (opposite end to Manly Ferry)
- c. Board between 0800 – 0830. **Definitely SAIL at 0830**
- d. Return alongside at 11.30
- e. Tea/Coffee available for free onboard. Beer/wine available at bar prices (TBD)
- f. Bookings: On line go to [www.majesticcruises.com.au](http://www.majesticcruises.com.au) then press special events then look for Fleet Entry Cruise and follow the prompts. **Telephone bookings via 82967222.**
- g. You will note on the same page a Luncheon Cruise is available however while you are FREE to take this Cruise it is supported by the FNSA, but is NOT being arranged by the FNSA.

- h. HMAS Perth and Naval Warfare Officers Assn are also arranging Cruises for their Members.

## **B. FREEDOM OF ENTRY INTO SYDNEY 10.00 – 11.30 SAT 14 MARCH 09**

To continue the Navy Theme from the previous day the Fleet Commander and Town Hall have arranged for a Freedom of Entry to take place between 10.00 – 11.30 on Saturday 14 March 09.

A brief summary of activities is as follows:

- a. Approximately 5,000 naval personnel will take part by marching up George St
- b. The Parade will “form up” in the Rocks by 09.15
- c. The Governor General will present the Gloucester Cup to HMAS Parramatta and the “Challenge” will take place in the Rocks approx 09.50.
- d. The head of the march will take place at the Town Hall at 10.25. The GG will take the Salute.
- e. The FOE Parade is expected to conclude passing Town Hall by 11.00 with the final dismissal area for all march participants at Darling Harbour.

To enable Naval Veterans to view this Parade from adjacent to the Town Hall, a “special area” has been designated for Veterans. It is hoped to obtain SOME seating however this cannot be guaranteed at this time. Members and Assns wishing to attend are requested to:

- a. Have a member or two bring their Banner for display. This will ensure our presence is acknowledged and add a further Naval flavour to the event.
- b. If you wish to attend and wish to be allotted a space in the designated area then ALL Assns are requested to advise numbers and provide names of attendees to our Secretary Ken Street or President Ken Swain on the email or telephone numbers shown above.
- c. Please note there are NO toilet facilities available at the Town Hall however these are available at the nearby Town Hall Station or across the Street at the Queen Victoria Building
- d. There will be NO cover. In the event of excessive heat or rain. A hat or raincoat respectively is recommended.

## **C. FNSA LUNCHEON AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE FROM NOON ON THU 23 APR 09**

As previously advised the Executive of the FNSA have arranged a Luncheon at Parliament House on Thu 23 April 09. ALL Members of affiliated Assns and their partners are welcomed to attend. To keep our (Ken Street's) workload down I hope ALL Member Assns will coordinate their own numbers of attendees and collect funds accordingly. Money and Names of attendees can then be forwarded to Ken Street at the address shown above. Brief details of this Luncheon are as follows:

- a. Luncheon to be held in the Strangers Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie St, City from Noon to approx 14.30 on 23 April 09
- b. Naval Veterans and partners/friends are welcome to attend. Simply liaise with your FNSA Rep to provide your Name/s and Money.
- c. Cost is \$60.00 per head for a two course Luncheon and includes a \$15.00 beer/wine/soft drink package.
- d. Dress is Lounge Suit or Jacket and Tie for Men. Partners, smart Day Dress
- e. A distinguished Guest Speaker and Parliamentary Host are being arranged.
- f. Parking for disable persons can be arranged.
- g. Tables are set for 10 so why not get your Assn or friends to book a table (or 2) by supporting your Association and perhaps seeing some old shipmates again.

## **D. ANZAC DAY MARCH 25 APRIL 09- NAVY ORDER OF MARCH**

As previously advised we “managed” to get RSL NSW to revert the 2008 Order of March to the traditional Order whereby Navy (in Toto) will now lead the march followed by Army then Air Force. I confidently expect our Naval March Leader, Rear Admiral “Guy” Griffiths AO DSO DSC RAN Rtd will “step off” around 0915. Based on last year's Navy numbers I expect WWII Naval Vets will

immediately follow Guy Griffiths and ALL remaining Navy Veterans and current ships and establishments personnel will immediately follow on. Hopefully you will ALL be heading off to your respective Reunions shortly after 10.00.

I would **STRONGLY** advise all WWII Veteran Assns to assemble in King St as per the attached Order of March Plan by 0900 for a “step off” time of approx 0915. Assns assembling in **Castlereagh St North** (units 14 thru 26- see attached Plan) should assemble no later than 0915 for an expected “step off” of 0930. Assns assembling in **Castlereagh St South** (units 27 thru 53 see attached plan) should assemble by 0930 for an expected “step off” time of 0945 or slightly earlier!!!

This year our Hon Secretary Ken Street has been selected by the ABC to be the Naval Broadcaster. To ensure he has ALL the information he requires for this broadcast (and to ensure your Assn gets a mention) I implore the FNSA Reps or Secretaries of each and every Ship Assn to provide to Ken the name of your March Leader (with a brief BOI) and a brief BOI of your Assn i.e. Battle Honours, Theatres served and any interesting facts about your ship or Assn. This info can be forwarded to Ken at the email or snail mail address as shown above.

It took your FNSA Executive many months to turn the overall Order of March back to the traditional March Order of Navy, Army, and Air. This year I look forward to Navy marching smartly and “close up” and for Ken Street to give us a good burst on the ABC and for us all to be proud to be leading the Anzac March again.

**Finally and again, it will be sincerely appreciated if you could disseminate this information to ALL Members of your individual Associations**

**Best Wishes**

**Ken Swain AM  
President  
Federation of Naval Ship Assns**