CALL THE HANDS

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Royal Australian Navy Ships Honour Roll

Given the 75th anniversary commemoration events taking place around Australia and overseas in 2017 to honour ships lost in the RAN's darkest year, 1942 it is timely to reproduce the full list of Royal Australian Navy vessels lost since 1914.

The table below was prepared by the Directorate of Strategic and Historical Studies in the RAN's Sea Power Centre, Canberra lists 31 vessels lost along with a total of 1,736 lives.

Vessel (* Denotes ship taken up from trade. Only ships appearing on the Navy Lists as commissioned vessels are included.)	Date sunk	Casualties (Ships lost with casualties highlighted)	Location	Comments	NAP/CPB
HMA Submarine *AE1*	14-Sep-14	35	Vicinity of Blanche Bay, New Guinea	Disappeared following a patrol near Cape Gazelle, New Guinea. Thought to have struck a coral reef near the mouth of Blanche Bay while submerged.	
HMA Submarine *AE2*	30-Apr-15	0	Sea of Marmara, Turkey	Scuttled after action against Turkish torpedo boat. All crew became POWs, four died in captivity. Wreck located in June 1998.	
HMAS *Goorangai**	20-Nov-40	24	Port Phillip Bay	Collided with MV *Duntroon.* No survivors.	
HMAS *Waterhen*	30-Jun-41	0	Off Sollum, Egypt	Damaged by German aircraft 29 June 1941. Sank early the next morning.	
HMAS *Sydney (II)*	19-Nov-41	645	207 km from Steep Point WA, Indian Ocean	Sunk with all hands following action against HSK *Kormoran.* Located 16-Mar-08.	
HMAS *Parramatta (II)*	27-Nov-41	138	Approximately 25 miles north of Bardia, Libya	Sunk by German submarine. 24 survivors.	
HMAS *Perth*	01-Mar-42	353	Sunda Strait	Sunk by Japanese naval forces in the Sunda Strait. 328 survivors, 4 died after making landfall. 106 died in captivity. The remainder, 218, were repatriated during or after the War. Wreck found in 1967 by David Burchell.	
HMAS *Yarra (II)*	04-Mar-42	138	South of Java	Sunk by Japanese forces. 13 survivors.	

HMAS Vampire	09-Apr-42	9	Vicinity of Batticaloa, Ceylon (Sri Lanka)	Sunk by Japanese aircraft. 122 survivors.	
HMAS Kuttabul*	01-Jun-42	21	Sydney Harbour	Torpedoed by Japanese midget sub in Sydney Harbour	
HMAS Nestor	16-Jun-42	4	Mediterranean Sea, between Crete and Libya	Damaged by enemy air attack, straddled by 2 heavy bombs, 15 June 1942 causing serious damage to her boiler rooms. Taken in tow by HMS Javelin, scuttled the next morning. 245 survivors.	
HMAS Nereus*	02-Jul-42	0	Sydney Harbour	Destroyed by fire.	CPB
HMAS Canberra	09-Aug-42	193	Vicinity of Savo Island	Scuttled following action against Japanese forces in the Battle of Savo Island. 612 survivors. Wreck found by Robert Ballard in 1992.	
HMAS Voyager	25-Sep-42	0	Betano Bay, Timor	Ran aground at Betano Bay, Timor 24 September 1942. Destroyed by demolition charges the next day.	
HMAS Armidale	01-Dec-42	40	Vicinity of Timor	Sunk by Japanese aircraft en route to Timor with Netherlands East Indies evacuees. 43 survivors. In addition to the 40 Australian casualties, 60 NEI casualties.	
HMAS Patricia Cam*	22-Jan-43	8 including 3 civilians	Near Wessel Island, N.T.	Sunk by Japanese aircraft while carrying 6 passengers. Of the 17 survivors, 1, a civilian, was taken captive by the Japanese and later executed.	
HMAS Adele*	07-May-43	0	Port Kembla	Wrecked by storm.	
HMAS Wallaroo	11-Jun-43	3	Near Fremantle	Collided with US Liberty Ship Henry Gilbert Costin. 82 survivors.	
HMAS Silver Cloud*	12-Jul-43	0	Sydney Harbour	Damaged by fire and declared for disposal. Purchased by Halvorsen and Sons and repaired.	
HMAS Matafele*	20-Jun-44	37 including 13 Pacific Island seamen	Presumed south coast of Papua	Disappeared en route Townsville to Milne Bay. Presumed foundered sometime on 20 June 1944.	
HMAS ML430	13-Aug-44	0	North of Biak, New Guinea	Sunk by friendly fire from ML819.	
HMAS Geelong	18-Oct-44	0	North of Langemak, New Guinea	Sank after collision with US tanker York. All crew rescued by York.	
HMAS Marlean*	12-Nov-44	0	Sydney Harbour	Destroyed by fire.	NAP/CPB
HMAS ML827	20-Nov-44	0	Off New Britain Island	Ran aground in Rondahl Harbour, east of Waterfall Bay, New Britain on 17 November 1944. Refloated 3 days later but capsized under tow 20 November.	

HMAS *Steady Hour**	03-Mar-45	0	Melville Bay, NT	Destroyed by fire.	NAP/CPB
HMAS *Terka**	26-Mar-45	0	Madang Harbour	Foundered for no apparent reason in Madang Harbour.	
HMAS *Watcher**	14-May-45	0	Hervey Reef	Wrecked on Hervey Reef NE of Thursday Island.	
HMAS *Lolita**	13-Jun-45	2	Madang, New Guinea	Wrecked after engine room explosion and fire.	NAP/CPB
HMAS *Warrnambool*	13-Sep-47	4	Cockburn Reef, Qld	Struck a mine while conducting mine clearance work. Classed as a war loss. Wreck location known.	
HMAS Tarakan	25-Jan -50	8 Including one dockyard tradesman	Garden Island, Sydney	Extensively damaged by explosion aft under mess decks. Did not return to sea service and decommissioned 12 March 1954	
HMAS Woomera	11-Oct-60	2	Off New South Wales Coast	Sank after an explosion and fire during ammunition dumping operations.	
HMAS *Voyager* (II)	10-Feb-64	82	Off Jervis Bay	Collided with HMAS *Melbourne*.	
HMAS Arrow	25 Dec 74	2	Darwin Harbour	Driven ashore and sank under Stokes Hill Wharf during Cyclone Tracey	
HMAS Bundaberg (II)	11-Aug-14	0	Aluminium Boats Australia, Yard, Brisbane	Destroyed by fire triggered by welding activity.	

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