
The Official Launch of the RSV Nuyina
&
the ANARE Club's Presentation of the Ship's Bell

The Official Launch of the RSV Nuyina hosted by Honourable Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment, was held in the Port of Hobart's Macquarie Wharf 02 Building, adjacent to the moored RSV Nuyina, on Saturday 18 December 2021 commencing at 9.30 am, before a crowd of approximately 150 invited guests.

Distinguished guests included; The Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Mrs Hurley; The Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency The Honourable Barbara Baker AC, and Professor Emeritus Don Chalmers; The Honorable Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia and Mrs Morrison; The Premier of Tasmania, The Honourable Peter Gutwein MP; The ANARE Club President, Major George Friend OAM; Antarctic Expeditioner , Dr Virginia Andrews-Goff and the Director, AAD, Mr Kim Ellis.

Also attending were the Ambassadors of Antarctic nations, including the Ambassadors of Romania and the Netherlands, the two countries associated with the Nuyina's construction. Representatives from Serco, AAD staff and students from St Virgil's College Hobart who were one of the Schools which suggested the name of the Ship accepted by the Judging Panel. The other school, Secret Harbour Primary School near Perth, Western Australia, was unable to attend due to Covid travel restrictions.

Following a Welcome to Country delivered by Dewayne Everettsmith from the Tasmania Aboriginal Centre, speeches were delivered by the Distinguished Guests listed above, each referring to the recent tragic events at a Devonport Primary School.

The highlight of the occasion was undoubtedly the presentation of the ship's Bell by the Club President George Friend, which was draped with the Club's 70th Anniversary flag and unveiled by the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP. The Prime Minister was invited to ring the Bell, which was immediately answered to the delight of the guests, by a blast from the Ship's horn alongside.

The transcript of the President's Speech is recorded here for members to read;

On behalf of the ANARE Club, I wish to extend our deepest sympathies to the Families of Devonport.

Dwayne, many thanks for a truly beautiful Welcome to Country

***Your Excellencies General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia***

And Mrs. Hurley.

*Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC,
Governor of Tasmania.*

And Professor Emeritus Don Chalmers.

*The Honorable Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia
And Mrs Morrison.*

The Honorable Sussan Ley, MP Minister for the Environment.

The Honourable Peter Gutwein, MP Premier of Tasmania.

Mr Kim Ellis, Director, Australian Antarctic Division.

*Distinguished Guests, AAD Staff, Antarctic Friends
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Boys and Girls: Good Morning!*

It is my honour, privilege, and pleasant duty this morning as President of the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) Club to present, in front of such distinguished company and friends, the Ship's bell to Australia's new state of the Art Icebreaker RSV Nuyina.

In a few minutes I will invite the Prime Minister to formally unveil the Bell and as tradition demands, to ring in the hour of 10 O'clock (oo oo) "Four bells"

The ANARE Club celebrates the 70th anniversary of its founding this year and represents all Expeditioners, men, and women, who have served at our Research Stations. Firstly, at Sub Antarctic Heard Island, established in 1947 and at Macquarie Island in March 1948. Then at our Nation's first continental base established at Mawson in 1954, followed by Davis in 1957 and Casey in 1969. Membership includes our 101-year-old member who served at Macquarie Island in 1949 and Mawson in 1954.

I should mention that the Bell is a true piece of Australia, cast in Maryborough, Queensland by W. Olds, and Sons; Engraved in Bendigo Victoria by National Engraving, with the Bell Lanyard being made by a Club member here in Tasmania, Dr Barbara Frankel.

The Club was also represented on the Judging Panel which selected the name of the Ship. Nuyina meaning 'Southern Lights', in palawa kani, the language of Tasmanian Aborigines, a name which traces back to its use by previous Antarctic ships, Aurora Australis, and Mawson's Aurora.

Students representing one of the two Schools, who jointly proposed the name of the Ship Nuyina: St Virgils College in Hobart are present here this morning. The other School, Secret Harbour Primary School, near Perth in Western Australia, were not able to be present.

*Besides the presentation of the Bell, the Club is presenting to the two Nuyina Captains, Ceremonial Whistles and two ANARE Flags, to be flown on suitable occasions: the historic Green and Gold Pennant designed by the late Dr Phillip Law & his wife Nel, and the Club's 70th Anniversary Flag, as well as Books for the Ship's Library and a Commissioning Plaque to accompany this, Bell. **So we really are giving all the "bells and whistles!"***

It is our privilege to present the Bell to the Nuyina; as she ushers in a new era of research and discovery throughout Australian Antarctic Territory, as part of Australia's Antarctic Program and in its 75th Anniversary next year.

The Club will continue to support Antarctic Division, as it reinforces Australia's presence in maintaining this pristine wilderness, for all Mankind and in our Nation's interests.

On behalf of a very proud ANARE Club, it's an honour to assist in the preservation, maintenance of Australia's Antarctic heritage, history & maritime tradition in presenting the ships bell to the magnificent RSV Nuyina.

Mr Prime Minister, I now invite you to unveil the Nuyina's Bell.

Acclamation

During the Reception which followed, guests expressed keen interest in the Bell, which became the centre piece of the exhibits and President George was able to host the Governor General and other dignitaries in showing the Bell and the other presentations being made by the Club to the Captains of the Ship (who regrettable were unable to attend due to COVID restrictions).

The occasion and the presentation was historic honour and recognition of the work of the Club on behalf of its Members and special thanks are due to the Council's Project Group led by Vice President, David Dodd, the Queensland Branch Secretary, Trevor Luff for his engineering prowess in designing the stainless steel fixing bracket for the Bell; our Tasmanian Members, especially Dr Barbara Frankel for her presentation of the Bell Lanyard, Jan Adolph and Dr Des Lugg and the support from the Qld Branch Committee. National Council members, Mr Trevor Cowell (TAS) and Mr Ron Hann (SA) also attended.

A tribute to the makers of the Bell, Peter and Robert Olds of Maryborough, Queensland and to the engraver, Brendan Currie, of National Engraving, Bendigo, Victoria, are engraved on a Brass plaque recording the event, to be placed under the Bell following its installation on the Bridge of the Nuyina.

We understand that the RSV Nuyina will be on display during the 2022 Antarctic Festival in Hobart during August 2022. The Club will have a booth at the Festival and we hope that Club Members will take the opportunity to attend. The year 2022, will also be the 75th Anniversary of ANARE, now known as the Australian Antarctic Division responsible for today's Australian Antarctic Program. The Club will be involved in this milestone event and again proposes to present to the Nation, another historic Bell from the LST 3501(aka HMAS

Labuan), the ship which established Heard Island in December 1947 and Macquarie Island in 1948.

I take this opportunity on behalf of the Club's National Council of wishing all our Members and their families, a safe and Covid free Christmas and New Year.

George Friend

President

ANARE CLUB Inc.

22 December 2021