

MEDIA RELEASE 24 May 2014

CELEBRATING SUB CULTURE: CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY ON 100 YEARS OF SUBMARINE SERVICE

The Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA) congratulates the Royal Australian Navy on its celebration of 100 years since the arrival of Australia's first submarines, AE1 and AE2, in Sydney Harbour on 24 May 1914.

AE1 and AE2 have proudly made their mark in RAN history. Within five months of arriving in Sydney both submarines were deployed on wartime patrols off German New Guinea, highlighting the critical role of submarines in the defence of Australia. AE2 further distinguished herself in 1915 supporting the Gallipoli campaign and created history when she was the first submarine to penetrate the Dardanelles Strait.

SIA acknowledges the lives lost, and the dedication of the men and women who have served in submarines in defence of Australia.

"Their dedication and devotion, at times in the face of seemingly insurmountable challenges, is a testament to the unique character of Australians and something that we can take great pride in," said Peter Horobin, SIA president and former submarine commanding officer

"The vital role and contribution of submarines and submariners to Australia's defence over the last century cannot be underestimated.

"It is important we recognise this and back continued investment in submarines for the next 100 years, given the shifting geo-political environment in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We support the government's commitment to building 12 highly capable, long range submarines, which will provide strategic capability to aid Australia's future security and prosperity."

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About the Submarine Institute of Australia

The Submarine Institute of Australia is the nation's premier organisation for the promotion of submarine matters and is dedicated to strengthening relationships between government and industry, and with submariners past and present.

www.submarineinstitute.com