

FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE CITY CEREMONY



**GRANTING OF FREEDOM OF ENTRY
TO THE CITY OF MARYBOROUGH
TO SHIP'S COMPANY
HMAS MARYBOROUGH (II)
&
75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LAUNCH OF
HMAS MARYBOROUGH (I)**

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2015

HMAS MARYBOROUGH (II)

HMAS Maryborough (II) and her 12 sister ACPBs are Navy's principal contribution to the nation's fisheries protection, immigration, customs and drug law enforcement operations. The vessels work hand-in-hand with other Government agencies and each year they provide up to 3500 patrol days as part of the Coastwatch-managed national surveillance effort. In the event of war they would be tasked to control the waters close to the Australian mainland.

Armidale Class Patrol Boats are highly capable and versatile warships which are able to conduct a wide variety of missions and tasks. One of our primary duties is our contribution to the 'Civil Surveillance Program'. Surveillance and Boarding operations conducted by the Royal Australian Navy safeguard Australia's sovereignty and significantly contribute to the security of our nation. Our operations protect against unauthorized entry, breaches of customs, immigration and drugs legislation, other illegal activity and in support of law enforcement, preserve the integrity of our national fish-stocks, our marine environment and other natural resources.

HMAS Maryborough (II) has a range of 3000 nautical miles at 12 knots and a maximum speed of about 25 knots. It is equipped with high-definition navigational radar, high and ultra high frequency communications equipment, gyro compasses and echo sounder. Maryborough (II) is also fitted with a satellite navigation system that enables the ship's position to be determined with great accuracy.



FREEDOM OF ENTRY

During mediaeval times, in Continental Europe and the British Isles, fortress walls afforded cities protection from incursions by outlaw bands and attacks by feudal lords. The citizens of those walled cities wisely refused to allow entry to armed groups, including troops, unless they were absolutely sure that those arms would not be used against them. Bitter experience had taught them that armed men were, as often as not, neither respecters of persons or property and that they were liable to take any and every opportunity to plunder both.

As cities and towns were invariably situated on main roads and at principal road junctions, denial of entry imposed great hardship on troops 'on the march'. Food and arms could not be replenished and it became necessary to take long detours over difficult terrain to reach a given destination or objective. Troops soon saw the merit in establishing good relations with the Corporations and citizens of walled cities and by good conduct earned the privilege of entry and passage. This privilege, not readily won and highly prized, was known as Freedom of Entry.

Hence the granting of permission to a formed body of armed men to enter a city became the mark of trust and confidence in which that body was held by its citizens.

In the case of the Navy, Freedom of the City was more usually conferred in recognition of the defence of sea port cities and towns, however, as many vessels in the contemporary RAN fleet carry the names of land-locked centres, so the honour has been extended to include a number of them.

The action of a city conferring upon an armed Service or individual Unit, 'Freedom of Entry with Swords Drawn, Bayonets Fixed, Drums Beating, Bands Playing and Colours Flying' is the highest Honour the city can bestow upon the Services or Unit. While the granting of 'Freedom of Entry' gives no real rights or privileges to the Service or Unit, it is nonetheless a recognition of outstanding achievement and an Honour granted not by a person, or even a group of persons, but by a Corporate Body, namely the city itself.



EXERCISING THE RIGHT OF THE FREEDOM OF ENTRY

10.30AM - SCROLL SIGNING CEREMONY, WALKERS SHIPYARD MEMORIAL

As is tradition, the Ship's Company of the HMAS Maryborough will now carry out the Ceremony of "Exercising the Right of Freedom of Entry"

11.00 AM - FREEDOM OF ENTRY, QUEENS PARK

The Ship's Company HMAS Maryborough will march from Queens Park onto Sussex Street and proceed towards the War Memorial.

THE CHALLENGE

The Ship's Company HMAS Maryborough will be challenged by Acting Inspector Kevin Thomson, acting in the capacity of Town Marshall, in front of the Duncan Chapman Statue on Sussex Street.

Inspector: *"Halt! Who goes there?
Identify yourselves and state by what right you enter
and use the City of Maryborough."*

RESPONSE

"The Ship's Company HMAS Maryborough exercising it's right and privilege to pass through the City of Maryborough with swords drawn, drums beating, band playing and colours flying."

Inspector: *"Prove to me this Right and Privilege!"*

"Your right and privilege so to do is acknowledged. Pass HMAS Maryborough with the authority of the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the City of Maryborough."

The march will continue along Sussex Street passing the War Memorial and into Bazaar Street, turning right into Kent Street

Commodore Peter Laver RAN, and Mayor Gerard O'Connell will take the salute from the Ship's Company of HMAS Maryborough on the steps of City Hall.

The march will return to Queens Park via Lennox Street.

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAUNCH OF HMAS MARYBOROUGH

Conducted by RSLA (Queensland Branch) Maryborough Sub-Branch Inc.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE HMAS MARYBOROUGH

Maryborough War Memorial

11.45AM

Welcome: Mr Bob Evans, President, Maryborough Sub Branch

Introduction of Officiating Minister

Prayer of Thanks Giving

Prayer for the Queen

Prayer for the Nation

Address: Commodore Peter Laver RAN, representing the Chief of Navy

Address: Mr John Shelford, Depot Manager Downer (formerly Walkers)

Address: Mr Darryl Beitsch, on behalf of the HMAS Maryborough Family

Wreath Laying (*Piper - 'The Lament'*)

The "Last Post" Bugler - Royal Australian Navy

The Ode Lieutenant Thomas Mobbs, RAN

One Minutes Silence

"Reveille" Bugler - Royal Australian Navy

Benediction Minister

Australian National Anthem Royal Australian Navy Band

Close of Service Mr. Bob Evans

On conclusion of the 75th Anniversary Service, the gathering will be handed over to the Mayor Mr Gerard O'Connell.

Please stay with us for the cutting of the Freedom of Entry cake, and enjoy the BBQ in the Park being catered for by Lions Club of Maryborough.

HMAS MARYBOROUGH (I)

HMAS Maryborough was one of sixty Australian Minesweepers (commonly known as corvettes) built during World War II in Australian shipyards as part of the Commonwealth Government's wartime shipbuilding programme.

Maryborough commissioned at Maryborough on 12 June 1941 under the command of Lieutenant-Commander Glen L. Cant, RAN.

Maryborough, after a brief period of service on the east coast of Australia, proceeded in November 1941 to Singapore. There on 28 November she became a unit of the 21st Minesweeping Flotilla. Following the outbreak of the Pacific War, Maryborough with six of her sister ships played a notable part in the Malayan-Java-Sumatran operations ending on 2 March 1942, when she departed Tjilatjap for Fremantle.

The period of March to November 1942 was spent on escort and patrol duties in Western Australian waters based on Fremantle. It was an uneventful period. During April 1942 Maryborough took the submarine USS Sea Raven in tow and brought her to Fremantle. On 3 November 1942 Maryborough departed Fremantle for Diego Garcia en route to join the Eastern Fleet. The following four months were spent escorting shipping from Colombo to Bombay and to the Persian Gulf.

In May 1943 Maryborough entered the Mediterranean. Five months were spent in this theatre on convoy, escort and anti-submarine patrol, including the operations for the Sicily landings.

In November 1943 *Maryborough* returned to the Indian Ocean and resumed her convoy escort duties. After a year of these activities she returned to Fremantle on 3 December 1944 after more than two years of overseas service.

Three and a half months in Australian waters had elapsed when on 16 March 1945 she departed Sydney for Seeadler Harbour. *Maryborough* spent the remaining months of the war on patrol in Australian and New Guinea. On 15 August 1945 ('VJ' Day) *Maryborough* was en route from Milne Bay to Seeadler.

The remainder of her active service with the RAN was spent as a unit of the 21st Minesweeping Flotilla based on Hong Kong. In December 1945 she finally returned to Australia and was paid off for disposal. She was sold to Australian General Trading and Shipping Syndicate, Sydney (Comino Bros Pty Ltd) on 9 May 1947 and renamed *Isobel Queen*. She was resold to Carr Enterprises Ltd, Sydney, in 1953 for breaking up.



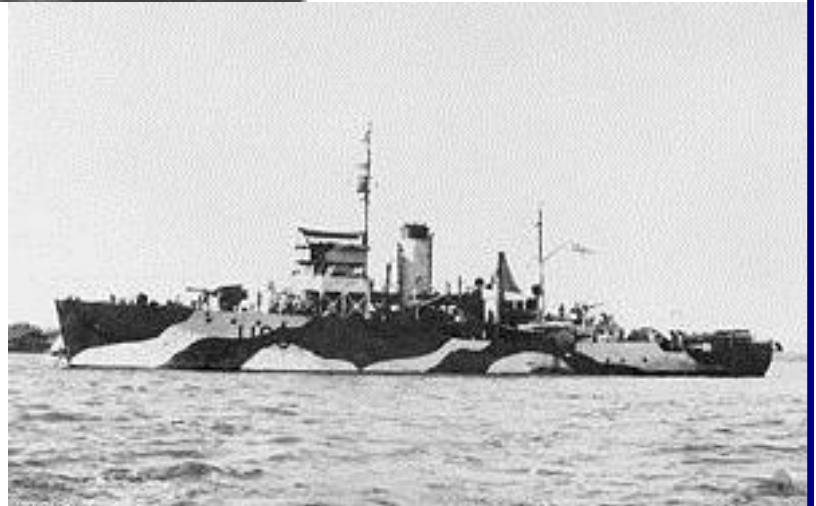
Maryborough on the slip in her namesake town, Maryborough, Queensland, on the occasion of her launching 17 October 1940

Maryborough sliding down the slipway with bunting flying as workers look on.



Lieutenant-Commander G.L. Cant, RAN with his ship's company in Alexandria 1943. Note the disruptive pattern camouflage.

Maryborough wearing her wartime paint scheme and pennant number - J195



THE CREW

HMAS MARYBOROUGH

COMMANDING OFFICER

LEUT THOMAS MOBBS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LEUT PETER ASIMAKIS

CREW

LEUT SCOTT GIDLEY

CPO CRAIG HOOKER

POB SHANNON SCHONEWILLE

LS KRISTIAN MITCHELL

LS BILLY PLANT

LS TERANGA JONES

AB ADAM MCCLELLAN

AB NICHOLAS HARDING

AB KIRSTY COOPER

AB CHRISTOPHER WARNES

SMN AARON JAMES

SMN HAYDEN REID