

[10/10/01 President's Report by John Carlyon](#)

The members and partners who were fortunate to be in Sydney for Naval Congress and other fixtures have said it was worthwhile. Wednesday 3rd: The Commemorative Service at the Cenotaph Martin Place, Sailors from Royal Australian Navy, representatives from the Royal Singapore Navy, Royal Thailand Navy, Indian Navy, Chinese Navy and many ex-Navy Associations were present. On behalf of the FESR Association, I laid a wreath. The Service was very moving; Royal Australian Navy Band and Sydney Area Standing Guard provided music and Ceremonial Support. Next time any of our shipmates are in Sydney, don't miss the experience of having a drink or two at the Pyrmont Hotel. Friday 5th: The Congress, this was well attended and the Association had plenty of support. A number of submissions were far from being constructive and some wanted to push their own barrow, some bordering on political. Lets hope Admiral Rod Taylor RAN (Rtd) gets the analysis and recommendation right. A further note regarding the Congress it was not a place to air personal grievances about the result of the Mohr Review to yours truly and from non-members of the Association and you can guess the branch they came from. They had their chance to present their case but chose to sit on their butts and let others do the hard yards. Sunday 7th: The Church Services filled to capacity both Cathedrals once again, two very moving Services. I feel that it would have been more appropriate to have a non-denominational service in the Domain or Hyde Park where we could have celebrated together.

John Carlyon