

[09/07/01 FESR Media Release Update](#)

QUEENSLAND TO RECOGNIZE NAVY SERVICE IN MALAYA

An initiative of the Bundamba Anzac Observance Committee will see the service of Royal Australian Navy personnel and the warships in which they served recognized for tours of duty in the Far East Strategic Reserve during the Malaysian confrontation. This official recognition, the first in Australia, will take place in Bundamba Memorial Park on the Brisbane Rd at Bundamba, Sunday 29th July at 1030am, where a special plaque will be unveiled and dedicated on the plinth of the port anchor of HMAS Stuart, an established memorial within the park.

Far East Strategic Reserve Association Life Member Noel Payne in company with National President John Carlyon will deliver the keynote address and unveil the plaque for dedication before a large contingent of FESR veterans, Naval Association members, and representatives of Service and Community groups. FESR National President John Carlyon said "This event will be a significant and emotional one for members of the FESR and their families and we commend the initiative of the people of Bundamba who have created history with the first memorial to our service to be established in Australia".

Senior Port Chaplin The Reverend Father Bill Pearson will conduct the service, which includes significant community involvement by Ipswich Girls Grammar who will provide a 20-strong chorale under Grammar Musical Director Katherine Rixon.

Year 10 students Alexis Peters (A Naval Cadet) and Jessica Malcolm will also feature in the program and present the Naval Prayer.

The RAN will provide the Queensland RAN Reserve band and a catafalque party for the memorial, a dedication service that includes a naval salute with cannon and a lone piper to present the lament. Airborne salutes are also expected from a number of Military aircraft as they overfly the memorial site.

Officers representing Navy, Army, and Air force establishments in Qld, Federal and State Politicians, Local Councillors and representatives from the Salvation Army and community groups will attend the commemorative service. One of Australia's living treasures World War 1 veterans Eric Abraham will also attend as special guest of the Far East Strategic Reserve Association.

For Bundamba Anzac Observance Committee member Steve Donovan, a key planner for this occasion, the event has special significance as his late father Barry served in the FESR but passed away before his service was recognised by the Federal Government.