



Australian American Association [Queensland Div] Brisbane.
Newsletter Photos Supplementary Edition 28-C

83rd Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea Commemoration Service held on Saturday 3rd May 2025.

**Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young
AC PSM, Governor of Queensland**



Arrival at the Battle of the Coral Sea Service were - Brisbane City Councillor Julia Dixon of Hamilton Ward, and the Hon Tim Nicholls MP State Member for Clayfield and Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, and Australian American Association Life Member.

Prior to the commencement of the service, the Hon Tim Nicholls MP unveiled a Memorial Lectern made by the Blackbutt Woodworking Group Association, which has the words - "Battle of the Coral Sea" inscribed on its front. A Plaque is also fixed in remembrance of two US Navy Aircrew who were lost from the US Navy USS Pensacola, prior to its arrival in the Brisbane River on 22nd December 1941.

The two-aircrew lost were - Ensign Robert F. Rogers A-V (N) United States Naval Reserve, and RM1c Glen Dwayne Saxton, United States Navy Service.



The Hon Tim Nicholls MP unveiling the Memorial Lectern.



The Hon Tim Nicholls MP shaking hands with Australian American Association Special Projects Officer Peter Rasey, who organized the making of the Memorial Lectern.



Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, being met by Representatives of the Australian American Association [Queensland Division] Brisbane, on her arrival at the the Battle of the Coral Sea Commemoration Service.



The Governor shaking hands with First Vice President Tony Chau and President Mike Harris.



The Governor shaking hands with Members Jill McKeon, Brien Doyle, Rob McLear and Treasurer Teresa Pokoj



From left - First Vice President Tony Chau, Member Jill McKeon, the Governor, Treasurer Teresa Pokoj and President Mike Harris.



The Governor being escorted to the Australian American War Memorial.



All standing as the Governor's Party approaches the Australian American War Memorial.



Drummers of RAN Band Qld, HMAS Moreton.



The RAN Cataphault Party marching towards the Australian American War Memorial.



RAN Cataphalque Party mounting the Australian American War Memorial.





RAN Catafalque Party standing guard at the Australian American War Memorial.





Johnny Greenwood singing "Jack Hagan" which incorporated "The Road to Gundagai".



Bernadette Gill singing "I Am Australian".





**Arrival of the Hon Ishikawa Katsutoshi
Consul General of Japan and his wife
Mayumi,**



**The Hon Ishikawa Katsutoshi Consul
General of Japan and his wife Mayumi,
with Association President Mike Harris
and Former Senator the Hon Santo
Santoro, MC of the Memorial Service.**



**Arrival of The Hon Reatau Rau - Consul
General of Papua New Guinea with his
wife and daughter.**





Many Beautiful wreaths laid at the base of the Australian American War Memorial.



103 year old Veteran RAN Sailor Bill White, who served on HMAS Hobart during the Battle of the Coral Sea, standing with the Governor of Queensland and other dignitaries, for the group photo.



From left – Alan Chan, Lewis Lee OAM and Kasper Keiper.



103 year old Veteran RAN Sailor Bill White, who served on HMAS Hobart during the Battle of the Coral Sea, with his family and friends.



103-year-old Veteran RAN Sailor Bill White, with the Hon Christine Elder US Consul General and Captain Sean Lewis representative of the Commander of the US Navy 7th Fleet.



Association Member Dr Wes Jordan standing at the base OF THE Australian American War Memorial.



Inscription on the Brass Plaque fixed to the base of the War Memorial reads:

“THIS PLAQUE COMMEMORATES 200 YEARS OF AUSTRALIAN AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP IN PEACE AND IN WAR. MAY THE NEXT 200 YEARS BRING ONLY PEACE”.



The Australian American Association’s display of 20 large photographic signs, that have been created by Mr Paul Johnson, which illustrate in timely order, key moments of the Battle of the Coral Sea. The progress of this epic battle can be followed from Sign 1 to Sign 20 as presented on the A-Frames.





Beautiful Newstead Park - with the Australian American War Memorial standing majestically at the left of the picture. Breakfast Creek can be seen directly above, flowing into the Brisbane River, at far left. Historic Newstead House sits impressively on the hill.

2020 to 2025 Battle of the Coral Sea - Event Organizers

*Mike Harris (President) & Teresa Pokoj (Treasurer & Assistant Secretary),
Board of Directors and Life Members of the Australian American
Association, Queensland Division, Brisbane.*

2023 to 2025 Battle of the Coral Sea - Event Master of Ceremony

*The Honourable Santo Santoro - Former Senator and Life Member of the
Australian American Association, Queensland Division, Brisbane.*



*The Australian American Relationship is linked across both sides
of the Pacific Ocean, with a common heritage and
many countless and cherished ties.*

We also remember those who paid the price for our freedom.

Lest we forget.

