

NEWS

Gang plank to memories



ELIAS JAHSHAN

THE historic visit of cruise ships Queen Mary 2 and Queen Elizabeth on Sydney Harbour last week brought back memories for Asquith World War II veteran Mervyn Blyth.

The 92-year-old was one of 5000 soldiers on board the original Queen Mary when it left Sydney, bound for Singapore, in 1941.

The visit of the cruise ships last week was just a month shy of the 70th anniversary of when the original Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, both converted troopships, met in Sydney on April 9, 1941.

Mr Blyth was among a number of WWII veterans invited on board Queen Mary 2 on Wednesday last week for a remembrance service dedicated to the soldiers who left for war on both troopships.

"It's a day I'll never forget," he said of the service.

"When I walked up that gang plank, it brought back a lot of powerful memories."

Some of those memories include winning a Queen Mary plaque during a raffle, which he still has today, and watching a boxing tournament.

"One of our fellas won the championships. His name was Jeff Darlington," Mr Blyth said.



Mervyn Blyth with a memento of the original Queen Mary. Below: Queen Mary 2 and Queen Elizabeth in the Harbour.

Main picture: JOE MURPHY

He said the moment he saw the Queen Mary 2 he was in awe.

"It's such a fabulous ship... very flash, beautiful and huge compared to the old Mary."

Sir Winston Churchill famously credited Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth with

shortening the war in Europe by a year because of their size and speed in delivering thousands of troops to where they were needed.

It was Queen Mary 2's fourth visit to Sydney, while the Queen Elizabeth was on her maiden voyage.



Station brawl

A BRAWL broke out at Berowra railway station in the early hours of Wednesday morning after a train passenger was robbed by three youths. The victim was heading north from Central when he witnessed three boys harrasing passengers on the train. When he questioned the trio he was hit and had his wallet stolen. The victim and several witnesses chased the boys from Berowra station around 2.50am and a fight broke out. The wallet was retrieved but the youths got away. The offenders were described as being of African appearance and aged between 12 and 15. Witnesses should phone Hornsby Police on 9476 9799.

Seniors boost

TURRAMURRA Seniors Centre has received \$68,450 from the Home and Community Care Program to upgrade its kitchen and install an accessible toilet. "The kitchen and bathrooms at the Turramurra Seniors Centre are outdated and in need of improvement so we can continue to grow the number of community programs we offer to seniors, particularly those at risk of social isolation," Ku-ring-gai Mayor Ian Cross said. Work on this facility is expected to commence within the next six months.

Turrumurra High School
Maxwell Street, Turramurra
There's so much to learn at our school. Come and see our students in action on our

OPEN AFTERNOON
Wednesday 9 March 2011
4:00pm to 7:00pm

and let our students show you the rich variety of opportunities available at our high achieving school.

Student performances
Guided tours and displays
Talk with students, teachers and parents
Participate in many hands-on activities

Free Sausage Sizzle

For further information visit:
www.turrumurra-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

If you are unable to attend on the above date, the school will be open on **Friday 6 May 2011 9am to 11am**

Please visit and see our students in the classroom. We look forward to welcoming you on either or both occasions.

THE AUSTRALIAN EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK makes managing staff a breeze.

Be clear about rules, rights and responsibilities in your workplace. Comes with 85 detailed policies and easy to read contract templates ready to be customised for your business. Handbook is up to date with Fair Work Australia laws.

For more information
w3handbook@gmail.com

W3 Website Consulting
Hornsby NSW 0403-948-118

University of Western Sydney
Bringing knowledge to life

Do you have Constipation, Abdominal Pain and Bloating?

The UWS CompleMED research centre and the Gastrointestinal Investigational Unit, Royal North Shore Hospital are looking for volunteers to participate in a clinical study for a new Chinese herbal medicine treatment for Constipation/Predominant Irritable Bowel Syndrome (C-IBS).

We need volunteers:

- aged 18-65 years
- who may have C-IBS (constipation, abdominal pain, bloating)

Participants will be reimbursed travel costs.

Call (02) 4620 3283 or visit www.uws.edu.au/complemed for more information.

This trial has approval from UWS & NSCCH HREC: H6374 & 0810-214M

Got a vision for Hornsby Aquatic Centre?

SHARE YOUR NEEDS

Council is finalising designs to build the new Hornsby Aquatic Centre on the existing site. We need to know what is important to you so the new centre can best suit your needs.

Public information and consultation sessions

- Tuesday 15 March, 6.30pm,** Hornsby War Memorial Hall (2 High St, Hornsby)
- Saturday 19 March, 2pm,** Asquith Leagues Club (11-37 Alexandria Pde, Waitara)

Please register by emailing hac@hornsby.nsw.gov.au or calling 9847 6940. Both venues are a short walk from public transport.

Online 'Bang the Table' forum

- To share your thoughts and needs, visit www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/hac

For more information, visit www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/hac

HORNBSBY ADVOCATE, Thursday, March 3, 2011 15