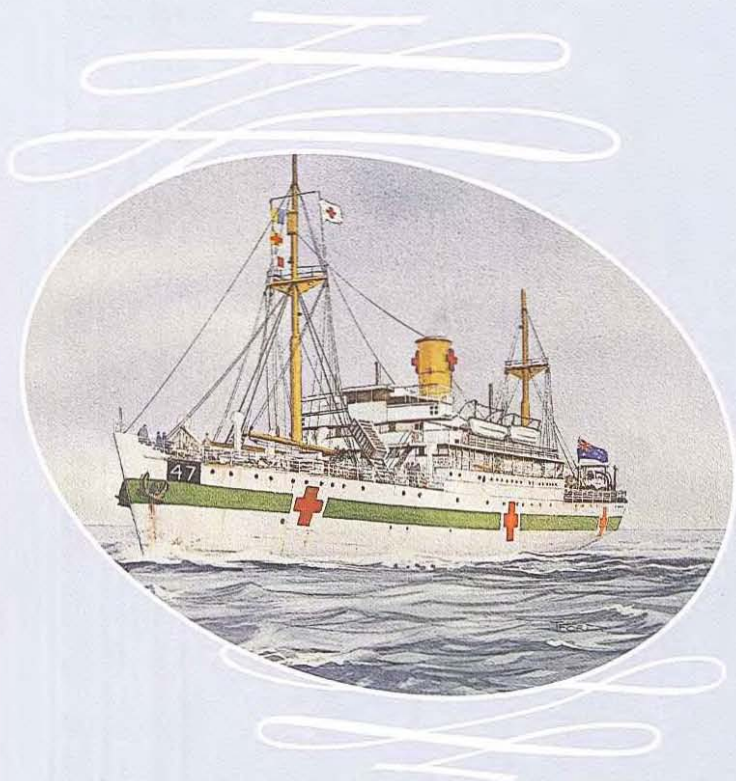




9/3/10

1831

**A National Service of  
Thanksgiving and Remembrance  
*AHS Centaur***



Tuesday 2 March 2010 • St John's Cathedral • Brisbane



Australian Government



QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

Music inside by Cathedral Choir and Brisbane Girls Grammar School Chamber Singers.

Honour Guard at entrance to Cathedral by TS Centaur Cadets.

Individual flowers will be offered to arriving congregation by Centaur Primary School students for placement on wreaths at designated area in Cathedral West entrance.

Students from the Centaur Primary School will read the names of those lost on the *AHS Centaur* as guests arrive.

*Front cover: AHS Centaur reproduced from original watercolour painting by John Ford F.A.S.M.A.*

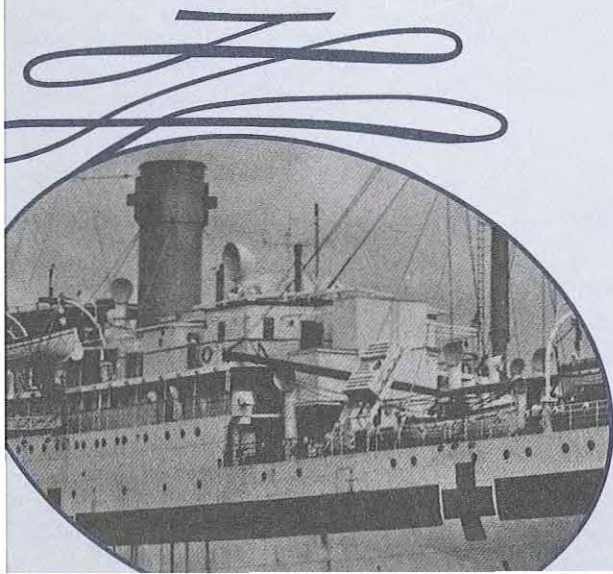


### **Lest we forget the men and women of the AHS Centaur**

We join today in remembrance of the men and women of the *AHS Centaur* – the 268 who gave their lives for their country and the 64 who survived.

The *AHS Centaur* and those that sailed on her have remained a symbol of the courage of Australian non-combatants in war and a potent reminder of all Australians who served in war and who may have no graves but the sea.

We trust that the finding of the *AHS Centaur* helps bring peace to those who lost family and loved ones in the pre-dawn hours of 14 May 1943.







## Order of Service

Master of Ceremonies –  
The Very Reverend Dr Peter Catt, Dean, St John's Cathedral

## Procession

Dean Catt announces the arrival of the VIP party

## National Anthem – Advance Australia Fair

*Australians all let us rejoice  
For we are young and free  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil  
Our home is girt by sea  
Our land abounds in Nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare  
In history's page, let every stage  
Advance Australia fair!  
In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia fair!*

(Peter Dodds McCormick 1834-1916)



## Welcome

The Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall, Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane  
and Anglican Primate of Australia

## Introduction

Bishop Brian Finnigan representing His Grace the Most Reverend John  
Bathersby, Catholic Archbishop of Brisbane

## Anthem sung by Cathedral Choir (Edgar Bainton)

*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth  
were passed away, and there was no more sea.  
And I John saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of  
heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.  
And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God  
is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God  
himself shall be with them, and be their God.  
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more  
death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the  
former things are passed away.*

(Revelation 21:1-4)

## Messages of Remembrance and Readings

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of Australia  
Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO, Governor of Queensland  
The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia  
The Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier of Queensland  
Mr Martin Lesley Pash, AHS Centaur Survivor



## Hymn

***Soldiers of Australia*** (sung to the tune of *Waltzing Matilda*)

*Soldiers of Australia gathered now to worship God  
Under the badge of the Rising Sun  
Giving thanks for our country, our families and freedom  
Let hearts and voices arise as one!*

### **Chorus:**

*God of Salvation, Guide of our Nation  
You give us strength to follow your ways  
With the Cross raised so high shining bright across our southern skies  
We'll serve Australia through all our days*

*Soldiers of Australia ready to be called to serve  
Training together we strive for peace  
When at home or away through darkest night and longest day  
We trust God's guidance will never cease (chorus)*

*Soldiers of Australia gathered as God's family  
Brothers and sisters side by side  
Through our God we are one as we do the work that must be done  
Courage and friendship will be our pride (chorus)*

*Soldiers of Australia have bought our freedom with their lives  
They grow not old as we grow old  
At the setting of the sun and also in the morning  
We shall remember their deeds so bold (chorus)*



## Commemoration – the Ceremonial Lighting of Candles

A soldier representing the Australian Defence Force  
Mr Keith Clegg, 2/3 *AHS Centaur* Association Incorporated  
(Son of Private Percy Clegg)  
Colonel Wendy Taylor, Returned and Services League of Australia  
(Queensland Branch)  
Dr Deborah Prior, President, Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses  
Mr James O'Connor, National Senior Vice President,  
Naval Association of Australia

During the lighting of candles the Cathedral Choir sings *Pericles' Funeral Oration* as set to music by Peter Aston.

*So they gave their bodies to the Commonwealth and received praise that will never die, and a home in the minds of men. Their story lives on without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives. So they gave their bodies to the Commonwealth and received praise that will never die.*

## Prayers

During the prayers the choir sings (in Church Slavonic) ***We worship you, we bless you, we thank you, O Lord, we pray to you, our God.*** Music by Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)

## Prayer of Remembrance – Reverend Jim Cosgrove, Army Chaplain

Gracious God, we remember this day those who lost their lives when the *AHS Centaur* was sunk. Keep before us the cost that others have paid for our freedom. Give to us such commitment to service that we too may live, and if need be die, for the benefit of others. Enable us to so live, that in dying and rising with Christ we may look forward with joy to that day when all your people will join together in glory. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**





### **Prayer for the Defence Force – Reverend Jim Cosgrove, Army Chaplain**

Almighty and Merciful God, as we remember this day the terrible cost and danger of war we commend to your care all those who serve in the Defence Force of this land. Guard these men and women in danger and temptation; sustain them in loneliness; heal them in sickness; reassure them in anxiety; give them energy, perseverance and wisdom in all their labours for peace and justice in this world. In your mercy protect their families and loved ones. Give to those in leadership wisdom and courage in their decisions. Grant those who minister to them compassion, understanding and strength. We ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayer for the Bereaved – Lieutenant Colonel Gav Keating**

(Great Nephew of Sister Ellen Savage)

Gracious Lord, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, look with mercy upon those who grieve the loss of loved ones. Though so many years have passed, yet Lord you know the hurt and pain of our loss. Your Son wept at the tomb of his friend and You witnessed the death of your only Son. Have mercy upon us, and all who grieve over the death of their loved ones. Comfort our hearts that we may comfort one another. Give to us such confidence in the resurrection of your Son that we may mourn with hope and grieve with assurance of eternal life in His name. We ask this through Jesus Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Seafarers – Lieutenant Colonel Gav Keating**

Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love. **Amen.**



### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### ***The Lord is my Shepherd* by Brisbane Girls Grammar School Chamber Singers (Alan Pote).**

#### **Official wreath laying by**

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of Australia  
Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO, Governor of Queensland  
The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia  
The Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier of Queensland  
Mr Martin Lesley Pash, *AHS Centaur* Survivor  
Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AO DSC CSM, Australian Defence Force  
Ms Jan Thomas OAM, Honorary Secretary,  
2/3 *AHS Centaur* Association Incorporated  
Colonel Wendy Taylor, Returned and Services League of Australia  
(Queensland Branch)  
Ms Pixie Annat, MBE OAM, Secretary, Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses  
Mr James O'Connor, National Senior Vice President,  
Naval Association of Australia

**The reciting of the *Ode* by Mrs Joan Fisher, NMHS Oranje veteran**

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young,  
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.  
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;  
They fell with their faces to the foe.*

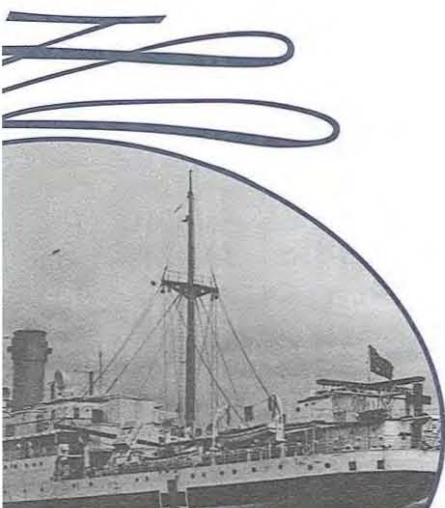
*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

**Army bugler plays *Last Post***

**A minute's silence**

**Army bugler plays the *Reveille***

*Lest we forget*



**Hymn sung by congregation (tune: *Slane*)**

*Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.*

*Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.*

*Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.*

*Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.*

Jan Struther 1901–1953

**An Act of Commitment read by Mr Ari Heber representing  
the Jewish community**

**Archbishop Phillip Aspinall gives the blessing**

**Dean Catt invites families to join dignitaries for a private lunch  
in the marquee**

(Music in the marquee by the Australian Army Band Brisbane)

**Music played for departure**





## Lest we forget



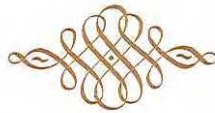
## Men and women lost at sea in *AHS Centaur*

### Lost (268)

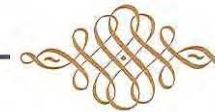
Deck Boy David **Abbot**, MNP  
Private (Driver) Alan Thomas **Adams**, FA(AP)  
Sister Margaret Lamont **Adams**, SMS  
Private Garth Francis **Aitchison**, SMS  
Third Engineer George McLean **Alexander**, MNP  
Private (Driver) James Russell **Alexander**, FA(AP)  
Private Frederick William Charles **Anderson**, FA  
Private James **Annis-Brown**, FA  
Private Reginald **Annis-Brown**, FA  
  
Private William Henry **Bailey**, FA  
Staff Sergeant Thomas Digby Hughes **Barlow**, FA  
Private Wilbur Edward Clarke **Barnes**, FA  
Private (Driver) Aubrey Nicholas **Bayly**, FA(AP)  
Captain (Dentist) Lincoln Leopold **Bedkofer**, FA  
Engine Wiper Thomas Owen 'Tom' **Behan**, MNP  
Private Keith Edward 'Ted' **Benton**, FA  
Corporal Walter Clifford **Black**, FA  
Private Reginald McGregor **Blackman**, FA  
Private Howard Alexander **Bladen**, FA  
Private (Driver) Stanley Robert **Bond**, FA(AP)  
Private Keith Percival **Bourchier**, FA  
Steward John Osborne **Bowden**, MNP  
Private David Llewellyn **Bowen**, FA  
Private Alan **Boyd**, FA  
Private John William **Bracken**, FA  
Sergeant Paul Joseph **Bracken**, FA  
Boatswain Gustav **Brandin**, MNP  
Private Bertram Walter Harmon **Brewer**, FA  
Private Albert Victor **Brown**, FA  
Private John McGregor 'Jack' **Browne**, FA  
Storekeeper/Barman John Charles **Buck**, MNP  
Private William Robert **Burns**, FA(AP)

Private William Eric 'Bill' **Burrett**, SMS  
Corporal Stanley Ralph **Burroughs**, SMS  
Private George Francis **Bush**, FA(AP)  
Lance Sergeant George Raymond **Bush**, FA  
Private William John **Butt**, FA  
  
Chief Steward James **Capper**, MNP  
Assistant Steward Charles Edmond James **Carey**, MNP  
Private William Reginald **Carey**, FA  
Private (Driver) Richard Carlyle **Cavanagh**, FA(AP)  
Lieutenant Leslie North **Chadwick**, FA  
Private Earnest Ainsley **Chapman**, FA  
Fireman's Attendant Charles **Clark**, MNP  
Private John Mervyn **Clark**, SMS  
Private Leslie Harold **Clark**, FA  
Private Neville S. 'Nobby' **Clark**, FA  
Mr W. F. Darwin **Clark**, SMS (Red Cross)  
Private John Allen 'Jack' **Claydon**, FA  
Private Percy Lewis **Clegg**, SMS  
Third Cook David Edward **Cockerill**, MNP  
Private (Driver) Basil Douglas **Colefax**, FA(AP)  
Private (Driver) Walter James **Colemane**, FA(AP)  
Corporal Hilton Stuart **Collins**, FA(AP)  
Private Leo Francis **Collins**, SMS  
Lance Corporal Arthur James **Cooke**, SMS  
Major Geoffrey Glover **Cooley**, SMS  
Corporal Kenneth Norman **Corbett**, FA(AP)  
Private Leslie Joseph **Cripps**, FA  
Corporal Harry Robert Thomas **Cross**, FA  
Private Mark Harold **Cummings**, FA  
Second Engineer William David **Cuthill**, MNP  
  
Private Frederick John **Denne**, FA  
Private James Patrick **Doherty**, FA  
Private Hilary Mervyn **Donohoe**, FA  
Engine Wiper Walter Ross **Downie**, MNP  
Warrant Officer I Cyril Clyde **Dutfield**, FA





Private (Driver) Graeme Robert Creaghe **Etheridge**, FA(AP)  
Corporal John Klees **Evans**, FA(AP)  
Corporal William Arthur **Evans**, FA(AP)  
Private Gordon **Fawcett**, FA  
Private Henry Sebastian "Harry" **Fehrenbach**, FA  
Sergeant Joseph William **Ferrow**, FA(AP)  
Private Robert Wilson **Findlay**, FA  
Private Charles Edward **Fishwick**, FA  
Captain Stephen Denis **Foley**, FA  
Private John Matthew 'Jack' **Forrest**, FA  
Private Alan David **Fortier**, FA(AP)  
Private Fred Lewis **Fortier**, FA(AP)  
Private Cedric Allan **Fowler**, FA(AP)  
Ordinary Seaman Francis William **Fox**, MNP  
Private Victor **Friedrich**, FA  
Engine Wiper John **Gallagher**, MNP  
Private (Driver) Sydney George **Galvin**, FA(AP)  
Sculleryman Francis John **Gannon**, MNP  
Private Donald Raymond **Garbutt**, FA  
Private William Denshire **Garfit**, FA  
Private William Thomas **Geaghan**, FA  
Private Charles Albert **Goffett**, FA  
Private Charles Thomas **Gordon**, FA  
Private William Henry **Gore**, FA  
Greaser Robert **Grainger**, MNP  
Acting Corporal Andrew 'Dick' **Gunning**, FA  
Fourth Engineer Harry Royston **Hall**, MNP  
Deck Boy Roger Frederick **Hart**, MNP  
Sister Helen Frances Jane Cynthia **Haultain**, SMS  
Sergeant Keith Robert **Haynes**, FA  
Private Clive Ernest **Hayward**, FA  
Private Thomas Herbert **Hayward**, FA(AP)  
Private James Henry **Hembrow**, FA  
Private Leslie James **Henderson**, FA



Private Reginald John **Hewison**, FA  
Captain Bernard Francis 'Bernie' **Hindmarsh**, SMS  
Private John William Carthew **Hoare**, FA  
Private Norman Alfred **Hodgkinson**, FA  
Private (Driver) Kevin Francis **Hogan**, FA(AP)  
Major Llundha **Holland**, SMS  
Private Samuel George **Holloway**, FA  
Private Alan **Howson**, SMS  
Able Seaman Thomas Stanley 'Stan' **Hughes**, MNP  
Private Raymond Robert **Hutchison**, SMS  
Private Vincent Maurice **Jackman**, FA  
Matron Sarah Anne 'Anne' **Jewell**, SMS  
Lieutenant Albert Edward **Johnson**, SMS  
Captain Roderick Clarke **Johnston**, FA  
Private Stanley Reginald **Johnston**, FA  
Temporary Major Gordon Richard **Jones**, FA  
Able Seaman Lauri **Kaki**, MNP  
Private Alvan Roy **Kemp**, FA  
Private John Alexander **Kerr**, SMS  
Private John James Robertson 'Jack' **Key**, FA  
Sister Evelyn Veronica **King**, SMS  
Third Radio Operator Robert Moir **Laird**, MNP  
Private Charles **Lambert**, FA  
First Officer Henry Ethelred **Lamble**, MNP  
Captain (Chaplain) The Reverend Ernest George **Laverick**, SMS  
Lance Corporal Robert **Law**, SMS  
Private (Driver) William Thomas 'Bill' **Lawson**, FA(AP)  
Private Alexander Ritchie **Leask**, FA  
Private Harold Medcalf **Leask**, FA  
Private Henry Henderson **Leask**, FA  
Able Seaman James **LeBlanc**, MNP  
Lance Corporal Charles Richard **LeBrun**, SMS  
Private Peter Myles Patrick **LeGrand**, FA  
Able Seaman Michael John **Lee**, MNP



Acting Corporal Thomas Albert **Lee**, FA  
Warrant Officer II Norman Moss George **Lesnie**, FA  
Private (Driver) Richard Leslie **Lillas**, FA(AP)  
Acting Corporal James John Joseph **Loader**, FA  
Second Pantryman Vincent **Lockhart**, MNP  
Private (Driver) Aubrey Cyril **Long**, FA(AP)  
Able Seaman George Eirmson **Long**, MNP  
Chief Cook Samuel **Longden**, MNP  
Corporal Edward Linton **Lotze**, FA(AP)  
Private Horace Henry 'Lofty' **Lowe**, FA  
Private Joseph 'Joe' **Lucas**, FA  
Private Frederick John 'Jack' **Lynagh**, FA  
Private (Driver) Herbert Lancelot **Lyneham**, FA(AP)  
Private Clement Edward **Lynne**, FA  
Able Seaman John **Lyons**, MNP  
Private Sidney Frank **Lyttleton**, FA  
  
Printer Donald Ross **MacLean**, MNP  
Private Thomas Edmund **McCaskie**, FA  
Acting Sergeant William Oscar **McDougall**, FA  
Sister Mary Hamilton **McFarlane**, SMS  
Private Herbert James **McGuire**, FA  
Private Owen Patrick **McGuire**, FA(AP)  
Lance Corporal Charles Stanislaus **McKay**, FA  
Cook William James **McKinnon**, MNP  
Private Norman **McLean**, SMS  
Lance Corporal Sydney Gordon **McSkimming**, FA  
Private James K. **Mansfield**, FA(AP)  
Lieutenant Colonel Clement Polson **Manson**, SMS  
Private John Bruce Vance **Marshall**, FA  
Private Allan Francis **Maynard**, SMS  
Private John Cedric **Maynard**, SMS  
Private Eric Emil **Melbom**, SMS  
Lieutenant Ronald Walter **Miles**, FA  
Private Thomas Henry **Miley**, FA  
Private Clwydd Osborne **Miller**, FA



Able Seaman David Ireland **Milligan**, MNP  
Private Clifford George **Montgomery**, FA  
Corporal Douglas William **Moore**, SMS  
Private John O'Neill 'Jack' **Moran**, FA  
Second Steward Albert James **Morris**, MNP  
Second Radio Operator Thomas Venables **Morris**, MNP  
Private Raymond Francis **Mort**, FA  
Corporal Leslie 'Joe' **Moss**, SMS  
Sister Myrtle Mary Eileen 'Merle' **Moston**, SMS  
Private Gerard Gregory **Murphy**, FA(AP)  
Master George Alexander **Murray**, MNP  
Staff Sergeant Francis John 'Frank' **Mycock**, FA  
Sergeant Eric Livingstone **Newell**, FA  
  
Lance Corporal Michael John **O'Brien**, FA  
Corporal Richard **O'Connor**, FA  
Sister Alice Margaret **O'Donnell**, SMS  
Private Thomas William **O'Neill**, FA  
Corporal Jeremiah Charles **O'Sullivan**, SMS  
Private Henry Victor **Oakley**, FA  
Private Leonard George **Ockwell**, SMS  
Private Hugh Henry **Overett**, FA  
Private (Driver) Elmo Lionel Victor **Owens**, FA  
  
Able Seaman Elijah Charles 'Ron' **Page**, MNP  
Private (Driver) Rex Allan **Pain**, FA(AP)  
Private (Driver) Victor Albert **Palmer**, FA(AP)  
First Baker Sidney Oliver **Pearl**, MNP  
Private Edgar Raymond **Perrett**, FA  
Private Norman E. **Perry**, SMS  
Sergeant Norman Edward **Phillips**, SMS  
Private Athol Richard **Povey**, FA  
Private Edward James **Power**, FA  
Second Baker Thomas E. **Pritchard**, MNP  
  
Assistant Steward Albert **Rayner**, MNP  
Private Athol **Reid**, FA






Private Cyril **Richardson**, FA  
Private Harry Frederick **Richardson**, FA  
Private Henry Oxley **Roberts**, FA  
Private Charles Malcolm Stewart **Robinson**, FA  
Lance Corporal Raymond Lawrence **Robinson**, FA  
Sister Eileen Mary **Rutherford**, SMS  
Private Leonard John **Salmon**, FA  
Major Isidor Harry 'Dick' **Sender**, FA  
Sister Edna Alice **Shaw**, SMS  
Private Herbert Edward **Sheard**, FA(AP)  
Private George Peace **Shepherd**, FA(AP)  
Head Waiter Fred **Siddons**, MNP  
Private Edward James 'Bill' **Simpson**, FA(AP)  
Able Seaman Ernest Basil **Simpson**, MNP  
Private Leonard Rolfe **Skaft**, FA  
Private Major Albion **Smellie**, SMS  
Private Arthur Ephraim **South**, FA  
Carpenter Robert James **Spence**, MNP  
Private John Edward 'Jack' **Stanley**, FA  
Private Harold Britton **Stephens**, FA  
Private John Alfred **Stevens**, FA  
Private James **Stewart**, FA  
Second Cook Stanley Louis **Strack**, MNP  
Private Robert George 'Bobby' **Stubbs**, FA  
First Radio Operator Eric James **Summers**, MNP  
Private Leonard Roy **Swan**, FA  
Private Sydney Edgar **Sweeney**, FA(AP)  
Private Richard **Swinburn**, FA  
Electrician Keith **Sykes**, MNP  
Private John **Taggart**, FA  
Staff Sergeant James **Taylor**, FA  
Temporary Major Charles Eugene **Thelander**, FA  
Warrant Officer II Allan Keith **Thomas**, FA(AP)  
Captain Gethyn Llewellyn **Thomas**, SMS  
Private John Victor 'Jack' **Thomas**, FA



Private Donald Leo **Thompson**, FA  
Private Hedley William **Thompson**, FA  
Corporal James **Thorpe**, FA  
Private Bryan Stanford **Trigg**, FA(AP)  
Private George Henry **Upton**, FA  
Private Edward Charles Millist **Vincent**, FA  
Private John James 'Jack' **Walder**, FA  
Acting Corporal Norman Lindsay **Walker**, FA  
Sister Wendy 'Jennie' **Walker**, SMS  
Assistant Steward William Arthur **Warner**, MNP  
Private Ernest Oliver **Wattus**, FA  
Lance Corporal William Clarke **West**, FA  
Private Raymond Henry George **Westendorf**, FA  
Lieutenant Sterling Browne **Westhorp**, FA(AP)  
Lieutenant Norman Edward Wythe **Wheeler**, FA  
Private Alan Houghton **Williams**, FA  
Staff Sergeant David Kevin 'Kevin' **Williams**, FA  
Private Edgar Francis **Williams**, FA  
Warrant Officer II Laurence Leonard **Williams**, SMS  
Corporal Maurice Avery **Williams**, SMS  
Private Andrew **Wilson**, FA  
Private George Albert Theodore **Wilson**, FA(AP)  
Corporal George Arthur **Winder**, FA(AP)  
Private Arthur Albert **Winterflood**, FA(AP)  
Private Allan **Wood**, FA  
Private Leonard Sydney **Wood**, FA  
Private Clement **Woods**, FA  
Private George **Wright**, FA  
Sister Doris Joyce **Wyllie**, SMS



## Men and women who survived the sinking of the *AHS Centaur*

### Survivors (64)

Private Jack H. **Argent**, SMS

Third Mate Ernest 'Monty' **Banks**, MNP

Private John L. 'Jack' **Bayly**, FA(AP)

Private L.E.O. 'Leo' **Bidmead**, SMS

Corporal Albert E. **Blair**, SMS

Steward/Writer Ronald D. **Bull**, MNP

Fourth Engineer Maurice A. **Cairnie**, MNP

Staff Sergeant George R. **Carter**, SMS

Able Seaman J. 'Ivan' **Cecich**, MNP

Private (Dental Assistant) Fred B. **Chidgey**, SMS

Able Seaman Owen N. **Christensen**, MNP

Steward Alex S. **Cochrane**, MNP

Sergeant William T.C. **Cornell**, FA

Private Jim **Coulsen**, SMS

Able Seaman Sammuel J. **Cullum**, MNP

Second Butcher A. Francis **Davidson**, MNP

Private (Driver) Alan R. **Dickson**, FA(AP)

Nightwatchman Frank **Drust**, MNP

Private Thomas C. **Hegarty**, SMS

Corporal (Male Nurse) Thomas 'Tom' **Hobden**, SMS

Third Baker Mark **Hoggins**, MNP

Assistant Cook Trevor **Hoggins**, MNP

Sergeant (Paymaster) Leonard R. **Hooper**, SMS

Driver Leslie J. **Horgan**, FA

Private (Staff Orderly) Ron C. 'Tich' **Isherwood**, SMS

Warrant Officer II James C. **Johnson**, SMS

Steward Mark **Jonassen**, MNP

Private Clifford G. **Jones**, SMS

Lance Corporal Ron 'Spud' **Jones**, FA

Private Percy G. **Kelly**, SMS

Corporal Keith **Lange**, FA

Private (Orderly) Vincent **McCosker**, SMS

Private George W. **McGrath**, FA(AP)

Fireman William **McIntosh**, MNP

Corporal Thomas C. **Malcolm**, SMS

Seamen's Cook Francis **Martin**, MNP

Staff Sergeant Dick **Medcalf**, SMS

Private Fred S.P. **Millar**, FA

Chief Pantryman Ronald G. **Moate**, MNP

Donkeyman Stanley **Morgan**, MNP

Greaser Matthew A. **Morris**, MNP

Private George S. **Murphy**, SMS

Lance Corporal Kenneth G. **Murray**, FA

Lieutenant Colonel Leslie M. **Outridge**, FA

Printer Martin L. **Pash**, MNP

Private Rupert **Paton**, FA

Private Allan Ludlow **Pettiford**, FA

Able Seaman Alfred **Ramage**, MNP

Private E. Laurie **Ravenscroft**, FA

Cook/Sculleryman James A. **Rawlings**, MNP

Butcher Frank T. **Reid**, MNP

Second Mate R. Gordon **Rippon**, MNP

Torres Strait Pilot Richard M. **Salt**, MNP

Linenkeeper Sidney C. **Sandwell**, MNP

Sister Ellen **Savage**, SMS

Chief Engineer Ernest D. **Smith**, MNP

Steward Jack D. **Stutter**, MNP

Corporal (Dental Technician) Albert J. **Taylor**, FA

Private Eric G.W. **Taylor**, SMS

Lance Corporal Maurice Peter **Thomas**, SMS

Greaser Walter H. **Tierney**, MNP

Assistant Steward Arthur **Waddington**, MNP

Assistant Storeman James **Watterston**, MNP

Ordinary Seaman Robert K. **Westwood**, MNP

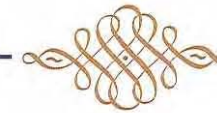




## Key

FA	Field Ambulance
FA(AP)	Field Ambulance (Attached Personnel)
MNP	Merchant Navy Personnel
SMP	Ship's Medical Personnel

Please note that archival research is continuing and some of the details on this list are still to be confirmed.



## AHS Centaur – Historic perspective

Built at Scotland's Greenock Shipyard in 1924, the *Centaur* was a passenger liner and freighter owned and operated by the Ocean Steamship Company, better known as the Blue Funnel Line, on the trade route between Western Australia and Singapore.

The *Centaur* had a history of coming to the aid of those in need, regardless of whether they were friend or foe.

In 1938 she rescued the Japanese whaler, *Kyo-Maru*, towing the vessel to Geraldton. Three years later in November 1941 the *Centaur* rescued survivors of the Germany Navy merchant raider *HSK Kormoran*, a ship that had only hours before sunk the *HMAS Sydney II* off the Western Australian Coast.

As the war swept through Papua New Guinea, the need for a smaller hospital ship with a shallower draught became urgent. The *Centaur* was ideal for conversion to a hospital ship and so the British Ministry placed the *Centaur* at the Australian Government's disposal.

On 12 March 1943, the *Centaur* was commissioned as *Australian Hospital Ship AHS Centaur* (AHS47).

After trial runs along the Australian coast, the *AHS Centaur* set out to carry Australian and American medical personnel to Port Moresby and transport wounded Australian and American soldiers back to hospital facilities in Brisbane before returning to Sydney.

On 12 May 1943, the *AHS Centaur* steamed from Sydney with 332 personnel aboard, including 75 Merchant Navy crew, the ship's army medical staff comprising eight Officers, 12 Nurses, 45 other ranks, and 192 members of the 2/12 Field Ambulance who were travelling to New Guinea to set up field medical units.

At 4.10am on 14 May 1943, despite her clear identification as a hospital ship, the *AHS Centaur* was attacked by a Japanese submarine off the south east coast of Queensland, Australia. The single torpedo from the submarine struck the *AHS Centaur* on her port side amidships, triggering a secondary explosion of an oil fuel tank and opening a very large hole in her hull to the sea.

Mortally wounded, the *AHS Centaur* sank by the bows in less than three minutes with the loss of 268 lives.

Some 35 hours after the *AHS Centaur* sank to her final resting place, 64 survivors were pulled from the sea by the US Destroyer *Mugford*.

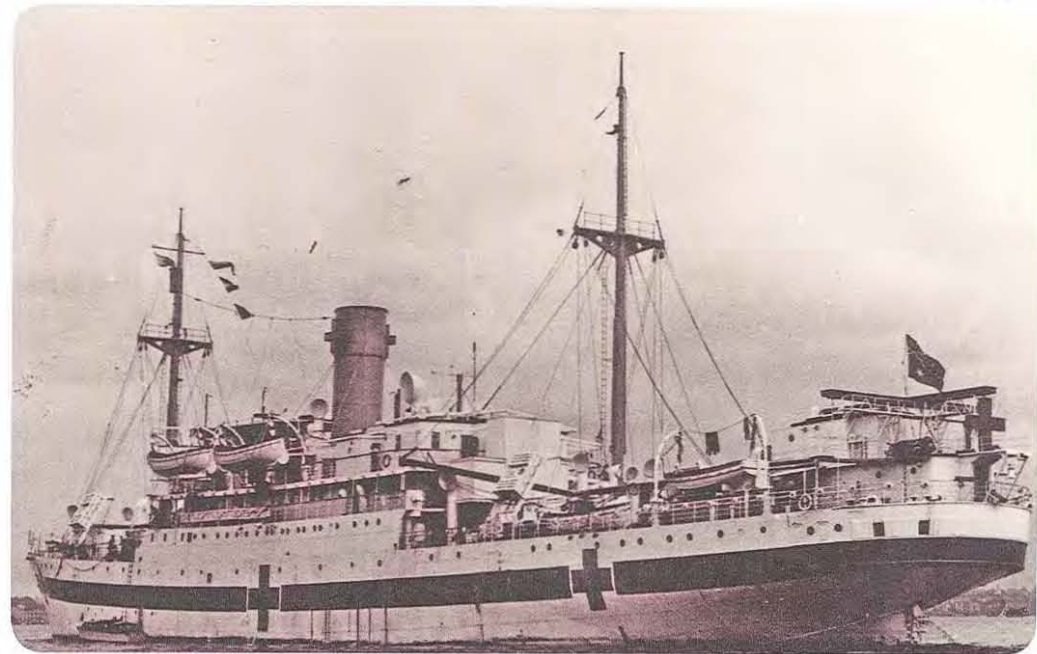
Following the successful discovery of the *HMAS Sydney II* in March 2008, public support for a search for the *AHS Centaur* grew.

On the 14 May 2008, the 65th anniversary of the sinking of the *AHS Centaur*, the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier of Queensland, wrote to the Honourable Kevin Rudd MP, the Prime Minister of Australia, seeking support to enable a search for the *AHS Centaur*. Both State and Federal governments committed funds in 2009 and the search to locate the *AHS Centaur's* final resting place began.

On 14 December 2009 Search Director David Mearns, a team of experts and an experienced crew began the search of the steep and rugged sub-sea terrain.


On Sunday 20 December 2009 the wreck of the *AHS Centaur* was found at a depth of 2059 metres approximately 30 nautical miles due east from the southern tip of Moreton Island.

Video footage obtained in early January 2010 confirmed the identity of the wreck of the *AHS Centaur*.





CENTAUR  
LIVERPOOL

	Paper No.: <i>5310T 1831</i>	
	Date: <i>9/3/10</i>	
	Member: <i>Hon Blyth</i>	
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