

# Remembrance Day Contest - Introduction - 2022

lead-in countdown beeps

THIS TRANSMISSION STARTS

so that the *last* word (“Open”) is at 02:59:58UTC

(Competition starts: Sat 13th August 2022, 0300 UTC / 1300AEST)

## Peter Ellis VK1PE

Welcome in 2022 to the Remembrance Day Contest, Australia’s biggest and most significant annual amateur radio competition. I am Peter Ellis VK1PE, formerly a full-time officer in the Navy and still a Reservist.

With the RD Contest, we consider the roles that amateurs played in World War II, and honour these servicemen – and they were all men -- who were killed during the hostilities. However, they would want us to have fun. So, for 24 hours, the Amateur Radio bands will be at their busiest for the whole year; Please be involved.

The rules for this weekend’s contest were published by the WIA, and are available on the website at <http://www.wia.org.au>. There is no obligation to participate, but even with 30 minutes on air, your involvement will make a difference, **particularly by submitting a log, and that is easy using the uploader at the Contest website**. If this is your first RD, go for it; If you have done many, enjoy the experience again. This contest for us Amateurs, just it has been every year since the late 1940s.

We conduct the RD Contest for 24 hours on the weekend closest to the day called VP Day – Victory in the Pacific Day. This day formally marked the end of World War II. □ □

So, each year in the RD we spend a while, recalling as best we can those now-distant times, remembering those Amateurs and others who didn't make it back, but whose efforts helped to save our nations – Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea. And, from 0300 Zulu we celebrate in a joyous way by competing together for up to 24 hours in a race to find the most on air contacts.

This year, we will hear from the President, Scott Williams VK3KJ, and have a reading of the names of Amateur Radio operators known to have been killed during WW2.

recorded msg ~2min , President WIA

plus reading of the names of the fallen Amateurs

Now, to our official speaker.

## **Director General Navy Intelligence and Information Warfare**

### **Biography**

#### **COMMODORE MATTHEW DOORNBOS, RAN**



Commodore Matt Doornbos, RAN was born on the Gold Coast and joined the RAN in 1990. He has undertaken postings at sea, ashore and overseas, the highlights being Commands at sea of HMA Ships *Geelong*, *Ballarat*, *Anzac*, *Toowoomba* and *Stuart*, and overseas exchanges both at sea and ashore with the Royal Canadian Navy.

He is a Surface Warfare Officer as a specialist Communications Officer, later retitled Information Warfare Officer. Commodore Doornbos was awarded a Bachelor of Science - Information Systems (UNSW-ADFA), a Master of Business Administration (UNE), a Master of Maritime Logistics Management (UTAS) and a Master of International Relations (Deakin). He is a graduate of the Australian Defence Strategic Studies Course and the Higher Command and Staff Course in the United Kingdom.

In December 2020, he was promoted to Commodore and in January 2021 commenced as Director General Navy Information Warfare later re-titled Navy Intelligence and Information Warfare Branch.

Commodore Doornbos is married and has three boys. He is currently the President, ADF Ice Hockey Association.

## **OFF-THE-CUFF REMARKS by CDRE Matt Doornbos to questions by PETER ELLIS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

PE:□ □ CDRE Matt Doornbos, on behalf of the Wireless Institute of Australia, and the Amateur Radio operators, thank you for agreeing to be our RD Contest speaker.

### **OPENING SPEECH**

Well, I have to admit some surprise at being asked to participate in the Wireless Institute of Australia Remembrance Day Contest. I am aware of what the Amateur Radio operators do, but, as you have explained, the communications arts have been my professional life especially radio frequency communications. I'm continuously reminded though from our history the role of wireless operators have had whether they be the Coastwatchers or the role the 'SIGINTers' had supporting General MacArthur through the Philippines. Be rest assured high frequency communications has a significant role to play.

Our sailors, soldiers and airmen are still deployed. And, we have had the extensive RIMPAC 2022 exercise in Hawaii, with the Navy, Army, and Air Force involved.

Yet, since the last Remembrance Day contest, we can be thankful that no Australian service personnel have been killed whilst serving on deployment. But, this year they were on the front lines of Assistance to the Community in flooded areas such as Lismore. Also, the COVID pandemic has continued to need ADF assistance.

Only a week or so ago, the RIMPAC 2022 exercises wrapped up with 27 nations participating in Hawaii and California.

For the week around the Remembrance Day Contest, we will remember:

- 1942: the Battle of Guadalcanal, and specifically the naval Battle of Savo Island (and the loss of the Australian cruiser, HMAS *Canberra*; and an RAAF Hudson reconnaissance aircraft played a part.) ... plus
- 1945: Victory in the Pacific Day, and the end of WW2.

Radio Amateurs of Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea, on this weekend nearest the anniversary of VP Day, it is my great pleasure to formally **declare the Remembrance Day Contest for 2022 -- Open.**

