

INFO-CAP enhances delivery of information

Recent visitors to the Member's Area of the NR website will have noticed that there is now much more information than was previously available. Project INFO-CAP, phase 2 of the NR site re-development has moved passed the planning step and is now entering the design and implementation stage.

The project aims to try and close the information gap between those who have Defweb access and those who do not by re-creating as far as possible a similarly information rich environment to help members contribute to Navy capability more effectively.

Soon, the 'What's New' section will become the new Member's home page

and present all the latest news and information in an interesting and easy to navigate format.

Some of the new information services include a weekly international Defence news update, Defgrams, signals and a wide range of other corporate / PQ and Category messages.

Additionally, new features such as a Chat Room where people can meet and interact will be added as well as a photo gallery that will allow Member's to share their pictures of Reserve activities.

The existing features like the discussion forum will also get some attention so that it becomes much more user friendly and the amount of data available to download from the 'Reference' and 'Forms Online' will be greatly enhanced.

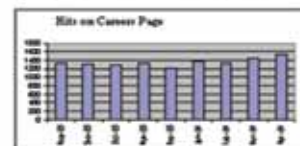
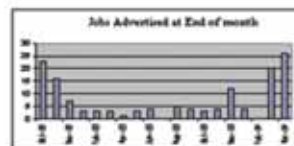
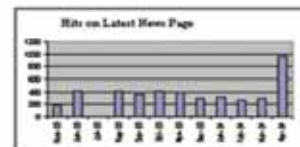
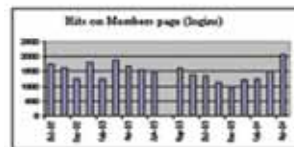
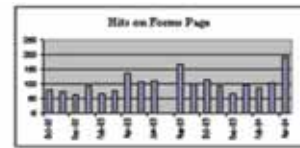
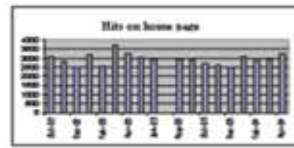
The Office of DGRES-N is

updating information regularly so that even now there is something new to see four days per week.

The look of the menu bar and some of the pages will alter as the new features are rolled-out over the coming weeks, however the upload of data will remain unaffected.

As with any communication initiative, INFO-CAP's success will be largely dependent on the feedback that NR members provide to the content management team.

If the information you need to remain current is not available or if there are features that you think should be included please use the site's feedback facility to let us know. The NR web site is all about keeping Reservists informed, in touch with each other and facilitating effective communication between Navy leaders and members.



The Chatham House Rules?

By FLTLT Hyder Gulam
What are they?????

How many times have you attended a presentation to hear the words "this presentation will discuss matters under the Chatham House Rule?" This article is to inform you of this term, what it means, and its effect.

The Royal Institute of International Affairs established

the Chatham House Rule of Confidentiality in June 1927. Located in Chatham House in London, the Institute was, and remains, a respected foreign policy think tank.

As an independent research organisation, it gained the reputation as a place for the free and frank exchange of ideas.

The aim of the Chatham House Rule - there is only one rule -

was to guarantee the anonymity of those speaking within its walls.

In 2002, the Institute amended the rule as follows: "When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant,

may be revealed."

This means that participants are free to use the information received and can also state that it was received at a Chatham House meeting.

It is interesting to note that Chatham House can take disciplinary action against a member who breaks the rule.

However, not all organisations that use the rule have sanctions.

The rule depends for its success on being seen as morally binding. The interesting aspect for those of us in the ADF is whether a breach of this rule amounts to a discipline offence under the Defence Force Discipline Act.

There is no doubt the Chatham House Rule has allowed people to speak as individuals and express views that may not be

that of their organisation.

The rule encourages free discussion and the exchange of ideas, as people are generally more relaxed when they are able to discuss matters without having to worry about their reputation or the implication of being publicly quoted.

FLTLT Hyder Gulam is a Legal Officer with Headquarters Training Command, Air Force

More funding to attract and retain ADF people...

"the ADF Reserves Enhancement Program, has significantly increased the availability of Reserves for Defence service."

Substantial programs aimed at both attracting and retaining skilled people in the Australian Defence Force are to be extended with an additional \$21.4 million in the 2004-05 Budget.

The funds will be used to build on the current \$100 million a year provided for programs aimed at improving the conditions of Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and their families and to which the government assigned a high priority as part of its 2001 election commitments.

Assistant Defence Minister Mal Brough said the new funding will pay for the continuation of a targeted program of family

focused initiatives which had been due to end in 2005-06.

"The new funding will ensure that Defence continues to have the resources required for targeted schemes which currently include the provision of child care places, ADF spouse support and Defence school transition aides," Mr Brough said

"For example, thanks to the current program, spouses of serving personnel who relocate between states now benefit from the initiative with professional career and bridging courses on offer."

"And if those personnel have school aged children

they can take advantage of the professional counsellors we provide to their schools who are there to assist the children and families adapt to a new system and environment."

Mr Brough said that so far the current personnel initiatives funding has enabled the introduction of a number of successful schemes and initiatives, including:

- * the ADF Reserves Enhancement Program, which, through the provision of employer support payments, has significantly increased the availability of Reserves for Defence service.

- * Cadets Enhancement Program, has improved

Cadet accommodation, safety management, IT resources and management, and will also be separately continued.

- * a trial Rental Allowance scheme for ADF members without dependants, which has been so successful that it has been funded separately in the current Budget as a permanent accommodation option for ADF members without dependants.

- * some much needed accommodation works,
- * new childcare places and the establishment of other family initiatives.

"Of great success has been the Defence Child Care initiative which has brokered agreements with a

number of regional Family Day Care schemes. These arrangements provide Defence families with priority access to child care placements across Australia," Mr Brough said.

"More than 240 places have been reserved for the children of serving personnel and further funds have been allocated to community groups that provide work related child care programs."

"This additional funding will allow Defence to develop further innovations and build on the current successes of the program to the benefit of ADF personnel and their families," Mr Brough said.



Tiddles the Cat!

Could you find Tiddles hiding in the last edition? She was hiding in the picture of DT9 on page 6. Well done to CPOMED Shaye Metcalf at HMAS Kuttabul who sent in the first correct entry. We'll be sending Shaye a prize from our Seachest soon! Tiddles will be getting harder to find in each edition, so pretty soon you will need to get out the magnifying glass to help. She might be slightly faded or reduced in size or hiding in another photo or she may even be added as a water colour background. We have some excellent prizes so remember to send in your answers to: dgres-n.gov.au and be in the running for a prize from our seachest!

Good luck finding Tiddles in this edition!

Identify the Mystery Ship!!

Answer to last edition's mystery ship: HMAS Mildura - Can you identify the ship below? Email your answers to dgres-n.gov.au and be in the running for a prize from our seachest. The answer will be published in the next edition.

