



AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY  
FOR DEFENCE ENGINEERING



**The Australian Society for Defence Engineering (ASDE)  
in conjunction with  
The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST)  
presents**

## ***“A Brief on WWI Australian Submarine AE2”***

- Venue:** Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, Barton  
**Time:** 1730 for 1800-1900 Wednesday, 05 November 2008  
Light snacks and refreshments available
- Speaker:** Captain Ken Greig, RAN Retd, B.Eng. (RMIT), Grad Dip Public Admin (NSWIT),  
CEng, CMarEng, MIMarEST.  
Company Secretary AE2 Commemorative Foundation Ltd
- RSVP:** Barbara Lowe by Monday 3 November 2008 on (02) 6273 1314  
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*HMA Submarine AE2 'running amok in the Narrows'*

In the early hours of 25 April 1915 as Allied forces, including Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC), prepared to invade the Gallipoli Peninsula, the Australian submarine HMAS AE 2 entered the Dardanelles on the surface. Her mission was to create a diversion to the landings by 'running amok in the Narrows' and then enter the Turkish inland Sea of Marmara to cut the supply lines of the Ottoman army.

Despite fierce Turkish opposition and against all odds, AE2 succeeded. A characteristically Australian approach, encompassing skill, bravery, fortitude and luck, meant she was the first of the Allied submarines to penetrate the Straits. AE2 paved the way for a number of other Allied submarines, causing great disruption to Turkish reinforcements moving on and around the Sea of Marmara.

Her campaign ended five days later on 30 April 1915. The AE2 was lost, scuttled by her crew without loss of life, after being fatally damaged in an engagement with the Turkish torpedo-boat SULTANHISAR. Her crew of 3 officers and 29 sailors was taken as prisoners of war.

Ken served in the Royal Australian Navy from 1971 until 1995. He trained in destroyers and aircraft carriers before volunteering for submarines in 1977. Subsequently he was Engineer of the Oberon Class submarines Onslow and Ovens, the Refit Project Officer for submarines refitting at Cockatoo Dockyard before 'surfacing' as Engineer Officer of the landing ship HMAS Tobruk. On promotion to Commander he was posted to the Submarine Squadron as Engineer. Ken was awarded the Australia Day Medallion 1988, for leadership. He served again at sea as Commander 'E' of the replenishment ship HMAS Success during the Gulf War for which he was awarded the Maritime Commander's Commendation for leadership. On promotion to Captain in 1991 he was appointed Project Manager of the Collins Class Submarine Project. He was the policy director for Submarine Engineering matters before retiring early in 1995 when he joined Rockwell Defence & Aerospace to establish the submarine combat systems hardware, in service support arrangements