### Curriculum Links

Western Australia 2010

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<th>The Arts</th>
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The National Curriculum outline curriculum points to years 7 and 10 as the best fits for the Sydney story:

**Year 7:** What is History? A study of the nature of historical inquiry.
**Year 10:** The origins of World War II and Australia’s role in events.
HMAS Sydney (II) Classroom Activities

Teachers Notes

HMAS Sydney (II) Education contains five student activities, a selection of website sources, a bibliography and suggested topics for further research.

While the activities are most suitable for upper primary and lower secondary students in Years 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 (approximate ages between 11 and 15), some research topics will be suitable for older students.

Included in each activity is a number of self-evaluation multiple choice questions. If students choose to do these they will be rewarded with points that advance them through the naval ranks from Able Seaman to Admiral.

The activity Codes and Communication has an interactive element built in and is a good one for students to try first. Students will also be rewarded with points for successfully completing each level of this activity.

The activities also offer a range of research projects, an art activity and creative expression opportunities through writing and drama.

National Curriculum

The Sydney story is most appropriate for the syllabus of years 7 and 10 within the National Curriculum:

Year 7: What is History? A study of the nature of historical inquiry.
Year 10: The origins of World War II and Australia’s role in events.

Naval Ranks

<table>
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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Point Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Able Seaman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leading Seaman</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty Officer</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midshipman</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub Lieutenant</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodore</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Admiral</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admiral</td>
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www.museum.wa.gov.au
HMAS SYDNEY (II)
CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The Five Activities

Codes and Communication:
An interactive experience where students learn about Morse code and signalling at sea using signal lamps and international signal flags. The activity simulates the communication between HMAS Sydney (II) and the German Raider HSK Kormoran as they came together on 19 November 1941. Students read Morse code signals from a flashing signal lamp and answer by choosing the correct international signal flags. The activity is divided into three levels.

Loose Lips Sink Ships – Censorship in Wartime
Students read about the role the Government and mass media played in the aftermath of the battle between HMAS Sydney (II) and HSK Kormoran. The research activities offered include a study of WWII posters promoting censorship, and the design of a poster to combat current global issues such as terrorism. Another research activity encourages students to look at Government censorship in today’s internet environment.

HMAS Sydney (II) Timeline
Students study the timeline of HMAS Sydney (II) from its construction in 1934 to its loss in 1941 and the discovery of the shipwreck in 2008.

Whose History?
The battle between HMAS Sydney (II) and the German Raider HSK Kormoran was unusual because only one side survived to tell the tale. There were over 1000 men on both ships but none of the crew on Sydney lived to tell their stories. All the eyewitness reports about the battle since that day in November 1941 have come from German survivors. And with the discovery of the two shipwrecks in 2008, close to where the German survivors reports predicted they would be, those reports have proved to be substantially correct. In this activity students are provided with information about the battle and a timeline of events and are encouraged to predict what was happening on the bridge of HMAS Sydney (II) as they approached HSK Kormoran. Students are encouraged to give their views in narrative writing and drama using the background information provided.

Searching for Shipwrecks
Methods of searching for shipwrecks have changed considerably over the last 50 years. Following a brief outline of maritime archaeology in Western Australia - from the finding of the Dutch ship Batavia in 1964 to the discovery of HMAS Sydney (II) and HSK Kormoran in March 2008 - this activity offers suggestions for student research on a wide range of shipwrecks in Australia and around the globe. A timeline of shipwrecks and links to website sources are provided.

www.museum.wa.gov.au
INTRODUCTION
In our modern world we are surrounded by codes.

At the station Ann swipes her ticket on the card reader and races across to catch the train. The train stops at her station. Ann picks up her backpack and tags off as she leaves the platform. As she strolls down the hill towards school Ann texts her friend Michelle.

Codes are part of history too, particularly in times of war. The course of the Second World War was changed by the success of the Allied cryptographers in breaking Japanese codes and the German ENIGMA code.

However not all codes are secret. Some are open codes designed for rapid communication over distance, such as the ones initially used by Sydney and Kormoran when their paths crossed on the afternoon of 19 November 1941.

When HMAS Sydney (II) came across a mystery ship off the Western Australian coast the crew were on radio silence. So to try and discover the nationality of the other ship, Sydney signallers used a signal lamp to transmit Morse code. The other vessel responded using signal flags to reveal themselves as the Dutch ship Straat Malakka. Both codes – using Morse and the flags – were sent as open codes known to all mariners. But as Sydney closed in, they sent a secret code – known only to Allied ships – so they could be certain of the identity of the mystery vessel. Not knowing the secret code, Captain Detmers of the German Raider Kormoran raised his battle flag and answered with his guns…
INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY
The Codes and Communication online interactive game can be found at:


Students will find out about the world famous Morse code and learn to read it. You will also learn how to send messages using international signal flags.
Codes and Communication

Research Questions

1. Find out about the code* Captain Detmers of the Kormoran used to hide his report and test it out on a friend.

2. Heraldry is an early example of a code being used for easy identification. Knights of old would wear certain colours and symbols to identify themselves. These became known as their ‘coat of arms’.
   Captain Detmers of the Kormoran didn’t reveal his ‘coat of arms’ (his country of origin) until he raised the German battle flag.
   Research the history of heraldry and design your own coat of arms. Explain the significance of each feature of your design.
   OR
   Research the use of deception and camouflage in wartime.

3. Since the birth of mankind sign language using hand signals has been used as a way of communication. There are now hundreds of sign languages in use around the world including many sports (such as football and cricket) where officials use standardised hand signals for some communication.
   Research the history of sign languages.
   OR
   Choose a particular one and explain how it is used as a form of communication.

Online Questions
The online interactive quiz can be found at:

Censorship During Wartime
Strict censorship was imposed in Australia at the start of World War II. The Menzies Government formed the Department of Information (DOI) to control publicity. It was believed censorship was necessary to prevent valuable information falling into enemy hands and to maintain high morale at home.

An example of the wartime censorship was the Government report on the bombing of Darwin in February 1942. The ‘official’ death toll was given as 17 when in reality the number was closer to 250.

When the Naval Board and the Government found out about the battle between Kormoran and Sydney they tried to suppress the news for as long as possible. They hoped that by not announcing the raider’s loss they might have been able to locate and destroy its supply ship.

By November 24, five days after the battle, rumours started to bubble to the surface. Many of the nation’s newspaper editors were contacted personally by DOI officials and told that any mention of Sydney in the press was prohibited. However this censorship instruction only succeeded in fuelling the rumours to the point where the Government had little choice but to inform the next of kin. This was done on 26 November. The text of the telegrams sent to the next of kin reflected the Government’s concern to release as little information as possible. By now the rumours were quite out of hand and the most extravagant stories were circulating throughout Australia. By 28 November the Prime Minister John Curtin was receiving urgent telegrams from newspaper editors urging the release of more information. On the evening of 30 November the Prime Minister finally released a statement to the press and the next day the news of the loss of Sydney was splashed across every newspaper in the land.
HMAS SYDNEY (II)
Classroom Activities

LOOSE LIPS SINK SHIPS

RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Considering the huge growth of the Internet and social networks like Twitter and Facebook, is Government censorship still possible?

1. Write an essay that supports your opinion OR hold a class debate that explores this topic.

2. Research World War II posters and update them to reflect current global issues such as terrorism.

3. Here are some websites looking at World War II posters
   phrases.org.uk/meanings/237250.html
   eyewitnesstohistory.com/lslips.htm

4. In times of emergency the government has the right to make any laws necessary to protect us. Do you agree with this statement?

5. Write an essay that supports your opinion OR hold a class debate that explores this topic.

ONLINE QUESTIONS
The online interactive quiz can be found at:

HMAS SYDNEY (II)
Classroom Activities

Timeline

1914
November 9  HMAS Sydney (I) sinks the German raider Emden

1933
July 8  Construction of Sydney begins in Newcastle England

1934
September 22  Sydney launched

1935
September 24  Sydney commissioned

1936
August 2  Arrived in Australia

1940
April – May  Sailed to Colombo and on to the Mediterranean sea

May  Bombardment of Bardia, destroyed enemy destroyer

July 7  Battle of Calabria

July 18  Battle of Cape Spada, destroyed two enemy Cruisers

1941
February  Returns to Australia and a heroes’ welcome

November 11  Sailed from Fremantle, escorting Zealandia to the Sunda Strait

November 17  Turned Zealandia over to the Durban for further escort to Singapore

November 19, 5:00pm  Encountered unknown ship in the Indian Ocean, 120 nautical miles west of Shark Bay

November 19, 5:35pm  Unknown ship sends a message using alias Straat Malakka

November 19, 6:15pm  Sydney less than a mile distant from unknown ship

November 19, 6:30pm  Revealed to be German HSK Kormoran, opens fire with all armaments hitting Sydney

November 19, 6:45pm  Sydney fires torpedoes, they miss

November 19, 7:00pm  Kormoran fires torpedo, missing the Sydney

November 19, 7:25pm  Kormoran fires last shot at range ~11,000 metres

November 19, 11:00pm  Distant glare and flickerings. Sydney disappears

November 20, 1:35am  Kormoran explodes, and sinks

November 23–25  Kormoran survivors picked up in life boats by various ships and on land. RAN alerted to Sydney’s disappearance. Search commences

2002
2002 – 2006  David Mearns and Western Australian Museum, Royal Australian Navy and Finding Sydney Foundation begin talks about finding the HMAS Sydney (II)

2008
March 12, 5:30pm  Wreck of the HSK Kormoran found

March 16, 11:03am  Wreck of the HMAS Sydney (II) found

Online Questions
The online interactive quiz can be found at:

Whose History?

INTRODUCTION
As Sydney and Kormoran came together on the evening of 19 November 1941 each ship had their stories to tell. After the short and violent battle both ships were gone.

Over 300 German sailors survived and told their stories to the world. We will never know the stories from the Sydney.

USING THE INFORMATION CARDS PROVIDED ON THE NEXT PAGES:
The information cards are based on the reports from Captain Detmers and the Kormoran crew after the battle. We can only guess what was happening on the bridge of Sydney as they approached Kormoran.

1. Write a narrative account from the first contact to the beginning of the engagement between Sydney and Kormoran. Choose a viewpoint from one of the ships or weave the two stories together.

2. Put yourself on the bridge of Sydney and/or Kormoran. Create a dramatic piece highlighting the growing tension as the two ships come together. Present your work as a play, a short film or a piece for radio.

3. You are an Australian Naval interrogator and the prisoner Captain Detmers has just been brought before you. Conduct your own investigation into the beginning of the engagement between the two ships. Use Captain Detmers’ account as your background (see cards). Present your work as a play, a short film or a piece for radio.

4. Read the timeline carefully and draw a diagram showing the tracks of the ships and the events leading up to the battle from the first sighting to the first gunfire.

5. Advanced research: Over the years many opinions have been expressed to try and explain why Sydney moved from a position of strength behind Kormoran to a position of weakness abeam of Kormoran. Look at the Sydney section of the Bibliography and read the differing opinions and conclusions expressed in some of the books and papers. Summarise your findings.

ONLINE QUESTIONS
The online interactive quiz can be found at:

### Timeline of the Battle

**Based on the report by the captain of Kormoran, Theodore Detmers**

**Indian Ocean off Shark Bay, Western Australia: 19 November 1941**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16:55</td>
<td><em>Kormoran</em> travelling north-east towards the Australian coast. Lookout sights a vessel on the port bow. Detmers decides to turn away to the west and increase to full speed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:05</td>
<td><em>Sydney</em> travelling south-east alters course to the south-west to give chase. Begins flashing the letters NNJ in Morse code asking <em>Kormoran</em> to identify itself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:35</td>
<td><em>Kormoran</em> hoists the signal flags to signify they are the Dutch cargo ship <em>Straat Malakka</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 17:45 | Exchange of signals continues. *Sydney* asking more questions such as port of destination and what cargo is being carried; *Kormoran* deliberately slow to respond knowing their only chance in a fight is surprise at a close range. They want *Sydney* to come even closer. *Kormoran* hides their main rangefinder so *Sydney* won’t see the sophisticated navigational instrument - not seen on a cargo ship.  

*Sydney* takes up position astern on the starboard quarter presenting a narrow silhouette.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Detmers orders Q signal (emergency call) be transmitted saying he is under attack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:15</td>
<td><em>Sydney</em> draws to a position on the starboard beam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:25</td>
<td><em>Sydney</em> moves to a position on the starboard beam just over 1000 metres away. <em>Sydney</em> makes the signal ‘hoist your secret call sign’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30</td>
<td>Unable to reply, <em>Kormoran</em> removes Dutch flag, hoists their battle flag and opens fire.</td>
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</table>
HMAS SYDNEY (II)

CAPTAIN BURNETT
Was 41 years old and had been in the navy since he was 13. He joined the Sydney, his first command, in May 1941. He was a very experienced officer having served in World War I and the Spanish Civil War. He was a gunnery specialist.

WHEN SYDNEY FIRST SIGHTED KORMORAN
CAPTAIN BURNETT OF THE SYDNEY KNEW...
...there were reports of a raider in the area and he had recently discovered a floating object, which could have been a raider's practice target.

...his superiors on shore were keen to capture enemy ships for the secret information they had on board.

...one of his colleagues had been criticised for attacking a mystery ship from long range and wasting valuable ammunition.

...he was surrounded by experienced officers who had fought in the Mediterranean campaign on board Sydney.

...he had information on board such as the VIA (vessels in the area report) and ship identification books that could help him identify the mystery ship.

As Sydney approached Kormoran Captain Burnett may have been...

...asking his officers to study ship recognition books and the VIA to see if the mystery vessel was who they said they were.

...trying to determine if the vessel was a raider supply ship, a cargo ship or a German raider.

...considering if he should launch his aircraft to fly over the vessel and report back.

...confident he had a speed advantage and gunnery advantage over the mystery vessel.

...keen not to break radio silence in case a raider was close by and would pick up his signal.

...considering capturing the mystery vessel if he thought it was a raider supply ship, and then go after the raider which may be close by.
HSK Kormoran
Captain Detmers
Was 39 years old, the youngest of the German raider captains. The Kormoran had been at sea nearly a year and had sunk or captured 11 ships. His crew was well trained and battle hardened. His orders were simple: to sink or capture enemy cargo ships and to avoid a fight with an enemy warship.

As Sydney approached Kormoran Captain Detmers...
... was hoping his disguise would work and Sydney would leave them alone. He didn’t want to fight an enemy war ship.

...knew the cruiser was faster, stronger and had guns that could operate at a greater range.

...knew he had sufficient firepower to sink and capture merchant ships but not a war ship unless he could surprise them at close range.

...knew the Kormoran couldn’t out run the cruiser.

...knew the flag hoist for the Dutch merchant man Straat Malakka and would pretend to be that ship.

...knew the cruiser was keen to find out who they were and would continue to ask questions by signalling.

...knew he should only answer with signal flags in the style of a merchantman but could pretend to be inexperienced and fumble his flag hoists to buy time.

...could see the cruiser had an aircraft that could be launched to fly over, examine his ship closely and possibly see through his disguise.

...knew he would not be able to fight effectively with his large guns until the cruiser came within 8000 metres of his ship.

...knew all his smaller weapons and torpedoes would be in range if the cruiser came within 3000 metres.

...knew his aft facing underwater torpedo tubes could be used if the cruiser took up a position close behind but he would have to slow right down to use them.

...believed that if it came to a fight he had a good chance if he could get the first shots in at close range.

...knew he would have to lower the Dutch flag and hoist his battle flag before firing at the cruiser.

...knew he didn’t want his ship captured.
Searching for Shipwrecks

Introduction

Sometimes shipwrecks are found by accident but more often than not they are discovered after long and painstaking research of historical records.

The accidental discoveries are usually shallow water shipwrecks found by divers. This is typical of wrecks discovered off Australia’s west coast in the 1960s and 1970s. Many of these ships were traders heading for the Spice Islands to the north of Australia.

When the maritime spice trade from Europe began, the ships hugged the coast of Africa after rounding the Cape of Good Hope before setting out across the Indian Ocean. This route was slow and dangerous with the chance of attack by pirates along the African coast and light winds near the equator making for slow progress.

In 1611 Dutch captain Hendrik Brouwer discovered a quicker and more dependable route to the East Indies. After leaving Cape Town he sailed down to latitude 40° south and met the strong westerly winds (the Roaring Forties) that drove his ship swiftly across the Indian Ocean. This maritime freeway took months off the voyage but added the danger of running into the forbidding west coast of Australia where the outlying reefs were waiting to trap any unfortunate ship that strayed too far east.

The discovery of HMAS Sydney (II) and HSK Kormoran was the result of exhaustive research over many years both in Australia and overseas. But because the search area was in deep water many kilometres off the coast, the search had to wait until the invention of a deep water searching tool that could economically scan hundreds of square miles of ocean floor up to 5 kilometres deep.

With the development of side scan sonar primarily used in the search for oil and gas, and the use of ROVs (Remotely Operated Vehicles), deep-water wreck hunting became a possibility.
# Searching for Shipwrecks

## Shipwreck Timeline

Wrecks in Australia and Around the World

Here are a few of the many thousands of shipwrecks that have been discovered over the years in oceans around the world. With each wreck a website is provided that can be a starting point for your research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Wreck</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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### Searching for Shipwrecks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td>Rapid</td>
<td>Point Cloates, Western Australia</td>
<td>American China trader</td>
<td><a href="http://www.museum.wa.gov.au/collections/maritime/march/shipwrecks.asp">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>SS Xantho</td>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>Subject of the Western Australian Museum’s Steamships to Suffragettes exhibition</td>
<td><a href="http://www.museum.wa.gov.au/collections/maritime/march/shipwrecks/Xantho/Xantho.html">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Loch Ard</td>
<td>Mutton Bird Island, Victoria</td>
<td>Clipper ship</td>
<td><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loch_Ard_(ship)">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Koombana</td>
<td>off Port Hedland</td>
<td>Coastal passenger and cargo steamship</td>
<td><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koombana">Link</a> <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Hedland">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Titanic</td>
<td>North Atlantic, south east of Newfoundland</td>
<td>Passenger Liner</td>
<td><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RMS_Titanic">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Lusitania</td>
<td>Atlantic off Southern Ireland</td>
<td>Passenger liner</td>
<td><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RMS_Lusitania">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Bismarck</td>
<td>Atlantic Ocean, 380 nm south of Cork, Ireland</td>
<td>German Battleship</td>
<td><a href="http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_battleship_Bismarck">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>HMAS Sydney (II)</td>
<td>off Shark Bay Western Australia</td>
<td>Australian warship</td>
<td><a href="http://www.findingsydney.com">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>HSK Kormoran</td>
<td>off Shark Bay Western Australia</td>
<td>German raider</td>
<td><a href="http://www.findingsydney.com">Link</a> <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_auxiliary_cruiser_Kormoran">Link</a></td>
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SEARCHING FOR SHIPWRECKS

ACTIVITY
Choose one of the ships from the Shipwreck Timeline and do some research to find out more about it. Here are some questions to start you off.

1. What type of ship was it?
2. Where was the ship going?
3. What was its cargo?
4. Who discovered the wreck and how was it found?
5. What artefacts were found on the wreck site?
6. What do these artefacts tell us about the ship and the people who sailed in it?
7. Where are the artefacts now?

ONLINE QUESTIONS
The online interactive quiz can be found at:

# Bibliography

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Published</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Codes and Ciphers</td>
<td>Callery, Sean</td>
<td>Collins</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMAS Sydney</td>
<td>Frame, Tom</td>
<td>Hodder</td>
<td>1998</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss and Controversy</td>
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<td>Sydney – Cipher and Search</td>
<td>Hore, Peter</td>
<td>Seafarer Books</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solving the last great naval mystery of the Second World War</td>
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<td>HMAS Sydney</td>
<td>Lefroy, Mike</td>
<td>Black Dog Books</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>The Mystery of Australia’s Greatest Naval Disaster</td>
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<td>The Search for the Sydney</td>
<td>Mears, David L</td>
<td>HarperCollins</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>How Australia’s Greatest Maritime Mystery was Solved</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seeking the Sydney</td>
<td>McDonald, Glenys</td>
<td>University of Western Australia Press</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Quest for Truth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bitter Victory</td>
<td>Olson, Wesley</td>
<td>University of Western Australia Press</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>The Death of HMAS Sydney</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Oxford Companion to Ships and the Sea</td>
<td>Peter Kemp (Editor)</td>
<td>Oxford University Press</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucky Ross</td>
<td>Ross, John</td>
<td>Hesperian Press</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Autobiography of an RAN Officer – 1934 – 1951</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMAS Sydney</td>
<td>Winter, Barbara</td>
<td>Boolarong Publications</td>
<td>1984</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact, Fantasy and Fraud</td>
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BIBLIOGRAPHY

DVD RESOURCES

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<th>DVD Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Published</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Hunt for HMAS Sydney</td>
<td>Film Australia Limited</td>
<td>Electric Pictures Pty Ltd and ScreenWest</td>
<td>2008</td>
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SELECTED INTERNET

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<tr>
<th>Website Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Finding Sydney Foundation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.findingsydney.com">http://www.findingsydney.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>HMAS Sydney and VLSVA (Vic)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hmassydney.com">http://www.hmassydney.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>For more information about the history of the HSK Kormoran, visit</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bismarck-class.dk/hilfskreuzer/kormoran.html">http://www.bismarck-class.dk/hilfskreuzer/kormoran.html</a></td>
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<td>ABC Documentary</td>
<td><a href="http://www.abc.net.au/tv/hmassydney">http://www.abc.net.au/tv/hmassydney</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>British Royal Navy, legacy of the 8 Britons on board the Sydney</td>
<td><a href="http://www.royal-navy.org">http://www.royal-navy.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HMAS SYDNEY (II)
Classroom Activities

Multiple Choice Quiz Answers

Codes & Communications

A cryptographer is a person that:
1. studies crypts
2. breaks codes – correct
3. specialises in breaking codes during wartime

Morse code is an international code that is transmitted by:
1. sound
2. light
3. radio
4. all of the above – correct

Morse code was used at sea until the beginning of the 21st century:
1. True – correct
2. False

A system of internationally recognized signal flags was set up in:
1. the mid 1600s
2. late 1800s – correct
3. early 1700s

When the red ‘B’ flag is hoisted at sea it means:
1. I am carrying dangerous goods – correct
2. I am about to stop
3. pass me on the port side

The German Code machine in the Second World War was called the:
1. Kormoran
2. Swastika
3. Enigma – correct

Sydney didn’t use their radio to contact Kormoran because they were:
1. on radio silence – correct
2. too close
3. not able to decide what language to use

An open code is one:
1. that is incomplete
2. known to everyone – correct
3. known only to people that speak the same language
HMAS SYDNEY (II)
Classroom Activities

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUIZ ANSWERS

LOOSE LIPS SINK SHIPS

The reports on the bombing of Darwin censored the:
1. number of planes shot down
2. the Australian death toll – correct
3. the Japanese death toll

The Naval Board initially suppressed the news of the loss of Komoran because:
1. they were hoping to sink its supply ship – correct
2. they didn’t believe the German survivors
3. they were waiting for the Sydney to return

The rumours of the sinking of Sydney forced the government to confirm the story before they were ready:
1. True – correct
2. False

The first bombing of Darwin was:
1. 3 months after the Sydney disappeared – correct
2. at the same time
3. a year after Sydney disappeared

The Government believed censorship was important because:
1. it prevented valuable information falling into enemy hands
2. it was good for morale
3. both of the above – correct
Multiple Choice Quiz Answers

Timeline Quiz

In 1914 the first HMAS Sydney sank the German raider:
1. Kormoran
2. Emden – correct
3. Bismarck

The last people to see HMAS Sydney (II) before she sank were:
1. the crew of Kormoran – correct
2. people watching the battle near Geraldton
3. soldiers on the troop ship Zeelandia

HMAS Sydney (II) was built in:
1. Newcastle, Australia
2. Newcastle, England – correct
3. Sydney, Australia

The first eyewitness details of the battle came from:
1. a captain of a ship rescuing German survivors
2. German survivors – correct
3. people watching the battle near Geraldton

Between the two funnels HMAS Sydney (II) carried:
1. a signal mast
2. an amphibious aircraft – correct
3. a flag

What was discovered at Christmas Island in 1942:
1. the ‘unknown sailor’ – correct
2. a life ring
3. a life boat

HMAS Sydney (II) sunk the Italian Cruiser Bartolomeo Colleoni in:
1. the Mediterranean Sea – correct
2. the Atlantic Ocean
3. the Indian Ocean

In 1941 John Curtin was:
1. the Prime Minister of Australia – correct
2. the captain of HMAS Sydney
3. the editor of the West Australian

On her last voyage HMAS Sydney (II) left from:
1. Singapore Harbour
2. Sydney Harbour
3. Fremantle Harbour – correct

HMAS Sydney (II) was found:
1. before the Kormoran
2. after the Kormoran – correct
3. just after 11pm
Multiple Choice Quiz Answers

Whose History

Captain Burnett of HMAS Sydney (II) thought the mystery vessel was:
1. a Dutch cargo ship Straat Malakka
2. a German raider
3. a German raider supply ship
4. None of the above
5. We don’t know – correct

Captain Detmers turned Kormoran to the west because:
1. he wanted to sail towards Germany
2. he wanted to use the setting sun to hide his escape – correct
3. he thought Sydney would not follow him

To support his replies to Sydney Captain Detmers:
1. hoisted the Dutch flag – correct
2. raised the German flag
3. called Sydney on the radio

Captain Detmers believed he could outrun Sydney and escape:
1. True
2. False – correct

Sydney sent their signals to Kormoran by:
1. radio
2. signal flags
3. signal lamp – correct

Kormoran replied to Sydney by:
1. signal lamp
2. signal flags – correct
3. radio

Kormoran was slow in answering Sydney’s signals because:
1. their English was poor
2. they were inexperienced
3. they wanted Sydney to ‘buy time’ – correct

Sydney came up behind Kormoran so:
1. they would provide a smaller target – correct
2. they could use all their guns
3. they could read Kormoran’s signals clearly
HMAS SYDNEY (II)
Classroom Activities

Multiple Choice Quiz Answers

Searching for Shipwrecks

The Greek cargo ship from 350 BC was:
1. found in 60 metres of water
2. carrying ceramic jars of wine
3. discovered using sonar scans
4. All of the above – correct

Sydney Cove was re discovered in:
1. 1980
2. 1977 – correct
3. 1991

The J**ewel of Muscat** is a replica of:
1. a Chinese junk
2. an Arab trading ship – correct
3. an Indonesian fishing boat

The ship Rapid was:
1. a China trader from Belfast in Ireland
2. a China trader from Boston UK
3. a China trader from Boston USA – correct

Mary Rose was raised from the seabed in:
1. 1982 – correct
2. 1989
3. 1975

The ship James Matthews was wrecked when:
1. its anchor dragged – correct
2. it sprang a leak
3. it hit a reef

Tryall is the oldest shipwreck discovered in Australian waters:
1. True – correct
2. False

Mary Rose was raised from the seabed in:
1. 1982 – correct
2. 1989
3. 1975

Batavia was wrecked:
1. on the coast of Western Australia
2. on the Abrolhos Islands – correct
3. on the Indonesian island of Sumatra

Titanic’s maiden voyage departed from:
1. Southampton – correct
2. New York
3. Belfast

Bismarck was:
1. sunk by HMS Hood
2. named after a famous politician – correct
3. sunk by HMS Ark Royal