

# Submarine Disasters and Survival

## Free Webinar

### July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Sponsored by

The Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA) and the Friends of Holbrook  
Submarine Museum (FHSM)

The loss of the San Juan in South America and more recently, the KRI Nanggala tragedy in Indonesia brings into focus the hazards of submarining and options for survival and recovery. The discussion will focus on escape techniques, survival possibilities, recovery techniques and improvements made in these areas over the years. An expert team will cover the local and international aspects of the subject



#### THE PANEL

**Frank Owen OAM** - Frank is the Secretary of the Submarine Institute of Australia. Frank served in the RAN for a total of 31 years, specialising in submarines. Frank was responsible for the introduction of a sovereign submarine escape and rescue capability in 1996, a revolutionary system that inspired the development of a similar capability in the United States Navy, the Submarine Rescue and Diving Recompression System (SRDRS) He was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia in 2018. Frank's perspective on the recent DISSUB incident involving KRI Nanggala was widely sought by members of the media.

**Peter Horobin MBE** - Peter is a former submariner and commanding HMAS Otway in the 1970s. In the early 1980s he was the Navy project manager for the establishment of the Submarine Escape Training Facility at HMAS Stirling. From 2011 to 2015 he was leader of James Fisher Defence (predecessors to JFD Australia) delivering the Submarine Rescue Service for the RAN and from 2013, the Pressurised Escape Training service. From 2012 to 2015 he was the Director responsible for James Fisher Defence global submarine escape rescue and abandonment operations. This included responsibility for the James Fisher Defence rescue services for Australia and Singapore and the rescue team in the NATO Submarine Rescue System based in Faslane.

**Toff Idrus OAM, US Bronze Star** - Toff is a former submariner having served as the Marine Engineer Officer in a few the Oberon class submarines before then proceeding to fulfil many of the technical officer roles ashore within the Submarine Community. Toff was most recently the Managing Director of JFD Australia, the current provider of the Australian Submarine Rescue System in support of the RAN Submarine Force. His operational submarine escape and rescue capability experience is therefore very current and makes Toff a timely member of today's Webinar panel.

**Brad Smith** - A career commercial diver since 1998, Brad has been involved in the offshore oil and gas sector as a Diving Supervisor and in Operations Management. Brad has been the Tank Top supervisor and Training Officer responsible for the delivery of Pressurised Submarine Escape Training to both Australian and international submariners. At the cessation of PSET he was appointed the Submarine Abandonment, Escape and Rescue (SAER) Team Leader. In addition to his SAER role he is the Hyperbaric Equipment Suite Superintendent in support of submarine rescue. He has been involved in all Black Carillon exercises since 2013 and conducted a live escape from a CCSM in 2015.

**Registrations** can be made by email to: The Secretary FHSM, [tlund@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tlund@bigpond.net.au)  
registrations will close on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 4pm.