

MEDIA RELEASE

29 MARCH 2014

## Sydney Emden 100 'Weekend of Commemorations' Schedule

The Cocos Keeling Islands community will host the Sydney Emden 100 'Weekend of Commemorations' during the period 8 and 9 November 2014. The events and activities have been developed in conjunction with the Royal Australian Navy to appropriately commemorate the Centenary of the 'Battle of Cocos'.

The official events will be held over two days showcasing this significant event in Australian and German history and the Cocos Keeling Islands as a geopolitically important and unique destination. The events will include an official Memorial Service on the Centenary to be conducted by the Royal Australian Navy, the official opening of the Sydney Emden Gazebo and Interpretive Trail on Direction Island as well as displays about the islands history and Cocos Malay culture and traditions, and the screening of the documentary *Cocos 1914 – 'An encounter between the HMAS Sydney and SMS Emden'*.

The Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands CEO, Peter Clarke says, "Council, together with the Australian Government and Navy, the German Navy, the Cocos Keeling Islands Tourism Association and community representatives have been working closely together for a number of years to prepare for this significant event in Australia's maritime history."

Included in this release is the schedule for the 'Weekend of Commemorations' which provides an overview of the events planned for the Centenary on the Cocos Keeling Islands. A detailed itinerary will be released in late September and will be published on the Sydney Emden 100 website [www.sydneyemden100.com.au](http://www.sydneyemden100.com.au) and on the [Sydney Emden 100 Facebook Page](#).

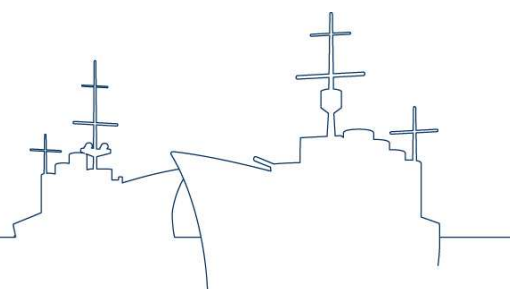
The documentary *Cocos 1914 – 'An encounter between the HMAS Sydney and SMS Emden'* was developed by Fact Not Fiction Films, an independent UK film company that in late 2010 attended the Cocos Keeling Islands. At this time filming took place on North Keeling Island and the still visible underwater wreck of the SMS Emden. The 52 minute documentary had its international launch today in the Cocos Keeling Islands and will be available for purchase along with a range of other merchandise from the [Cocos Keeling Islands Visitor Centre](#).

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## 'Weekend of Commemorations'

### Friday 7 November 2014 – West Island

#### In the Afternoon

Dignitaries arrive by aircraft

#### In the Evening - Invitation Only

Official Cocktail Reception with welcome speeches and responses hosted by the Indian Ocean Territories Administrator overlooking the sunset behind the Tropika Restaurant

#### In the Evening - For Everyone

Cocos Club Food Night – Partake in West Island tradition and purchase a meal prepared by a local community organisation whilst socialising with the community and visitors to the islands

### Saturday 8 November 2014 – Direction Island and Home Island

#### In the Morning - Direction Island

Official launch of the Cocos Keeling Islands Shire Projects - the Sydney Emden Gazebo and the Direction Island Interpretive Trails

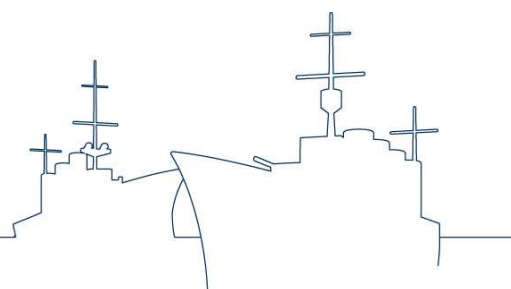
Walk the Direction Island Trail and learn about the history of the islands, snorkel the rip, or sit back and relax in the beauty of the serene Direction Island

#### In the Afternoon - Home Island

Discover the culture and tradition of the Cocos Malay people. Take a look at the Home Island Museum, purchase arts, crafts and other items made by the Home Island Seniors Group and Home Islanders at the Market Stalls, and view or participate in a range of other activities and demonstrations

Experience traditional Cocos Malay foods in the early evening before catching the ferry back to West Island

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## 'Weekend of Commemorations'

### Sunday 9 November 2014 – West Island

#### In the Morning

The Official Memorial Service at the Sydney Emden Memorial on West Island

#### Midday/ Afternoon

Lunch at the "Donga" - the home of the Cocos Keeling Islands Golf Club

Sydney Emden - Cocos Keeling Islands Golf Cup. A once in a lifetime event; a social Ambrose golf challenge open to teams with all ranges of skills on one of the most unique golf courses in the world where you play over an international runway. No experience necessary, bar facilities and club hire available at the Golf Club

For those not wishing to participate in golf, take this opportunity to take a AAA Cocos Electric Bus Tour, visit the Big Barge Art Centre, swim at Trannies Beach, go for a SUP, canoe tour, etc (subject to tides and bookings for tours essential).

#### In the Evening

Enjoy a meal whilst being entertained by the Royal Australian Navy Band and watching the sunset at the Big Barge Art Centre

Sit back on your picnic mat or chair at the Big Barge Art Centre for the screening of the Fact Not Fiction Documentary – 'Cocos 1914' - An encounter between HMAS Sydney and SMS Emden

### Monday 10 November 2014

The day is yours to discover the tropical beauty of the Cocos Keeling Islands. Take a motorised outrigger canoe tour, glass bottom boat tour, hire a stand up paddle board, talk to Dory's Café about getting a sumptuous picnic lunch to enjoy, take an electric bus tour or bird watching tour, swim at trannies beach, snorkel, fish, take a dive tour, kite surf, play a round of golf. So many options!

\*Tours require pre-booking and are subject to tides and weather

### Tuesday 11 November 2014

Dignitaries depart by aircraft

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