

MEDIA RELEASE



ECCI ESPERANCE EXPRESS COLUMN

The Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECCI) is a membership-based, not-for-profit, non-government organisation that aims to create an environment in which businesses can thrive through representation of the local business community.

The ECCI promotes opportunities for our members and local businesses to be involved in, such as the following event.

HMAS Farncomb Freedom of Entry Parade in Esperance on Thursday 10 November

The *HMAS Farncomb* was designated the town of Esperance as its affiliated town however, the *Farncomb* has yet to visit our bay. This will change in November 2016.

The *HMAS Farncomb* is a Collins Class Submarine commissioned on 31st January 1998. The submarine is bound for Esperance and will arrive on the 8th November, departing on the 12th. During their stay in Esperance Officers and crew will be participating in a ceremonial event known as Freedom of Entry. The Freedom of Entry dates back to the medieval period and is conducted to recognise the ties between the Unit and the town.

The Shire of Esperance will host the Freedom of Entry parade on the 10th November in the town centre. The parade will start at the Whale Tail, with the *Farncomb* crew marching through town, finishing in front of the RSL Memorial. The march takes an hour and will be a spectacle for all to see. Food stalls will be in front of the museum making it a great night out for the whole family to enjoy. More information on the parade will be available as we get closer to the date.

Shire President Victoria Brown said "This is such an exciting event for everyone in town to come and see, something a little different, with lots of pomp and ceremony. I really look forward to granting the *Farncomb* Freedom of Entry to our beautiful town and can't wait to see them marching up Andrews Street. What a fantastic way for our community to get out on a Thursday evening and be thoroughly entertained."

During their visit to Esperance *Farncomb* crew members will visit schools in the area to discuss life in the navy and in particular on a submarine. They will also attend the Remembrance Day service, an Entrenchment Fundraising dinner and participate in a local volleyball competition with representatives from our schools and community youth groups. Additionally, there will be markets on Saturday at Adventure Land Park in the morning with the Yacht Club involved in a sail out in the afternoon as the *Farncomb* leaves the Esperance Bay.

For more information about events and activities please contact the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry at admin@esperancecci.com.au or on 9071 5142. The ECCI welcomes new members so please feel welcome to ask us for a copy of our membership benefits information.

Visit our website for more information on the ECCI at www.esperancecci.com.au