

Probus Neutral Bay Guest Speaker – Tues. 12th AUG. 2025

NOEL PHELAN– formerly of the Aust. National Maritime Museum



“THE BOMBING OF DARWIN”

Introduction: The Bombing of Darwin during World War II involved two major air raids by the Japanese on February 19, 1942, targeting the city's port and military facilities. These attacks, part of a larger campaign, aimed to disrupt Allied operations in the region and were a significant event in Australia's wartime history.

The attacks on Darwin continued until November 1943, with a total of 64 raids.

The bombings were subject to wartime censorship, to initially downplay the scale of the events.



Our Guest SpeakerNoel Phelan. We first met Noel through previous presentations to us on “The Halvorsen Story”, “The Sinking and Salvaging of The Costa Concordia” and “The history of Steam”. He was also our host on “The Navy in Sydney Harbour East” cruise. In all, he was excellent. Noel was a Team Leader at the Australian National Maritime Museum but has now retired. He has had a close connection with the water all his life. On a personal basis a director and sailing captain of his sailing club.

Noel's first career was as a science and mathematics teacher. He then moved into IT with IBM where he spent 25 years in various technical and management positions. Noel is a Past President of Northbridge Rotary and in retirement is an active volunteer. Noel also spent several years with Marine Rescue and the Rural Fire Service. A very special bloke.

His Presentation Noel will take us through the details of the bombing on that historic day in February 1942, and its effect on the people of Darwin.
