
MISSION REPORT



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE
ACADEMY (ADFA) OPEN DAY

27 AUGUST 2011

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Saturday 27 August 2011 was the annual Open Day at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) in Campbell, ACT. This is a day when the campus is open to the public and it showcases the best of what a career as an Officer in the Australian Defence Force has to offer to those considering a career in uniform. It is a great day for everyone and features campus tours, helicopters, paratroopers, ceremonial drill demonstrations, small arms firing demonstrations.....and, of course, the 1:72 scale models of Task Force 72!

Fleet Base Canberra was out in force. We put on a spectacular display that drew a lot of attention and admiration from visitors. We had 15 models on display and in attendance were David Peterson, Peter Cole, Doug Bain, Alex Goodieson, Russ French, Cameron Glassford, Charles and Margaret Robinson and myself. The models ranged in size from smaller vessels such as Doug's minehunter HMAS HUON and Peter's HMAS BETANO to large destroyers such as Russ' USS WINSTON CHURCHILL and my ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV. The models were representative of the navies of Australia, the United States, Ireland and Russia and spanned over 100 years of naval history.

During the day we were allocated three 1 hour periods to sail the models on the indoor pool. When not sailing, we had the models on static display outside the building which gave us an opportunity to interact with visitors, enjoy the superb weather and (in my case) catch up on some repairs and maintenance! The great thing about this day is that there is never a dull moment - there are always interesting things happening and it has something for everyone.

The pool itself is large, square shaped and is a terrific place to sail, although one has to be vigilant, particularly when sailing the larger models....especially if you are have a penchant for speed. We had a few "close quarters" situations develop (much to the amusement of onlookers) but it all adds to the excitement. I particularly enjoyed giving my Alfa class submarine K-373 a workout in the two afternoon sailing sessions. The ADFA pool is a marvellous location for model submariners as you have warm crystal clear to sail in and excellent visibility at all times.

Other models which proved popular performers with onlookers were Alex's Daring class destroyer HMAS VAMPIRE, David's River class destroyer HMAS PARRAMATTA III and Peter's HMAS DARWIN. Being the future flagship RAN surface combatant, Russ' Air Warfare Destroyer HMAS HOBART also attracted a lot of attention from onlookers who were curious to see the future shape of the RAN.

Overall, we all had a terrific day out. The weather was superb and our hosts at ADFA could not have been more gracious and helpful. We'd particularly like to acknowledge our Fleet Base I/C David Peterson for his efforts in organising the day for us to enjoy, and Chief Petty Officer Tony Chapman and his team of Physical Training Instructors for their assistance at the pool throughout the day.

We are looking forward to next year.



When not sailing on the pool, we had the ships on static display opposite the Parade Ground



Russ and Charles entertaining an enthusiastic admirer



HMAS DARWIN and HMAS DERWENT (Peter Cole)



HMAS PARRAMATTA I (Charles Robinson)



USS WINSTON CHURCHILL (Russ French)



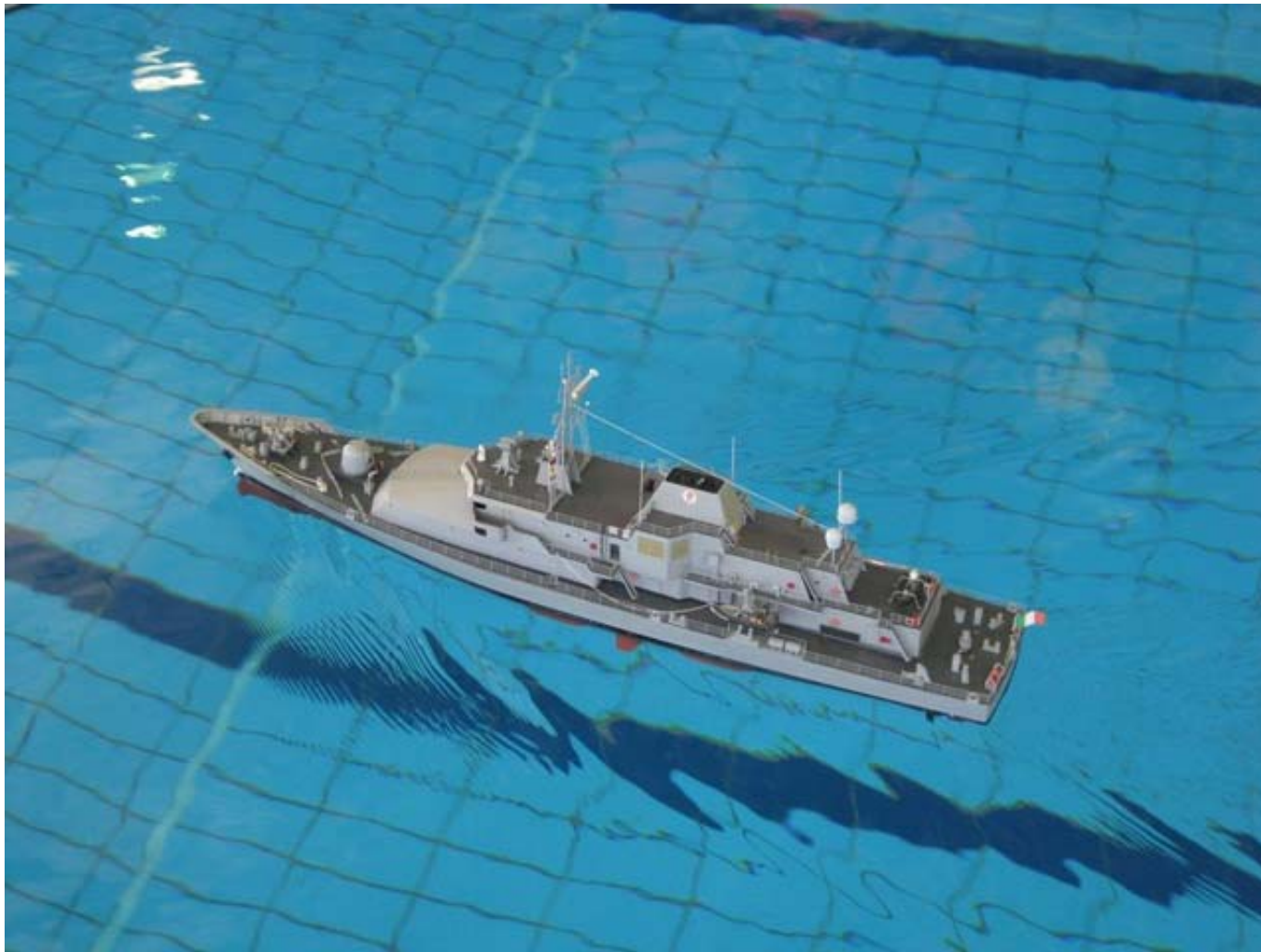
HMAS HAWK (Peter Cole)



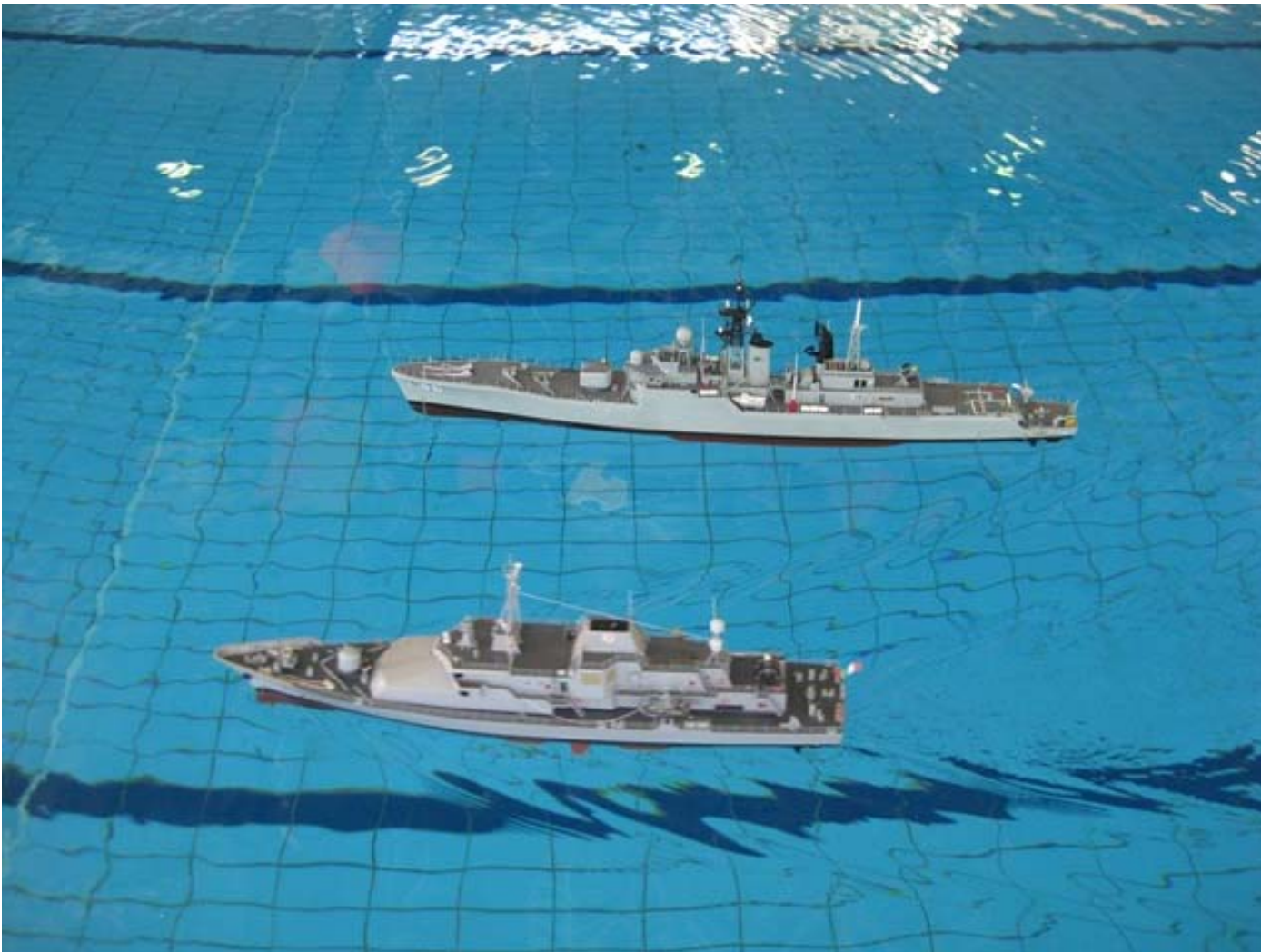
HMAS HOBART (Russ French)



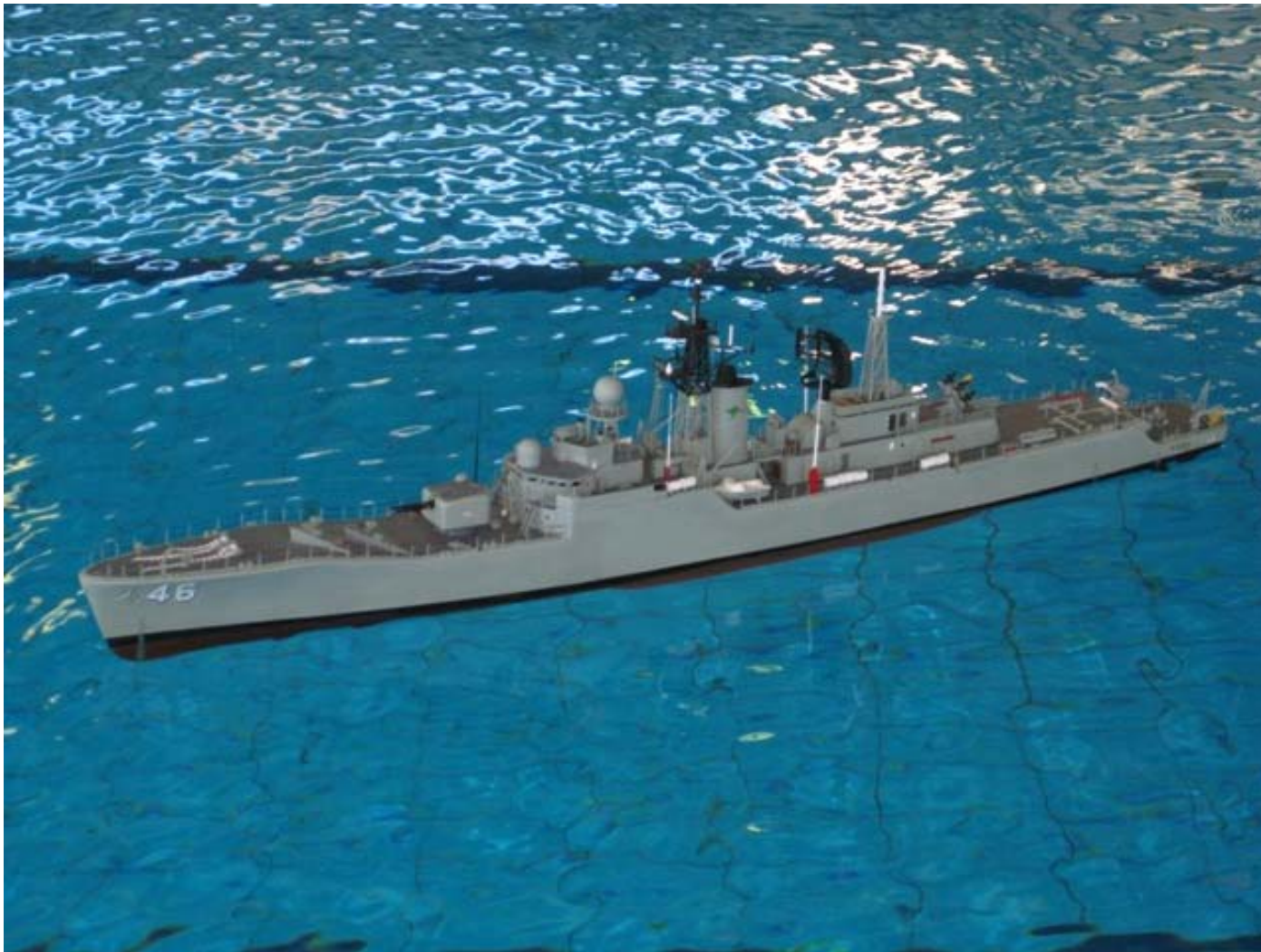
HMAS HUON (Doug Bain)



Irish Offshore Patrol Vessel (Peter Cole)



PARRAMATTA and the Irish OPV



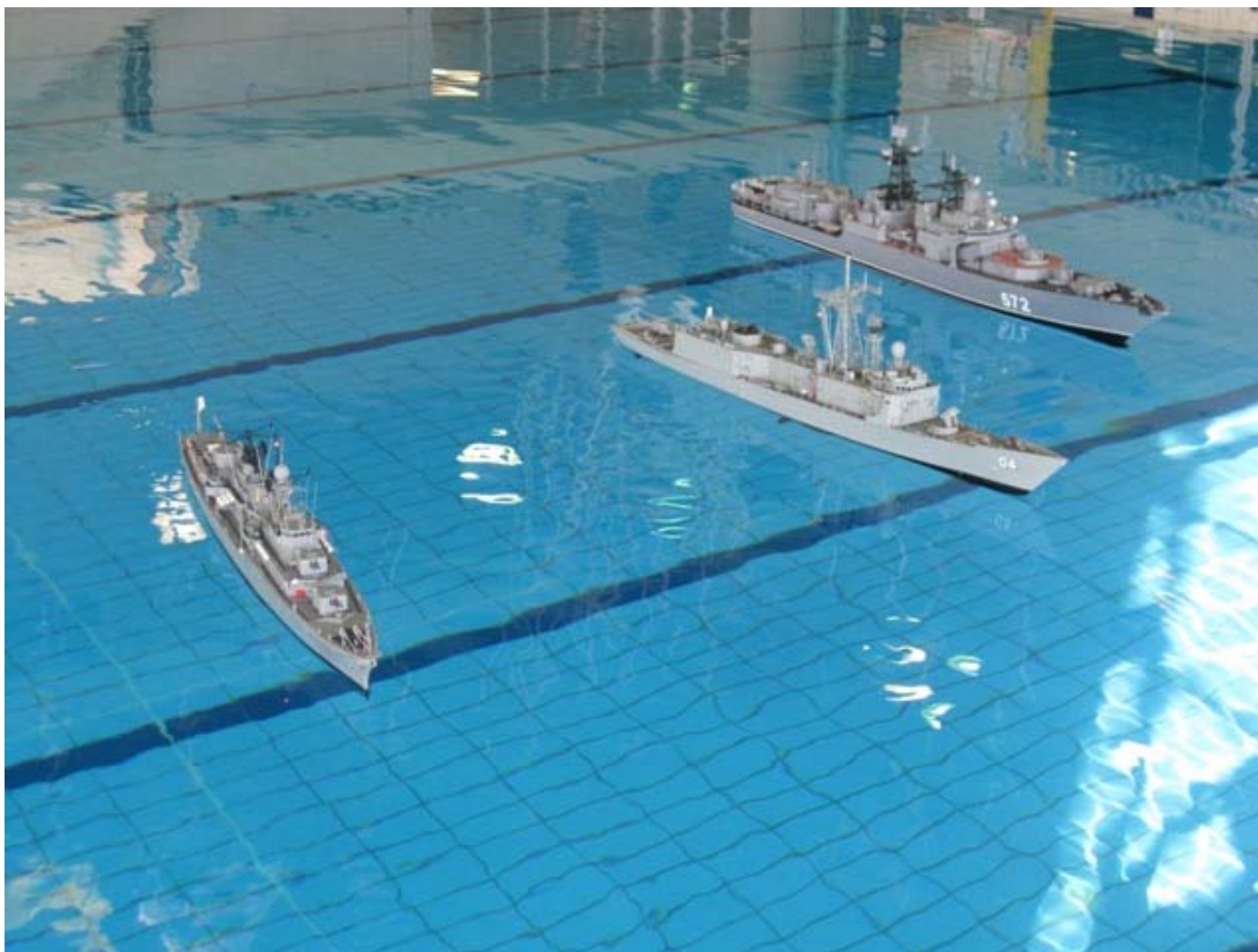
HMAS PARRAMATTA III (David Peterson)



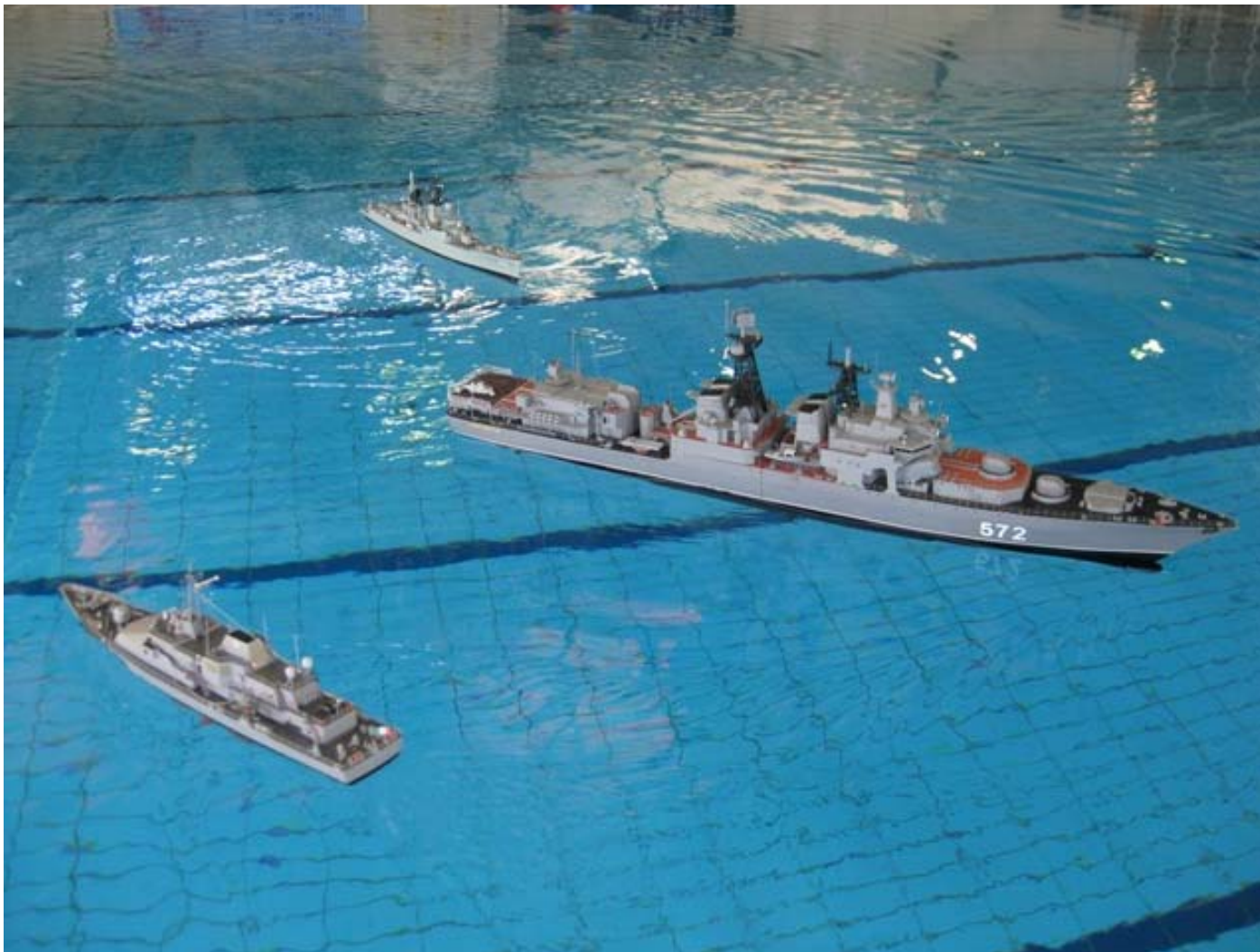
HMAS VAMPIRE (Alex Goodieson)



ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV (Carl Linkenbakh)



VAMPIRE, DARWIN and ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV



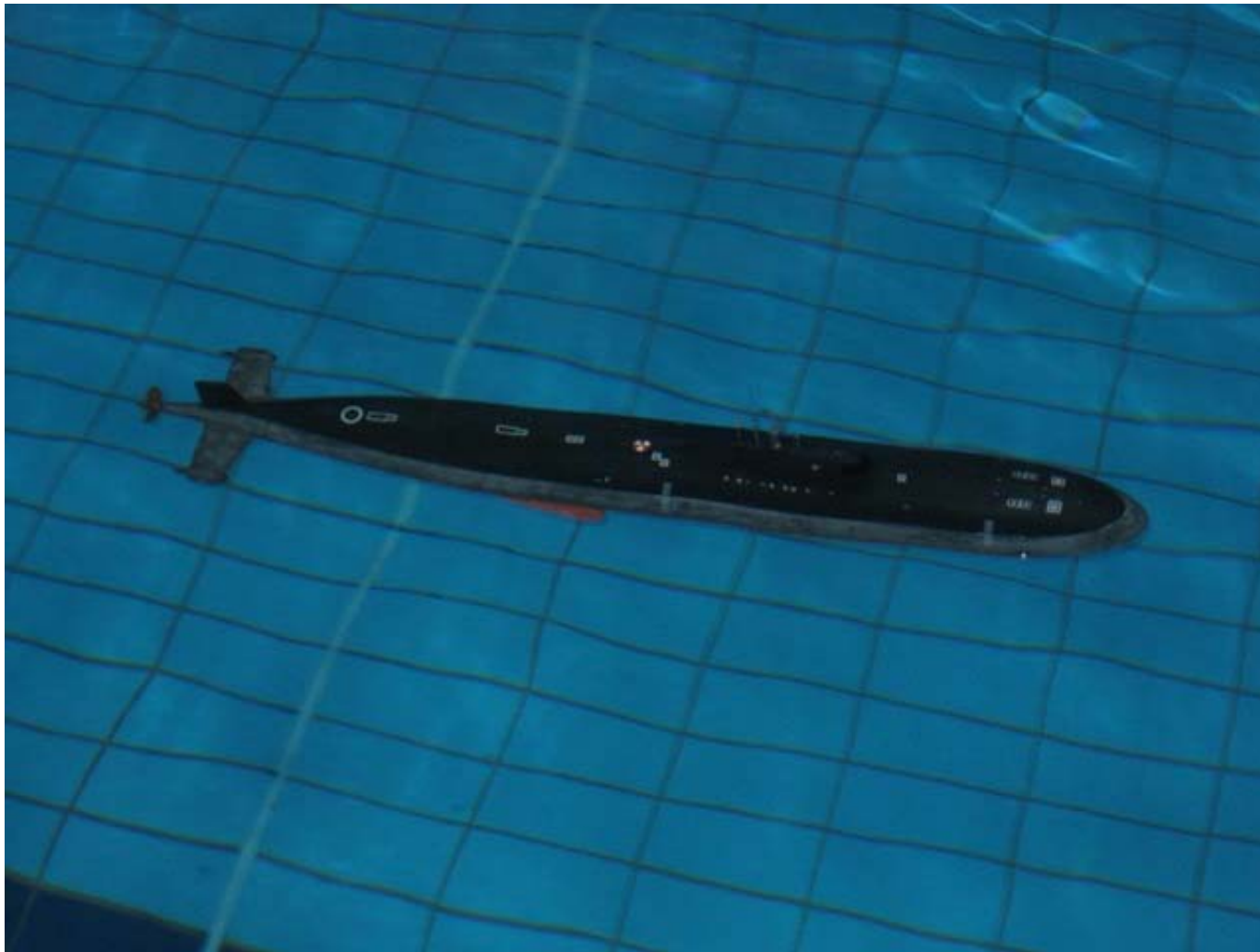
Irish OPV, PARRAMATTA and ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV



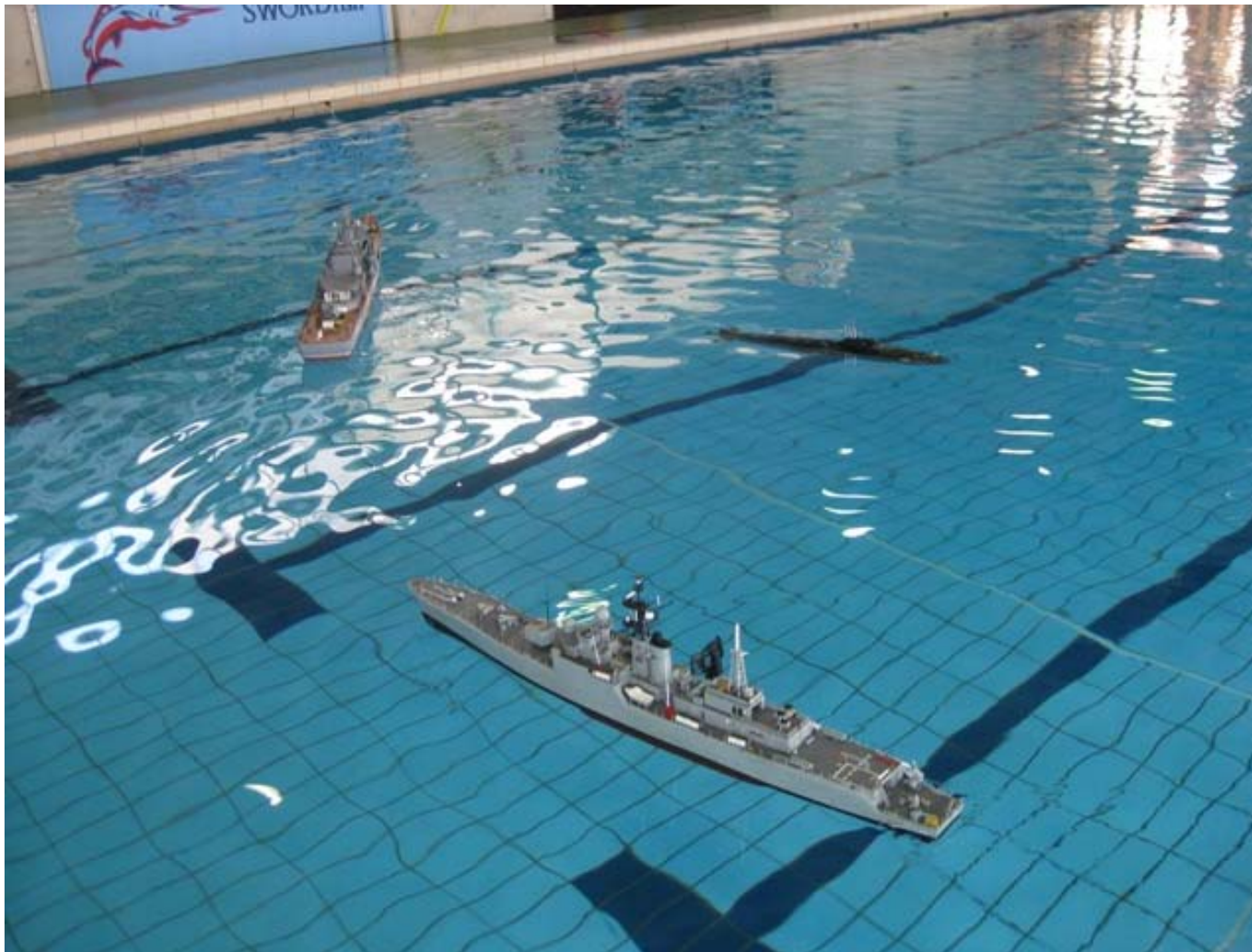
ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV and PARRAMATTA



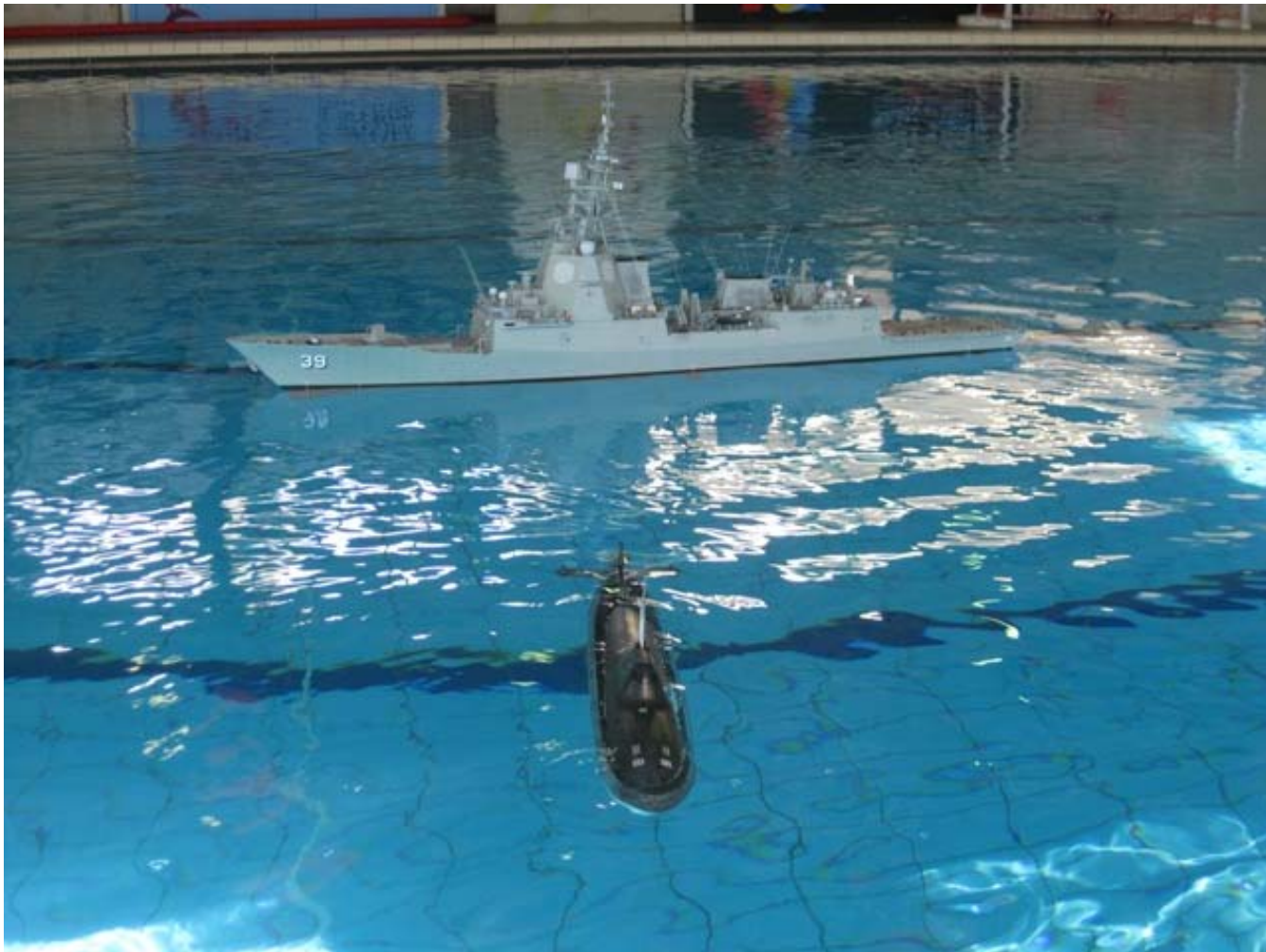
VAMPIRE and NASTOYCHIVY (Carl Linkenbagh)



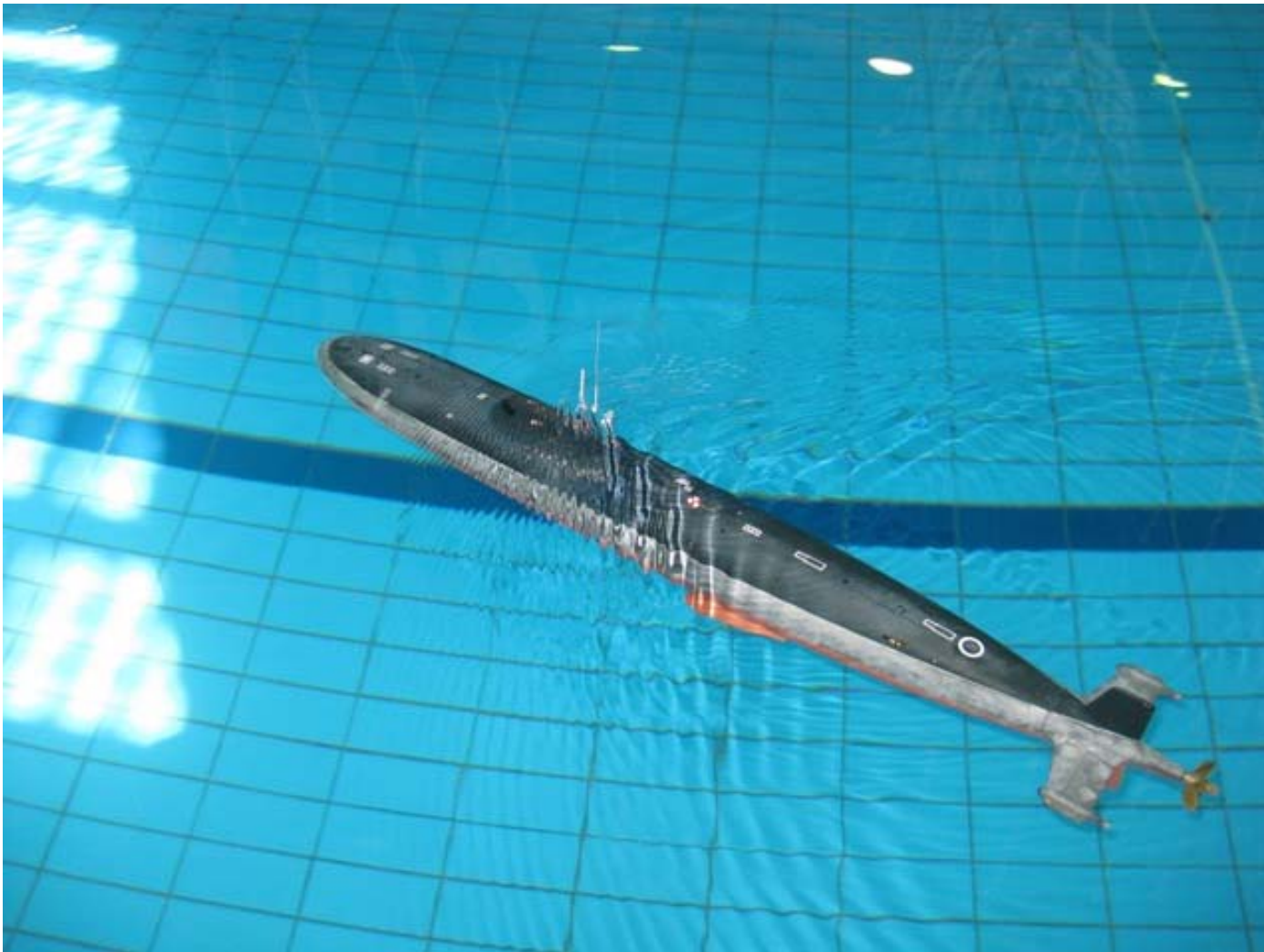
K-373 (Carl Linkenbagh)



NASTOYCHIVY, PARRAMATTA and K-373



HOBART and K-373



K-373