

The Royal Australian Navy in 15 Objects

Object 15

Seahawk Helicopter Tiger 75

Appropriately the last object is the Seahawk helicopter Tiger 75. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Fleet Air Arm. The Seahawk S-70B helicopters operated from the Navy's Adelaide class and Anzac class frigates.

The striking S-70B Seahawk is 19.76 metres long and painted with Tiger stripes to reflect the 816 Squadron Crest, which depicts the head of a Bengal tiger, with the motto, 'Imitate the Action of the Tiger' drawn from William Shakespeare's 'Henry V'.

Over the course of its 29-year career, N24-006/875 made multiple deployments to the Middle East and other international trouble spots.

The helicopters from the frigates HMAS *Newcastle* and HMAS *Melbourne* took part in the search and rescue operation associated with the ill-fated 1998 Sydney-to-Hobart yacht race. Tiger 75 was from the *Melbourne* and the dramatic rescue is recalled in an earlier *Australian Naval History* podcast on the rescue which is strongly recommended to listen to.

Location: The Australian National Maritime Museum.



Tiger 75 and her aircrew who took part in the 1998 Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race Rescue