
Stained Glass Window at Crib Point Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Chapel



Crib Point HMAS Cerberus
Catholic Chapel BVM Cross
Rays

Location

Crib Point, MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE

Municipality

MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage Study/Consultant	Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn Hughes, 2013;
Architect/Designer	Brooks, Robinson & Co,
Hermes Number	196822
Property Number	

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

<http://www.navy.gov.au/>

Memorial Window Subject

BVM Cross & Rays

Memorial Window Text

n/a

Memorial Window Inscription

Plaque: Pray for those who gave their lives in small ships *Gunbar*. *Kara Kara*. *Kangaroo*. Darwin Air Raids 19/2/42 *Patricia Cam*. Sunk 22/1/43 *Chinampa*. Timor August 1942 Erected by Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. Cara.

Memorial Window Description & History

The Chapel of Our Lady Star of the Sea was designed by PJ O'Connor and Brophy and built by WA Medbury as a memorial to 'those men of the Royal Australian Navy who gave their lives in World War I and II'. The Foundation stone was blessed the Melbourne's Archbishop, the Most Rev. D. Mannix DD, LLD, on 6 October 1946. The builder ordered windows from Brooks, Robinson & Co. in March 1948, most to be made of 'amber quarries with a green outside border and a ruby inner border' with emblems inset, as was the case for this group in the north nave that each measured approximately 63 x 19 inches.

The small ships of the Royal Australian Navy and their crews performed above their weight in the Second World War. HMAS *Kara Kara* had been discontinued as a Sydney Harbour ferry when it was requisitioned by the RAN in 1941 and fitted out as a boom gate vessel. Serving in Darwin, along with HMAS *Gunbar*, requisitioned from the North Coast Steam Navigation Company, and HMAS *Kangaroo*, commissioned in Sydney in 1940, the small ships saw action in the bombing of Darwin on 19 February 1941, suffering damage and loss of life. The auxiliary ketch HMAS *Chinapa* was requisitioned from Thursday Island not many days after the Darwin bombings, and the wooden motor vessel HMAS *Patricia Cam* a month later. Both undertook a variety of vital tasks around the islands north of Australia until on 22 January 1943, the *Patricia Cam* took a bomb amidships and sank.

One of the donors, Mrs Cara, was most likely Susie Olive Cara, wife of Lieutenant Commander Clarence Edgar Cara, who reported for service on 4 September 1943 at the age of 44 after some months training at *Lonsdale* and *Cerberus*. English by birth, he transferred to the Royal Navy in May 1945 but was repatriated to Melbourne the following year. He died of illness related to his war service on 6 April 1947.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>