

# NO SHIP Action Group

## The Scuttling of the ex-HMAS Adelaide (US-built Australian frigate) at Avoca Beach NSW on 13 April 2011

From: Michelle Meares  
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2011 6:03 PM  
To: Colby Self ; Jim Puckett ; Werner Hoyt ; Mariann Lloyd-Smith ; Elizabeth O'Brien

Subject: Re: Thank you

TO: Colby Self  
Green Ship Recycling Campaign Director  
Basel Action Network

Jim Puckett  
BAN - The Basel Action Network

Werner Hoyt  
US Ship Recycling Consultant and Marine Engineer

Mariann Lloyd-Smith  
Spokesperson, National Toxics Network

Elizabeth O'Brien  
President, The LEAD Group Inc

Hi Colby, Jim, Werner, Mariann and Elizabeth



**No Ship Action Group organised the sky-writing of SHAME and protested on the beach on the morning of the ex-warship scuttling. 13th April 2011.**

Thank you for your email (below) Colby. We greatly appreciate all your support and even though the ship got sunk hopefully we have had some impact on the future of sea dumping these toxic ships here and other places.

We could not have even got the first stay on the sea dumping permit last March without the assistance of you and Jim and Werner and we are deeply grateful for all that you have done for our community and our local environment.

Mariann and Elizabeth thank you so much for helping us to understand the toxic issues and for helping explain it to the media and public - it is really hard to get these issues across to the general population so it has any impact as you know.

You may have heard that dolphins delayed the scuttling for about 90 mins as they rang the 5 min warning buzzer and then about 1 min away from the planned scuttling a pod of 30 dolphins started circling the warship. They were not allowed to explode it then for about 90 mins until they could clear the dolphins as a result we got a lot of airtime for toxic issues as it was a media circus with news choppers circling all day.

The dolphins really helped our group feel better - it was like they were also saying don't sink it and protesting in their own way. We also paid a skywriter to write the word SHAME in the sky so right at the planned scuttling time there was SHAME in the sky above media spectacle and 30 dolphins circling the ship stopping the scuttling. It was a beautiful moment. I had media producers calling me in tears. And the police commander rang us and asked us to call off our aboriginal whale caller as the dolphins would not go away and the news choppers were running out of fuel.

Michelle Meares  
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There are a range of news videos on our facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/No-Ship/158050544229141>

Including some news coverage showing dolphins stopping scuttling  
<http://au.news.yahoo.com/video/national/watch/24887469/248154/14/>

Although I think this youtube video sums it up best <http://youtu.be/fcWFcCCFT7U>

It was such a circus of people who just came for the day to watch a ship get blown up -leaving us behind 200 years of toxic waste.

We are talking about using our knowledge to start an Australia wide NO SHIP group as I have already done a lot of media at Jervis Bay in NSW South Coast where they are lobbying for the next decommissioned warship.

First we all need about a months sleep though.

We are thinking of finding a university who may want all the court documents and documents/media/campaign docs etc as we are getting loads of calls from uni students studying the campaign and thought we should share this information with people so others can use it given that we got access to over 3000 govt documents from the court proceedings that others should also have access to. Maybe a uni can help facilitate that. If anyone has suggestions of who would be best let us know.

Many thanks from all of us at Avoca

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On 14/04/2011, at 4:34 AM, Colby Self wrote:

Hi Michelle,

I wanted to write to thank you and the No Ship Action Group for your amazing example of community action and your great efforts to ensure the ship was cleaned to a much higher standard than the Gov. intended. This is a success in and of itself, as you ensured the removal of tons of debris that would have otherwise been deposited on Avoca beach. While it is an understatement to say it is disappointing to see the ship go down, we know the good fight continues to protect your community.

Wishing you all the best.  
Colby

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