Festival of the Bat

Saturday 31st October, 10am – 4pm

ON THE VESSEL

Drawing the Bat

10am–1pm | $40 | All materials provided | Bookings essential

See HMAS *Vampire* from a different perspective in this 3 hour pastel masterclass led by acclaimed Australian naval artist Robert McRae.

HMAS Vampire Radio Operators Birthday Broadcast

10am–3pm | Free

Happy birthday, The Bat! Drop into the Radio Room and listen to communications between the ship and others licenced radio operators around Australia.

The Mean Machine Treasure Hunt

2pm–3pm | Up to 1 hour | Free | Registrations essential

Think you've got what it takes to crack the code of The Bat? Pair up in teams and find the puzzle clues aboard HMAS *Vampire* to win prizes.

Spotlight Tours

10.30am–12.30pm | Short 15-minute tours on board | Free

Meet the people who know The Bat best as Former Crew and Vampire Volunteers share stories about The Mean Machine from the last 70 years.

Free Mean Machine Badges

Available to pick up when deboarding

Wear your allegiance to The Bat! Pick up a free Mean Machine badge and celebrate 70 years of HMAS Vampire (II).





IN THE MUSEUM

Film Program

10.30am & 1.30pm | Drop-in | Free

From salty sailors to submarine adventures, enjoy three classics exploring life at sea: *Popeye, The Cruel Sea* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*.

Mean Machine & Vampire Sports Club Limited Edition T-Shirts

Available at the Shop

Take a piece of The Bat home with you, limited-edition range of two replica collection T-shirts designed by former crew, and a tote bag inspired by the vessel and its history.

Bat-Themed Cupcakes in Harbourwatch

10am–4pm

Fuel your Festival of the Bat adventure with a bat-themed cupcake.

MUSEUM

Festival of the Bat

Sunday 1st November, 10am – 4pm

H·M·A·S VAMPIRE

ON THE VESSEL

History of the Bat In Three Acts and Three Locations

10am – 1pm | Registrations essential

This guided round-trip experience traces HMAS *Vampire* (II)'s story across three harbour locations, from an expert-led vessel tour to a Sydney Harbour cruise, concluding with a visit to Cockatoo Island where "The Bat" was built.

Spotlight Tours

10.30am – 12.30pm | Short 15-minute tours on board | Free

Meet the people who know The Bat best as Former Crew and Vampire Volunteers share stories about The Mean Machine from the last 70 years.

Release the Bats

11am – 1pm | Drop-in | All materials provided

Drop-in life drawing with Noni Cragg from Gladdy Drawing Club.

The Mean Machine Treasure Hunt

2pm – 3pm | Up to 1 hour
Free | Registrations essential

Think you've got what it takes to crack the code of The Bat? Pair up in teams and find the puzzle clues aboard HMAS *Vampire* to win prizes.

Free Mean Machine Badges

Available to pick up when deboarding

Wear your allegiance to The Bat! Pick up a free Mean Machine badge and celebrate 70 years of HMAS *Vampire* (II).

IN THE MUSEUM

Kids On Deck

11.15am – 3.15pm
Entry included with any paid ticket
Members and annual pass holders free
Family-friendly | Drop-in activity

All hands-on deck! The Bat is calling its youngest crew members.

Get creative at Kids On Deck, a hands-on activity zone inspired by HMAS *Vampire* and the world of naval life. Make your very own Mean Machine badge, dress up Navy-style, transform into a bat with face painting, or create a pet bat from a collection of fun and colourful materials.

Film Program

10.30am & 1.30pm | Drop-in | Free

From salty sailors to submarine adventures, enjoy three classics exploring life at sea: *Popeye, The Cruel Sea* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*.

Mean Machine & Vampire Sports Club Limited Edition T-Shirts

Available at the Shop

Take a piece of The Bat home with you, limited-edition range of two replica collection T-shirts designed by former crew, and a tote bag inspired by the vessel and its history.

Bat-Themed Cupcakes in Harbourwatch

10am – 4pm

Fuel your Festival of the Bat adventure with a bat-themed cupcake.

PERFORMANCE PLATFORM

Royal Australian Navy Jazz Band

1.30 – 1.50pm | 2.10pm – 2.30pm | Free

Music on deck! We are delighted to be joined by the wonderful members of the Royal Australian Navy Jazz Band bringing the style and sounds to celebrate The Bat's birthday.

HMAS Vampire 70th Birthday Cake

2.30pm | Free
Singing Happy Birthday from the Performance Platform

Seventy years calls for cake, Bat-shaped cake!

