



HMAS Adelaide – inauguration of commemorative plaque

The Australian Consulate-General, in partnership with the *Fondation de la France libre* and the *Mairie de Nouméa*, invites you to attend the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on the 77th anniversary of the *ralliement* of New Caledonia.

This plaque, which was designed and commissioned by the *Fondation de la France libre* with support from the *Mairie de Nouméa*, the Australian Consulate General and the Royal Australian Navy, recognises an important historical moment in the shared history between Australia and New Caledonia. It highlights the actions of the Australian Government through its diplomatic corps and maritime forces in 1940 in assisting the *ralliement* of New Caledonia to Free France and the removal of pro-Vichy forces in New Caledonia without bloodshed.

The 19th September marks the day that HMAS Adelaide (I) arrived in Nouméa escorting Henry Sautot, French Resident Commissioner in New Hebrides. This led to the resignation of Governor Denis and the *ralliement* of New Caledonia by the Free French under the leadership of Governor Henry Sautot.

The unveiling ceremony will take place at 17h00, Tuesday 19th September at the maritime quay.

For further information, please contact the Australian Consulate General.

Contact

Rebecca Pope

Consulat général d'Australie

Consulate.noumea@dfat.gov.au

Tel : (+687) 272414