

## **John Carroll**

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**From:** "John Carroll" <carrollj@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <Chris.Pearce.MP@aph.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2005 10:44 AM  
**Subject:** Lt Kennell & Lt Cdr Ferguson (dec)

Mr Pearce

I thank you and your staff for the email actioned on your behalf on the 25th of August and received by me on the 31st of August 2005, with regards to Lt Kennell and Lt Cdr Ferguson (dec).

The information contained stated, in part, that the response to my enquiry was "that it is currently with the Department for legal verification". By this I assume that the department referred to is the Department of Veterans' Affairs. (DVA).

I am not wanting to labour this issue unnecessarily. However, may I remind you that it has been over 40 years since Lt Kennell met his demise in the service of his country, and to no lesser extent, it has been some 34 years since Lt. Cdr Ferguson met his. The original request remains the same for both. Simply that both these former naval officers be granted the dignity of being recognised as veterans, which, by my reading of the relevant Act they have been entitled to for some considerable time.

Should the Department's view be at variance to the above assertion, it would be courteous of them to at least explain why. On the other hand it would also be nice to know that the service of these two former naval officers has at last been formally recognised. There are many former officers and sailors wanting to know the outcome of this simple request. Please action this further inquiry at your earliest convenience.

Regards

Dr John R Carroll  
Hon. Secretary  
HMAS *Sydney* & VLSV Assoc. (inc.VIC)  
14th September 2005