

Lynne Norton, *HMAS* Sydney *and HMAS* Brisbane *at HMAS* Stirling, *WA*, 19/11/90, *en route to the Gulf*. oil pastel with pencil on blue paper painted at HMAS Stirling, WA, in 1990.

(Accession number 29486) Australian War Memorial

## HMAS Sydney and HMAS Brisbane at HMAS Stirling, WA, 19/11/90, en route to the Gulf

Lynne Norton



oil pastel with pencil on blue paper painted at HMAS Stirling, WA, in 1990 acquired in 1991 (Accession number 29486)

## About the artwork:

Lynne Norton's interest in maritime subjects began in 1989. Her first paintings depict merchant and Navy ships at Fremantle. When the ships HMAS *Sydney* and *Brisbane* berthed at Stirling in Western Australia on their way to the Gulf in 1990, she obtained permission from the Royal Australian Navy to draw these ships. Her drawing with its use of brilliant blue, ochre, red and grey tones captures the mood of anticipation as the ships prepared to depart for the Middle East.

The ship, looming large in the foreground of the scene, is drawn with an attention to detail. In this work, the artist's skills in draughtsmanship are combined with an expressive and spontaneous style. Her work also draws on the tradition of earlier artists who recorded the departure of Australian forces for foreign wars.

## Questions:

- 1. What is the job of a tugboat?
- 2. The warship in this painting is a frigate. Find out what other types of fighting ships the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) has and what their particular jobs are?
- 3. The number "03" refers to the HMAS *Sydney*. Go to the Memorial's website and find out how many ships of this name the RAN has had and what has happened to them.
- 4. How does the role of a ship change when it is used in peacekeeping rather than warfare?