

Commissioned
into RN
12 Sept, 1929

Med to 1939, then Sth Atlantic,
Indian Ocean and Red Sea
Commissioned into RAN 25 June, 1943

Trials Scapa Flow and on 12 Aug; 1943
visited by HM King George VI
Escort ship main invasion convoy
for Sicily, departing near Gibraltar 13 August, 1943

On return to Australian waters joined US Task Force 74
First bombardments at Arawe, New Britain 15 Dec; 1943
Cape Gloucester, " " 26 Dec; 1943

Bombardments: Admiralty Islands
Tanahmerah Bay 7 March, 1944
(Dutch New Guinea) 26 April, 1944

Bombardments: (Dutch New Guinea) Wakde 15 May, 1944
Biak 27 May " "
Cape Sansapor 28 July " "
Morotai 11 Sept " "

Bombardment at Leyte (Philippines) beachhead for troop landings
and then stood by in the covering naval force, while under
constant air attack. The ensuing BATTLE OF LEYTE was to be the
largest naval engagement in history. 20 Oct; 1944

Operated with US 7th fleet in BATTLE OF SURIGAO STRAIT (Leyte).
Shropshire in enacting her share of the engagement fired 32
broadside and claimed 30 hits on the Japanese battleship
'Yamashiro' which was to sink. This was the last sea battle
fought with capital ships. 25 Oct; 1944

Under continuous air attack for five days in Zulu Sea, while
escorting convoy for invasion of Luzon. Bombardment at US
landings in Lingayen Gulf, followed by days of incessant
kamikaze attacks.
Bombardment of enemy gun position on Corrigidor Island.

Bombardments: Laeuan Island, Brunei Bay 19 June, 1945
Balikpapan, Borneo 8/9 July " "

Shropshire was Australian Flagship with the Allied Fleet
in Tokyo Bay, for the signing of the surrender. 2 Sept; 1945

HMAS Shropshire was Australia's most powerful ship at the close
of World War II Reserve 1947
Decommissioned 1949
Scrapped 1955

General:

Shropshire has been the only Australian
cruiser or warship ever to have fired
its main gunnery and obtained hits on
an enemy battleship

Since 1943, Shropshire had fired
2,396 rounds of 8" shells

The ships company of Shropshire
peaked at 1,280 officers and men

Honours and Awards: 1 DSC
1 MBE
2 Bars to DSC
6 DSC
13 DSM
3 BEM
33 Mentioned in Despatches

HISTORY OF SERVICE:
H.M.A.S. SHROPSHIRE

HEAVY CRUISER

10,000 tons
31 knots
8x8" guns
8x4" guns
3x36" searchlights
8x21" torpedo tubes
2x8 20mm pompoms
Oerlikon guns later
superceeded by Bofors



Flag Officers
Rear Admiral Sir V.A.C. Crutchley VC ICB DSC (RN)
1944 and 1945
Commodore Sir John A. Collins R.E.B. CB
July/Sept; 1944 July/Oct; 1945
Rear Admiral H.B. Farncombe CB DSO RVC
1946-47
Captains
Captain Sir John A. Collins R.E.B. CB 1943-44
Captain H.A. Showers C.B.E. May/Sept, 1944
Captain C.A.G. Nichols DSO RVC (RN) 1944-45
Captain H.A. Showers C.B.E. 1946
Captain H.J. Buchanan 1946-47

