THE RSV Nuyina has arrived. Perhaps some of you witnessed Australia’s new Antarctic research and supply vessel sailing on the River Derwent for the first time last week, or have visited the Hobart docks to take a closer look since it tied up at Macquarie Wharf 3. The 160.3-metre long, 50-metre tall, bright orange icebreaker is hard to miss. It is just as impressive as we imagined it might be.

Its arrival was an exciting day for scientists, because the ship has been designed to provide for the needs of Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) and Antarctic and Southern Ocean research and environmental protection. “From Sir Douglas Mawson’s heroic era of exploration to today we have led the way in care, protection and understanding of Antarctica,” Mr Morrison said. Australian Antarctic Division Director Kim Ellis said he was excited and relieved to see the ship arrive home following a 24,000-kilometre, 47-day voyage from the Netherlands. The ship was constructed by Dutch company Damen. Much of this work was completed at shipyards in Romania since 2017, before a final fit-out and testing of the ship took place in the Netherlands. “After 10 years of planning, design and construction, to see Nuyina enter its home port is truly a historic moment,” Mr Ellis said.

“It will now embark on a period of further commissioning and ice trials, before it officially launches into 30 years of service to the Australian Antarctic Program.” The RSV Nuyina has a top speed of 16 knots in open water, and can maintain a speed of three knots while breaking through ice 1.65m thick. The $500 million ship is capable of carrying 117 expeditioners, 1200 tonnes of cargo and $1.9 million litres of fuel. It can handle waves over 14m, and hurricane-strength winds. The ship’s other features include:

- A moon pool to deploy autonomous vehicles and oceanographic equipment.
- A retractable boom for instruments to measure snow and ice thickness.
- A multi-beam echosounder to map the seafloor.
- A wet well to process seawater containing krill.
- A retractable boom for oceanographic equipment.
- A multi-beam echosounder to map the seafloor.
- A moon pool to deploy autonomous vehicles and oceanographic equipment.

"Education perhaps more than anything else is a passport to a better life.” - Peter Underwood AC
ORIGAMI
ICEBREAKER

1. Fold in half.
2. Fold in half again.
3. Fold in half again.
4. Make a triangle.
5. Fold the top layer up.
6. Fold the bottom layer up.
7. Make a square.
8. Fold up and repeat on other side.
9. Hold bottom corners and push together.
10. Grab upper corners and pull apart.

NOTE: Hold bottom corners and push together...
Length overall: 160.3 metres
Maximum beam: 25.6 metres
Maximum draught: 9.3 metres
Displacement: 25,500 tonnes
Icebreaking: 1.65 metres at 3 knots
Speed: 12 knots economical, 16+ knots maximum

Range: >16,000 nautical miles
Endurance: 90 days
Cargo fuel capacity: 1,900,000 litres
/1623 tonnes
Container capacity: 96 TEU
Cargo weight: 1200 tonnes
Passengers: 117 Crew: 32