

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Cairns, Brian Douglas	3
Calcutt, Amy Olive (Nee Arnold)	3
Calder, Alfred Bede	3
Campbell, Bruce D	4
Cann, Norman Walter	6
Carden, Geoff Lawrence	7
Carlson, Michael Denham	7
Carpenter, Robert 'Bob'	7
Carroll, James	8
Carruthers, Gary	8
Carville, Frank	8
Carville, Phillip Henry	9
Carville, Robert Aubrey 'Bob'	9
Cary, Adolphius Eric	10
Case, John Brian	10
Cass, Michael Vance	10
Castle, Edgar Woods	10
Charlton, Peter John	10
Chifley P	11
Christensen, Emil	11
Church, Paul	12
Clark, Laurie Robert 'Nobby'	12
Clarke, Kel	12
Clarke, Neville 'Nobby'	12
Coelli, Ivy May (Nee Cullen)	13

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Collette, I A	13
Collins, Robert 'Bob'	13
Collins, Neville Charles	14
Compton, Irene	14
Connellan, John Frederick 'Jack'	14
Connor, Desmond William 'Des'	14
Cook, Jeanetta Eva	14
Cooper, Stanley George	14
Cope, Margaret Vera	14
Counsel, John Michael	15
Cox, Margaret Hilda (Nee Inman)	15
Cove, Alan 'Jack'	15
Coyne, Leo Francis	15
Craft, Grant	16
Crawford, Thomas	16
Cresswell, Margaret (Nee Wallis)	16
Creighton, Robert Francis 'Little Bob'	16
Creighton, William Reginald 'Big Bill'	16
Crichton, Jacqui (Nee Miller)	17
Cross, Michael 'Mick'	17
Crossley, Christine (Nee Brown)	17
Crossley, William 'Bill'	18
Crosswaite, Dick	18
Crowe, Owen Francis 'Peter'	19
Crowley, Kevin Francis	19

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Cummins, John Gregory	19
Cummins, Kevin 'Kev'	19
Curl, Bryson	20
Curtin, Allan Edward 'Wettex'	20
Curtin, Brian	21

Cairns, Brian Douglas



Passed away 23/02/2013. R30016. Enlisted 2/4/1946 (Aged 18 years 6 months.) as Ordinary Seaman Radio Mechanic. Transferred to the Writer Branch in April 1947. Promoted to Leading Writer in January 1950, Petty Officer January 1954 and CPO February 1961.

During a long career, his postings were as follows: Cerberus, Recruit Training, then June 1946, Radio Mechanic training. On transfer to Writer Branch, April 1947, Cerberus, Pay Office, 1948, Lachlan, Captain's Office, Leeuwin, Pay Office, Penguin, Central Registry. In 1951, Sydney, Pay Office, 1952, Barcoo, Captain's Office, Albatross, Pay Office, 1956, Sydney, training National Serviceman, 1957, Leeuwin, Recruiting Office, 1959, Voyager, Pay Office, 1960, Rushcutter, Billeting Officer, 1961, Rushcutter, Recruiting Office, 1963, Cerberus, Accounts Office, 1964, Leeuwin, Pay Office, 1965, Penguin, Pay Office, Yarra, Pay & Accounts, 1966, Kuttabul, Fleet staff, 1969, Melbourne, Pay Office, 1971, Nirimba, Pay Office, Moreton, Secretary NOIC QLD, 1974, Moreton, Captain's Secretary. Discharged on 20th November 1974.

Calcutt, Amy Olive (Nee Arnold)

Passed away 70 January 2014. WR1801. Enlisted at Sydney on 5 October, 1943 and served at Penguin. She was discharged on compassionate grounds 14th of March 1945.

Calder, Alfred Bede



Joined 15th April 1935. O/N 20761. He served at Lonsdale and Cerberus. At sea he served on Moresby 1938 -39 as AB then as LS late 1939, subsequently promoted PO on the ship 1st April 1940 and stayed onboard until August 1941. He served on Napier as PO in 1941-42 and as CPO 1942-43.

He was discharged on promotion to Warrant Officer Commissioned rank 22nd April 1946 and completed his service

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

as a Commander. Served at Harman, Cerberus and Lonsdale, Ships Vengeance and Melbourne. Retired 30th May 1970.

Alf set up the first ever Supply School at HMAS *Cerberus* in 1947 after the War. After he paid off he went back in a civilian capacity as Secretary, of the RAN Relief Trust Fund then located at Victoria Barracks in Melbourne for approx. 10 years.

Campbell, Bruce D



R39844. I enlisted in Brisbane on 25/1/1951 as a Recruit Clerical and travelled by train to Melbourne with about 30 other recruits, then went by bus to Cerberus. After initial training, I was designated Recruit Writer and commenced course at the Supply School early in May with CPOWTRs O'Brien and Langworthy as the instructors. The Women's Royal Australian Navy Service had been re-activated a few months earlier and our class was the first that included WRANS.

On completion of the course, I was advanced to Writer II and drafted to Cerberus (so much for joining the Navy and seeing the world) in the Captain's Office with Chris 'Bernie' Sanders as the POWTR. In June 1952 I was drafted to Penguin (Pay Office) in the good old days of ledgers. I was fair ledger keeper to Jack Banner and later 'Lofty' Bower, both POWTRs. Advanced to Writer in September 1952 and in June 1953, with all my contemporaries from my Writer Class receiving sea drafts, for some inexplicable reason I was drafted to Moreton. There was no accommodation at Moreton, so I had to find my own board and lodging, for which I received the magnanimous amount of an extra five shillings a day. My NOK (parents) lived in Maryborough, so maybe the drafting office thought I could travel the 340 mile round trip each day!

I was attached to Staff Officer Reserves as a general dogs body, maintaining RANR Service Records, canteen runs, raising and lowering the White Ensign at the Naval Staff Office (now a heritage listed building), manning the office switchboard and even instructing would be RANR Writers every Tuesday night. 'Tug' Wilson, the CPOWTR, was the Resident Naval Officer's Secretary.

After being advanced to A/LWTR in May 1954, I finally received a seagoing draft to Anzac. (One good thing out of my time in Brisbane was meeting a young lady who later became my wife – but that's another story.) I joined Anzac in Sydney and was thrown in at the deep end as Captain's Secretary to CMDR G.J.B. Crabb. A very fast learning curve. LCDR O.G. Streeter was the Supply Officer and Jack Banner and John Pateena ran the pay and accounts. The ship was to sail for duty in Korean waters in October, relieving Arunta, but this was cancelled ten days before our departure date, due to a change in Government policy. There went the 'qualifying service'. The ship did visit Noumea, Singapore and Manila, but prior to the formation of the FESR.

I joined Rushcutter in August 1955, again Reserve Training Records and relieving on the switchboard. Lyle Bock was Captain's Secretary and Kev O'Connell the

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

POWTR. We were transported to Kuttabul for lunch each day. By now I was married and living in Balmain.

I was drafted to Watson in April 1956, with Harry Bird in the Captain's Office as POWTR and Derek Smith the LWTR. Advanced to A/POWTR in February 1957 and did the PO Leadership Course in October 1957 at Cerberus. I was drafted to Melbourne in August 1958 (Pay Office) with CPOWTR Reg Riddett, Nick Carter as DSO and Lyn Betts as SO Cash. Carried out Strategic Reserve Service in 1959 (during 'Woggie' Watson's water buffalo incident) and headed back to Rushcutter in July 1959. This time I was working with the Naval Social Workers and in charge of the allocation of Naval Housing in the Sydney area, directly responsible to CMDR D.A.H. Clarke. It was a very interesting time, but too good to last. I was drafted to Albatross in March 1960, back into the Captain's Office with myself and 'Haji' Barber handling over a thousand Service Certificates. LCDR Reg Matthews was Captain's Secretary, Lindsay Webb the CPOWTR and CMDR Alan Lochland was the Supply Officer, often accompanied by his pet wombat. Supply and Secretariat Division won the Grand Final of the Depot Rugby competition in 1961. I was in the team and had a try disallowed. I never played again. There were great celebrations in the Junior Rates 'Wets' that night.



We lived in married quarters at the air station and enjoyed the delights of the sunny south coast until advancement to CPOWTR in August 1961 followed by a draft to Kuttabul in September 1961 as Captain's Secretary, relieving Neil Phillips. Charlie Bardwell, Gus Harris and Paddy O'Brien made up the staff. The family moved back to Balmain. I was eventually drafted to Lonsdale for Derwent on 5/4/1964 and to Derwent on commissioning on 30/4/1964. LCDR Barry West was the SO and he insisted that I ran the pay and accounts section with Kevin Morris as my offsider. CMDR R.C. Swan was in command and LWTR Alan Robinson handled the secretariat side, though I looked after requestmen and defaulters at the Captain's table. The ship was to remain in Australian waters for the next 12 months but after various working up exercises and visits to Hobart and Brisbane, we were despatched in November 1964 at short notice (3 weeks) to join the Strategic Reserve in Singapore. Duchess was scheduled for this deployment, but suffered exploding boilers. This was during the Indonesian Confrontation and the ship's company received the magic 'qualifying service'. This was well before service with the FESR was recognised.

On return to Australia I was drafted to Cerberus (as Home Port was Sydney, I was not impressed), joining there June 1965, again in Captain's Office. Fortunately, my luck changed several weeks later when, on a Friday afternoon, I received a phone call from 'Blue' Finlay, asking if I would be interested in a posting to Navy Office in the Drafting Office. "Yes please," was the reply and a signal arrived the next week, indicating a draft to Harman (Navy Office) to join 17/9/1965. I relieved Phil Harris after a solid turnover in Electrical, Communications and Bandies drafting. Terry McHarry was my very knowledgeable assistant. It was during this period that E.D.P. was being introduced with two forms, most used by our branch, AS161a and

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

AS161b, replaced by 26 forms – that's progress. At the same time, ratings became sailors, rates became ranks and the term 'draft or drafting' was changed to posting, and horror of horrors, officers had a number attached to their name. An interesting time followed at Manning, with Terry and I having to plan courses in the USA for electrical sailors before they were drafted to the DDGs. This involved frequent visits to the Office of the US Naval Attaché at the American Embassy.

I went back to sea in January 1969, joining Parramatta as Captain's Secretary to CMDR Peter Rees. Far East deployment followed and we were taking part in exercises in the South China Sea when Melbourne and the USS Frank E. Evans collided. Parramatta returned to Subic Bay to act as Headquarters Ship for the Australian Contingent involved in the subsequent inquiry. There went port visits to Hong Kong, Singapore, Djakarta, Fremantle and Adelaide on the return to Sydney. Yet, our Captain wrangled a dash (26 knots) to Hong Kong for two days ('Rabbit' Run), then back to Subic, refueled and another dash (26 knots) to Singapore arriving at 1630. We sailed next morning at 0800, escorting Melbourne back to Sydney, with a five-hour stop in Cairns to refuel. As Parramatta was due for a long refit at Williamstown on return, I contacted Doug Pyers on Supply and we organised an exchange posting (new term). I joined Supply in Sydney in August 1969 as Captain's Secretary to CAPT Smyth. Finally I was posted to Harman (Navy Office) on 16/4/1970, subject to re-engagement. I declined the offer so was re-posted to Harman (I/C Pay and Accounts Office) on the same date, then paid off on 24/1/1971, moving to Brisbane.

Cann, Norman Walter



Passed away 14/10/2009. S7085. Ex WTR. Served during WWII, 1942-1946, initially at HMAS Rushcutter, then to Westralia and finally to Penguin for demobilisation.

VP Day was a memorable experience on HMAS Westralia. The first good news came when our Task Force Command Ship radioed us that the atom bombs had been dropped on Japan, with devastating results. Not long after, the final expected message came, advising that Japan had surrendered. It was on a lovely day in August and we were anchored off Treasury Island in the Solomon's when the news came through. We partied in full navy style on this beautiful virgin island; how appropriate! In the course of our service as a landing ship, we had sailed over 90,000 miles without a single crew casualty. It was a wonderful feeling - we had so much to be thankful for. We had also been credited with shooting down a Japanese kamikaze. We were issued extra beer rations and dumped ashore on the beach where we barbecued meat and sausages, plus food we never knew existed that the cooks dug up from the ship's fridges. We ran along the beaches, swam in the water and paddled in native canoes. I took some photographs on a beautiful day that I will never forget. In our euphoria, we considered we belonged to the best ship in the greatest navy in the world, which helped defeat the loathsome Japanese and soon we would be home with our families.

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Shipboard routine changed overnight. No more camouflage or action stations. Lights were turned on at night and we sailed for home without escort.

Carden, Geoff Lawrence



Passed away 03/03/1998. P/N S3929 Reported for duty 5/2/1940. Joined Cerberus 5/2/1940 and was posted to Rushcutter 1/8/1940. Joined Brisbane 3/8/1940 (This Brisbane was a Naval Depot in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia during World War 2) and although posted here he moved between various establishments/ships in New Guinea. He was officially posted to Magnetic from 1/10/1942 and promoted LDG Writer 1/1/1942. Basilisk 1/1/1943 and Ladava 1/10/1943.

His first job on arriving Port Moresby was to remain in mufti and get to know a suspected Vichy French man. Fortunately, he was not any and became very friendly with as all. From then on Geoff became very involved with intelligence and starting up coast watch under Lieutenant Commander Eric Feldt, who later wrote the coast watchers (Geoff gets a mention). He had an amazing memory, becoming SO1's right-hand man and very involved in all important decisions. This carried on to his transfer to Milne Bay and all the action that happened from there. Sadly, when Lieutenant Commander Feldt went south with bad health, the Navy brass felt very uncomfortable that a mere Leading Writer knew it all and was called in to brief the real top brass. He was gently moved out and posted to Penguin.

He joined Nepal 26/6/1945 for five months and was awarded Imperial Distinguished Service Medal. 01/Jan/1946. Citation: HMAS Nepal in action against the enemy. Believed to be the only known member of the Writer Branch to receive this award during WWII. He also served in 'Quality' and 'Nepal'. Demobilised 12/6/1946.

Carlson, Michael Denham

Passed away 27th June 1988R53388. Born 7th November 1937. Joined the RAN on 24/8/1957 from Fremantle. He served in HMA ships Cerberus, Penguin, Quickmatch, Harman and Melbourne. He discharged LSWTR on 23/8/1963.

Carpenter, Robert 'Bob'

R39122. Joined 18th September 1950 and served for six years. His shore postings were Cerberus and Lonsdale and his sea postings Anzac 1953/54 and Tobruk 1954.

Carroll, James



I was in TARANGAU for 18 months and about 2 months before departure I thought that I should get a drivers licence. I went over to the Cop Shop in Lorangau and approached the Police Inspector (a Tolai from Rabaul, New Britain) and advised that I needed a licence. He was a bit pxxxxx off because he had seen me driving



around Manus and Los Negros for the previous 15 months and presumed that I was licenced. My test was to drive one of the police constables to one of the trade stores where he purchased something and returned to the police station where I was issued a PNG Drivers Licence.

Carruthers, Gary



Joined Cerberus for initial training from Newcastle NSW on 31/5/1968. Transferred from the RP branch and attended the Writer course 3/73 between April and June 1973, under instructor POWTR Max Bronson. Gary resigned from RAN in 1981.

Carville, Frank



Joined the Navy in the 2nd intake of JRs at Leeuwin on 10/01/1961. I successfully graduated, and although I put down my preferred category to be RP, as I had two uncles already in the Navy who were both Writers, they convinced me that I should be one too. Thank God for their wisdom! After completing the basic course in May, 1962, I was posted to the Watson (Diving Section), which was actually down at Rushcutter. Then I was posted to the 'big M' in January, 1963, and left her a year later. I received a draft back to

Leeuwin for a year and a half, before being promoted to kellick and posted back to sea to the Parramatta. Further postings followed to Penguin, then Vampire from 1967 to '68, where my second hook came through, Albatross in '69, then back to Leeuwin and marriage whilst serving there. I picked up my buttons at Leeuwin in 1972 and was posted to Penguin for a year, waiting to join the Swan in mid '73, as Captain's Sec under the command of the dreaded Adrian Cummins.

I lasted two years there and returned to Albatross for nine months before again posting to Leeuwin. I only served a year there, as I was lucky enough to be selected to replace Marty Grogan in the Australian Embassy in Washington DC from early

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

1977. I arrived there the day Jimmy Carter was inaugurated. From there, I was posted to FHQ and promoted to WO on arrival. I worked as assistant FLO, then again joined the Melbourne in 1981 with Marty Grogan, for what was the 'big M's' final trip before she was decommissioned. I was then posted to Stirling, working as WO Admin at NOCWA. I received a posting to DSP in Canberra in 1984, however the Australian Defence Credit Union offered me the opportunity of opening their operations in WA, which gave us a very hard decision to make. A toss of the coin resulted in me taking up that position, where I still am today. Had I not, I think I would still be serving, as I loved every minute of my time in the Navy.

There were many things I remember from my navy days which I thought were normal routine at the time. First there were a number of aircraft and helicopter crashes whilst at Nowra and in Melbourne and Vampire, then there was the near miss ship collisions, numerous SAR events, including eight Midshipmen from the Sydney and being spied on by a Russian submarine whilst testing the VDS sonar fitted to Stuart and Derwent. I remember the burying VADM Sir Hastings Harrington at sea off Sydney, under The Gap, and having to watch the coffin being fired on in front of his wife and family as it would not sink.

There were the months spent at JB in Swan, testing and developing the Turana PTA, which could have turned into our own Harpoon missile and five trips to Hobart, when they used to hold the Fleet Regatta down there. One of the least memorable incidents occurred when I was posted to Parramatta from Leeuwin and I accompanied 'Boots' Brittain, who had picked up his second hook and was on his way to Cerberus. We drove over in his old Austin Lancer, and about a mile into the then 1000 miles of red dirt on the Nullabor, I wound down the window for some fresh air. However, the window would not wind back up, and about four days later, when we arrived at Ceduna, our hair was like barbed wire and the interior of the car was under about four inches of red dust! A sight to behold.

Carville, Phillip Henry

Joined 18/9/1945. R27428. He served in the following establishments Cerberus, Leeuwin, Harman, Penguin and Albatross. His sea service consisted of Shropshire 46-47, promoted LS in Shropshire. Then posted to Lonsdale for Woomera in mid 1949 until October 1951. He was promoted to CPO whilst at Woomera. Further ships service were Vengeance 54-55 then he transferred to Melbourne to 57 and then joined Sydney until May 1958. He discharged 9th June 1961.

Carville, Robert Aubrey 'Bob'

Passed away in 1992. Born 15th January 1927. Joined 7th March 1946, and after completing his training was post to Leeuwin, Moreton, Cerberus and Penguin. Promoted to CPO in 1952 and was promoted to Supply Sub Lieutenant in 1957. Retired as LCDR, approximately 1972.

Cary, Adolphius Eric

Passed away 01/03/1942. Born 19th April 1918. Joined 16th March 1939 and his postings were Cerberus and Leeuwin before joining Perth 8th April 1941. Presumed killed in action on Perth.

Case, John Brian

Passed away 21/02/2001. Born 2nd February 1927. H3026. He joined 9th April 1945 and demobbed 22nd January 1948. Served at Huon, Cerberus, Lonsdale, Melville. Joined the RANR in 1955.

Cass, Michael Vance

Joined 21 April 1956. R51081. Served in establishments Cerberus, Penguin, Watson, Moreton, and Harman. Sea postings Sydney 56 – 57, Melbourne 59 – 60. Promoted petty officer 1961. Discharged 20 April 1962.

Castle, Edgar Woods

R3097. DOB 15/10/1924. Served from 1942 to 1946 at Cerberus and Melville.

Charlton, Peter John



Passed away 10th May 2014. R93178. I joined in 1961 as a second intake Junior Recruit and completed the scribes' course in April 1962 with, amongst others, Jon Hammond and Frank Carville. In those days, early preferences for either Pay & Accounts or Personnel Office duties were not easily defined. You got what you were given. Unfortunately I ended up in the Pay Office at Cerberus. My early time as a scribe was enhanced, however, when I was fortunate enough to work with some remarkable characters like CPOWTR Peter 'Shakey' Samuels, 'Boots' Brittain and Tom McVickers. Also in the office at that time was John Quirk, who almost singularly carried the S&S flag on the athletics field, particularly in sprinting and hurdling.

I was posted to HMAS Melbourne in late December 1962 and came under the supervision of my first 'Sea Daddy', LSWTR 'Rubarb' Roberts. On arriving in Hervey Bay, Rube ordered 10 gross of drawing pins in an attempt to find the best balanced pin to win the Hervey Bay Pin Spinning Championship. Such was Rubes' influence that he had Captain Richard Innes Peek and the Catholic Padre play off in the semi finals on the deck in the ship's office. Naturally Rube went on to win because he had the best pin out of the 10 gross. Captain's Sec at the time was LEUT Ian MacDougall, who later went to subs. Readers will appreciate his remarkable achievements when he eventually went all the way to Chief of Defence Force Staff.

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

I was posted to Lonsdale in 1964 and attached to the Ikara project at Australian Research Laboratories at Fishermen's Bend. I later served in the Pay Office at Lonsdale, then went back to Melbourne (Fleet Staff) on 18/10/65 and had the pleasure of working with the late David 'DJ' Martin. On 12/3/66 I joined HMAS Sydney and did five trips to Viet Nam, interrupted by POWTR course in Jul/Aug that year and then to Nirimba to work with the Captain's Sec., Graham Smith. Next posting was to Waterhen, where I joined up with the infamous 'Woggy' Watson. Wog persuaded the CO CMDR Ferguson, to award both of us a 'VG SUPR' on the last year of the old SCs. Woggy's argument was solid. Both of us had never had a 'SUPR' before and this was our last chance. No one would ever find out anyway.

In January 1969, I relieved POWTR Lester Hensby as RAN Liaison Officer at HMS Terror in Singapore and served there until April when I was relieved by POWTR Bob Allen. After some extended leave, I joined Cerberus and met up with B.J.Tucker and the lunchtime Volley Ball set. During that era, I recall the sporting prowess of Brian Eagles, who threw 38 plus points in an inter service basketball final against the RAAF and then followed up the day's work by kicking 5 or 6 goals against the Army that afternoon. A very talented sportsman.

From Cerberus I went to Duchess to relieve Charlie Sugden, then in 1973, to Brisbane followed by a long stint at Kuttabul, including COMAUSNAVSUP. Next, I joined my favourite ship, Melbourne, my last sea posting. As the WO, DSP asked me who I wanted as my CPOWTR and I had no hesitation in picking Buck Rodgers. His deputy was Rudi Sukow and they were backed up by the best team of young scribes I've ever worked with. Most of them went onto commissioned rank including Brad Clements, son of another old scribe, Barry. Buck led the team, and me, through the sea trials for the transition from the PAC to computer reporting. With CAG embarked, there were 1300 PACs; with 1300 queries every fortnight! I left Melbourne in 1981 and went to FOCAF, where I paid off in January 1982.

Chifley P

Passed away 2006. Ex ABWTR R144837.

Christensen, Emil

Emil was born 14th February 1895. Official number 1990. although he joined 2nd July 1912 at 17 years of age his enlistment for seven years did not commence until the age of 18.

He served on the following ships: *Gayundah* as boy writer 2/7/1912 - 4/12/1912 HMQS *Gayundah* was a flat-iron gunboat operated by the Queensland Maritime Defence Force and later the Royal Australian Navy (as HMAS *Gayundah*). *Tingara* 1913 then as writer III until 31 12 1916. *Swan* 1917 as writer II. A brief period on *Parramatta* 1918. then *Swan* 1918 -1919 as writer first-class.

He established the Emil Christensen prize for the most outstanding recruit each year worth \$150, some years after he left the Defence Force.

Church, Paul

Passed away 28/07/2002. R66897. Joined 25th November 1967 as RP and subsequently transferred to WTR in 1968. After completing his Cerberus training he was posted to Cerberus. No details of service after this date.

Clark, Laurie Robert 'Nobby'



Passed away on 24/11/2004 from cancer at Royal Brisbane Hospital. Ex CPOWTR A636085. Joined Cerberus on 3/4/1964. As a WTR, worked at Penguin, Cerberus, in Sydney, then Rushcutter, Navy HQ and in Perth. On promotion to LSWTR on 12/5/1967, he served at Harman, Tarangau, Penguin, Kuttabul (FHQ) and Carpentaria. He was promoted to POWTR on 14/12/1973 whilst at Carpentaria and on completion of this posting, moved to Watson. Served with COMAUSNAVSUP, in Duchess, then Kuttabul (FHQ), Jervis Bay and Nirimba. Promoted to CPOWTR on 20/6/1980, and served at Cerberus, Navy HQ and Moreton until his discharge on 3/4/1984. Nobby served for a number of years in the Reserves until 1989.

Awards and Decorations: RAS Badge, ASM 1945-75 with Clasp PNG & FESR, VCM, VM, USN Meritorious Unit Commendation, USN Unit Commendation, DFSM, National Medal, DFSM1*, AASM 1945-75 with Clasp Vietnam.

Clarke, Kel



The two years I spent in the FHQ Registry from August 1972 were probably the most memorable for me, mainly because of the people I served with, then remained friends with for the rest of my career. To name a few, Gary Kinnear, Kev Drinkwater, Laurie Clark, Laurie Mitchell, Norm Leaney, Ron Lindsay, Paddy Mcgeown, and Bobbie Alexander. Most of the group above attended my first wedding. One particular sailor at FHQ, believe it or not, used to commute to Newcastle every day.

Clarke, Neville 'Nobby'



R96027. Joined the Navy on 2/4/1967 as a JR at Leeuwin. After completing Recruit Training, I was posted to Sydney ('Vung Tau Ferry') for a period of eight months, before heading to Cerberus to do category training. I opted for a change of branch, as they wanted to make me a signalman and I wasn't prepared to wave flags for the rest of my naval career. I was posted to Waterhen for a brief stint, prior to joining Melbourne which was in refit following her collision with USS Evans. After refit, we sailed to Japan for Expo '70, which was one of the

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

highlights of my career. I made many good friends on the ship, namely Dave Langford, Tom Strasser and 'Wog' Watson, to name a few.

The next shore postings were Harman and Navy Office, before joining the Fleet Supply Team at Kuttabul. Most of my time was spent in Swan (the 'fluffy duck'), as Melbourne was my home port. I joined Perth in 1974 for an accompanied refit in the States, a trip I will never forget. Platypus was my next shore posting and I was promoted to POWTR in 1979. Then FST became my next draft again, before a posting to AUSTFASO in Longbeach, California, to commission Sydney (IV) on 20/1/1983, my proudest moment of my career. I was posted to Harman and retired after 20 years on 1/4/1987.

Coelli, Ivy May (Nee Cullen)

Passed away 12th July 2009. WR 1840. Joined 25/10/1943 and discharged 21/02/1946. Served at Penguin and Rushcutter.

Collette, I A

Passed away approx. 2002

Collins, Robert 'Bob'



Ex CPOWTR R51612. Joined the RAN in 1956 after doing National Service and a short stint in the Army. I served at Cerberus and in Quickmatch (which was in dry dock when Vendetta rammed the gate and caused flooding). After a short spell at Lonsdale (Health Benefits), I was posted to Cerberus, then Tarangau for 2 ½ years. After returning to Cerberus again, I was posted to Sydney (Admiral Staff) and was involved with the enquiry when several Midshipmen were lost at sea. I moved across to Melbourne (Admiral's staff), then to Kuttabul (FOCAF), before heading down to Tasmania and Huon, where I survived the bush fires in 1967.

I went back to sea again in Hobart in 1968 and did a tour on the 'gunline' when the ship was hit by 'friendly' missiles, and then went to the west to Leeuwin for four years. After a posting to Derwent, I came ashore to Cerberus, where I paid off in 1976. I was awarded a Naval Board Commendation during Hobart's 1968 tour of Vietnam, and was awarded the AASM 1945-75 Clasps Vietnam and Malaya, NGSM Malaya, Vietnam Medal, ASM 1945-75 Clasps PNG and FESR, DFM 1st Clasp, National Medal, LS&GC Medal, ADM, National Service 1951-1972 Medal and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal.



Collins, Neville Charles



Passed away about 1978. Joined 17th March 1944. His shore establishments were Rushcutter, Penguin and Magnetic. promoted LS July 1944 and demobbed 30/9/1946.

Compton, Irene

Passed away 01/03/1946. WR223. Joined 16 October 1942 and spent her time at Lonsdale. She was discharged BNPS 6th February 1944.

Connellan, John Frederick 'Jack'



Passed away 31st March 1984. R29091. Joined 21/2/1946. Served in shore establishments Cerberus, Harman, Platypus, Lonsdale, Watson and Penguin.

Sea service consisted of Bataan 1949, Warramunga 1948, Australia 1952-54 and Melbourne 1960 and 1965-66. Promoted LS 1948, PO 1951 and CPO 1957. Discharged 11th February 1970.



Connor, Desmond William 'Des'

R27809. Joined 23rd October 1945 and discharged 15th January 1961. Shore establishments included Cerberus, Lonsdale, Penguin and Tarangau. His sea postings consisted of Quadrant 1947, Kanimbla 1947/49, Tobruk 1954/55 as PO and Warramunga 1957/59.

Cook, Jeanetta Eva

Passed away 29th March 1964.

Cooper, Stanley George

Passed away approx. 1980's

Cope, Margaret Vera

W1680. Born 20th November 1924. Margaret joined the RAN 30th August 1943 and served until 15th August 1946. Margaret was a Group III Writer on those days. Promoted LS 1/11/1945. She was based at Lonsdale undertaking special duties.

Counsel, John Michael



Passed away approx. 1990's. DOB 30/10/1948. Joined 5th July 1964. R94399. His initial postings to 1970 were Leeuwin on entry, Anzac 21/8/1965 - 03/03/1966. Establishments Cerberus, Nirimba, Tarangau and Lonsdale before joining Swan 19/1/1970. LS 3/1/1969. Details of his service after this date not known.

Cox, Margaret Hilda (Nee Inman)

Passed away early 2014. W909. Joined 22nd March 1943 and discharged 25th February 1946. Served at Penguin and Kuttabul.

Cove, Alan 'Jack'



Ex LWTR. Jack joined the Navy to see the world in 1963. After his rude awakening to life at Cerberus for three months, he became an OD in the Melbourne for a further nine months, performing such tasks as cleaning heads, scrubbing, mopping and polishing decks, chipping and painting, etc. Then, back to Cerberus for specialist training as a Radio Operator in 1964. He changed over to the Data Operators Branch, then Harman was his next posting in 1965, working in Navy Office with a mixture of navy and civilian personnel. During his five years in Canberra, he received a posting to Vampire for eight months sea service in 1966. In 1970, the Data Operators Branch became redundant and members were given the option of changing to the Writer Category or serve out their time, with no possibility of promotion. So, choosing the former, it was back to Cerberus for a crash Writers' Course, followed by a posting to Albatross serving with Bluey Guild in the Pay Office. He was then attached to the Carrier Air Group and served in Melbourne again and during this stint he was promoted to LWTR CAG, replacing Max Sharples. He paid off in August 1972.

Coyne, Leo Francis

Passed away approx. 1999. R21579. Leo joined 27/7/1937 and served in shore establishments Cerberus, Kuttabul, Penguin, Watson, Platypus, Creswell and Commonwealth.

His sea service was varied serving in the Swan 1938-39, Sydney 1939-40, Nizam 1943, Napier 1943, Quality 1945, Quickmatch 1946, Australia 1949-51, Sydney 1956 and 1962-64. He was promoted LS 1940, PO 1941 and CPO 1945. He discharged 26th July 1966.

Craft, Grant

Passed away approx. 1976

Crawford, Thomas



Joined 15th March 1952. R47054. Shore establishments served in were Cerberus, Kuttabul, Lonsdale and Penguin. He served at sea on Sydney 55-57 and Quickmatch 58-59. Discharged 14th March 1961.

Cresswell, Margaret (Nee Wallis)

Joined the Navy in 1987 at the age of 19. First posting was to Navy Office in Canberra working in Defence Security. From there I was posted to Sydney where I worked in Defence Recruiting and lived firstly at the WRAN's Quarters in Bondi (before they were turned into accommodation just for Senior Sailors) and was then moved to accommodation at Coogee.

Was then posted to the Pay Office at Nirimba and served there for a year before moving to Canberra where I worked at Defence Material at Campbell Park. During this posting that I felt it was time to move on requested for discharge

Creighton, Robert Francis 'Little Bob'

Joined 20th September 1945. R27441. Shore postings Cerberus, London depot (LS 1/10/1946, PO 1/4/1949 at this posting) , Penguin, Harman Sea service Melbourne 1956 - 1957 as CPO. Promoted Acting Supply Sub Lieutenant 6th February 1961 and Lieutenant 1964. Date discharged not known.

Creighton, William Reginald 'Big Bill'

R29535. Served at Cerberus, Kuttabul, Melville, Lonsdale, Albatross and Moreton. Sea service Anzac 1952 - 1952 as Po then as CPO until 7/1953. Dismissed from the service after Court Martial 7th May 1957.

By Glenevan Jones "Big Bill Creighton was a CPO Writer at Moreton when I joined that establishment. Among other things he was in charge of the welfare fund. He asked me to take on that job and my sixth sense caused me to ask when the fund was last audited. Answer was "don't know". Something told me not to touch it until it was audited. This finally happened and Big Bill left Moreton in a hurry. I later learned that he had been dismissed from the service. There, but for the grace of

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

God, could have been me. A very ending to a long service career in the Air Force and Navy.”

Crichton, Jacqui (Nee Miller)



Jacqui married ABSIG Bob Lindberg- in Dec 77), W116652, Date of entry 4AUG75 and after initial Writer training was posted Canberra FEB 76 to Campbell Park as Writer on Patrol Craft Project. SWRWTR — DNPC, Russell Offices —JAN 77. LWRWTR — Steno-Secretary to CNP —JUL 78 — worked with Rear Admiral Griffiths, Stevens and Willis. POWRWTR — DNMP, March 1980 and was discharged 1982

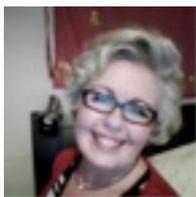


Cross, Michael ‘Mick’



Mick joined the navy in April 1982. He served at HMAS Cerberus until March 1983, in Canberra to June 1983, Cerberus to March 1985, Torrens to March 1986, Navy Office DSP to June 1989, Lonsdale in Defence Centre Melbourne to December 1993 and Swan to June 1995, when he was discharged from the navy.

Crossley, Christine (Nee Brown)



I joined the Navy as RCTWRWTR Brown in March 1978 and paid off as a LWRWTR Crossley, Discharged on Marriage, 19 December, 1981. My last posting was working as Secretary to RADM Lynam, CNTS at Campbell Offices, Canberra. RADM Lynam was universally known as Fred and was a dear man. I also worked in the Industrial Policy area at Russell Offices and Planned Maintenance at Campbell.

I did a short stint in the Pay Office at CERBERUS after finishing my Writer's course but hated it. I must have looked miserable because I was soon sent to HARMAN.

I picked up my hook very quickly and I remember some fuss about getting the highest mark ever for my promotion tests (no doubt that record has well and truly been beaten by now). I married David Crossley who was a LSETS. We moved to Sydney after we married and then to Perth and David paid off there. We divorced some years later and the children and I moved to Melbourne. We have three wonderful and now adult children – daughter and two sons – all of whom are doing very well and I am blessed to pieces with a lovely partner.

Crossley, William 'Bill'



I joined the RAN way back in August 1967 as an ORDEMWR and after Recruit School I was sent to the Electrical School, not what I wanted so they chucked me out and said I could be what ever I wanted thus I became a writer. Joined Supply School for Basic Wtr CSE 1/69 and from there I was posted to the Dive School at Penguin when it first started up in June 1969. My next posting was to Queenborough (8/70) from there it was off to sunny Canberra to

Harman (71) this was a short posting as I volunteered for remote localities and was posted to Tarangau on Manus Island in New Guinea (1/72), one of the best postings that I ever managed to get. From the jungles of PNG I was then posted to Birdie land Albatross (1/73) and then managed another remote locality my Home town and was posted to PBF CAIRNS later that year Cairns (1/74) another great posting and still is to this day.

From Cairns it was off to Fleet HQ at Kuttabul (4/1975) for a couple of months with the Fleet Supply Team then it was time for sea time again and I was posted as the LSWTR to Perth from 9/75 did a couple of trips and then posted ashore to Waterhen (5/77) again a short posting as I then went to Lonsdale (1/78) where I met my lovely wife Helen and three weeks later got married and low and behold still happily married. Left there as a newly married man and posted to Creswell (4/80) - lovely spot. Then DSP decided that I needed to go back to VIC and Cerberus (7/82) was the choice for a couple of months and then to Lonsdale (Recruiting) (12/82). Having hooked a lot of new recruits into the RAN the next posting was to Swan 13/2/1984 to pay her off and back to Lonsdale (22/10/1984) then over to Derwent (29/04/1985) to pay her off. Having had enough of paying off ships they then sent me back to) Albatross 11/6/1985 where I stayed until I paid off (8/87) as a CPOWTR and moved my family up to Cairns where we have lived ever since.

I joined the Reserves in 1988 and have had many and varied jobs with the Reserves. I currently work at Cairns as a Public servant and hold the position as Assistant Garrison Support Manager. By working here I have been able to have time off and partake in CFTS jobs two of which were for 6-12 months each. The first I worked as the MSO (Military Support Officer) at DCO Cairns and was paid HDA to LEUT for that period. The second was the highlight of my career I was selected to do 7 months CFTS and go to the Middle East with FLLA 3 to Kuwait and held the position as Chief Clerk (PERSO) with the Army Unit I was detached with (10FSB). I was deployed from 1JUL 2007 up to 10 FEB 2008 and earned lots of tax free dollars along with a couple of gongs and the chance to observe a totally different culture, I must say whilst I was there I meet so many old faces that I hadn't seen for many years.

Crosswaite, Dick

Passed away 1987

Crowe, Owen Francis 'Peter'

R28774. Joined 14th January 1946 and discharged 27th May 1958. Shore establishments were Cerberus, Lonsdale and the London Depot. Sea postings consisted of Kanimbla 6/48 to 8/48 as LS, Sydney 10/50 to 12/50 as PO and 1/56 to 1/57 as CPO.

Crowley, Kevin Francis

R62254. Joined 28th June 1963. His service to 1970 is as follows: Shore establishments Cerberus, Watson, Penguin and Nirimba. Sea postings Melbourne 1965/66 and Moresby 1966/67 as LS. Promoted PO 1969. Service after 1970 not known.

Cummins, John Gregory



R36548. John was on Melbourne on the night of 10th February, 1964, the night of the collision with Voyager. John joined 9th September 1948 (pic right). After Cerberus training he stayed at Cerberus until a posting 14th May 1952 to Sydney. He was promoted LS 1/7/1952 and two years later PO 1/7/1954 before posting to shore Kuttabul 22/8/1954. Followed by postings to Cerberus 18/10/1954, Lonsdale 26/4/1955 and then a sea posting Melbourne 11/10/1957. On the 22nd September 1958 saw him back in Lonsdale, and he was promoted to CPO 12th August 1960. A posting to Harman ensued 18/2/1961 until a sea posting to Melbourne 9/9/1963 eventuated. One year later saw him at Harman (4/9/1964) for two years until he was posted to Penguin (for Bangkok) 2/2/1966. Returned to Penguin 22/3/1967 and then to Harman 14/6/1967 before he discharged 8th September 1968.

Cummins, Kevin 'Kev'



R62563 & LEUT RANR. Joined HMAS Cerberus as a RCTWTR on 21/10/1963 from Alexandra in Victoria. Moved through the ranks and was promoted to P/WOWTR on 11/4/1980. Following discharge from Albatross on 20/10/1984, transferred to the RAFR then to the RANR and was promoted B/LEUT RL WTR on 10/6/1996.

Saw service in HMAS Cerberus, Sydney (consolation posting due to the sinking of Voyager), Lonsdale, Derwent, Kuttabul, Tarangau, Navy HQ, Vendetta, Moreton (Recruiting), Albatross, Nowra Air Division RANR and finally Naval Training Command at Creswell for two years Continuous Full Time Service. During this time, I was discharged medically as a

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Lieutenant RANR on 4/8/2002, with a PMKEYS Service Number of M 8041476 after 31 years 9 months service.

A career highlight was being one of the first two RANR Warrant Officers to be commissioned.

Awards and Decorations: AASM 1945-1975 (Clasp Malaysia), ASM 1945-1975 (Clasps FESR and PNG), DLSM (4 clasps), National Medal, DFSM, Australian Defence Medal, Flag Officers Commendation & RAS Badge.

Have resided in Nowra since 1980 and will probably remain in the area. Since retiring, I have been involved in a number of voluntary community organisations. After being coerced into purchasing a caravan in 2004, I am now a committed 'Grey Nomad' who is enjoying travelling throughout this great country of ours and to "spending the kids' inheritance."

Curl, Bryson

Joined 28th April 1955 for 6 years. R50234. Served at Cerberus, Kuttabul, Watson. Sea service was Melbourne 1956/58 as AB/LS and Quickmatch 1960/1961.

Curtin, Allan Edward 'Wettex'



R57650. Joined 13/2/1961 and on completion of training posted to Lonsdale 12/9/1961 until 26/12/1962. (Promoted AB 13/12/62) His first posting to sea was Yarra and he stayed at sea until 30/12/1963 when he was posted to Harman. This lasted 3 months when he managed a posting to Cerberus 1/4/1964 (Promoted LS 13/11/1964) and he stayed until his next sea posting Melbourne 22/6/1965 until 12/4/1966. A brief visit to Penguin before he went to Tarangau 5/9/1966 until 7th February 1967 when he posted to Cerberus again.

1968 Navy News article. "To Join Britannia

Nine Royal Australian Navy sailors have been selected for duty In Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia during the Royal Tour next year: They are— Leading Seaman. J Egan (HMAS MeIville); Able Seaman I. R. Duffner (HMAS Anzac); Able Seaman K. J P. Barry (HMAS Derwent); Able Seaman N. L. Bayley (HMAS Supply); Able Seaman L. Bayley (HMAS Nirimba); Leading Tactical Operator C. J Walker (IHMAS Cerberus); Acting Leading Engineering Mechanic G. J. Bowan (HMAS Vampire); Engineering Mechanic R. L. R. Davis (HMAS Creswell; Leading Writer A. E. Curtin (HMAS Cerberus) The sailors will join Britannia in Auckland, New Zealand on March 30 and disembark in Britain in mid June. If they wish they will be allowed to take their mid-winter leave in Britain after disembarking."

Biographies - Charlie Surnames

Marty Grogan talks about Wettex Curtin:

He did 27 years RAN service paying off as a CPOWTR then did nearly permanent Rocky time at Cerberus for the next 10 years until he reached the then retirement age of 55. He has a combined RAN/RANR service of 37 years.



Probably the highlight of his service was his time (about 6 months) onboard the Royal Yacht Britannica in 1969 as a LWTR. Before he left Cerberus for this Posting he was Commanders Writer where he was affectionately known (self imposed title) as the Commanders Quill. His next self imposed title was obviously "Queens Quill".

The highlight of this trip was to slip a typed thank you card in to the official correspondence for signature by Princess Anne thanking one Martin Grogan for his lovely poem and best wishes to the Princess. I still have this priceless document. I don't think I could even spell Princess in those days. Nothing much has changed over the years - I guess.

The lowlight???? of his Career was probably the posting to Manus which was in fact a posting to the Oil Fuel Installation in Port Moresby where he lived in a tent in the lines at Murray Barracks with an Army Corporal from the Korean War. His boss was Chief Stoker Zammit whom I suspect did not know what hit him after Wettex posted in. Many years later, visitors to Port Moresby often spotted lightly coloured semi tree apes swinging from trees doing Curtain calls. Wettex now suspects he was probably taken advantage of by local females after he had gone to sleep at night. To his knowledge, waking hours in the tent were spent writing letters to his family and friends in Adelaide. That started his eventual life time habit of burning the candles both ends.

Whilst serving onboard Yarra in the mid to late 60's his written report in his SC's read something along the lines of "An excellent Leading Writer whilst at Sea, but once land is sighted, he is extremely unreliable."

Curtin, Brian

Deceased approx. 2003. R24404. Joined 4/6/1940 but because he was under the age of 18 was not officially engaged until 27/12/1940. His shore service was at Cerberus, Platypus, Penguin, Rushcutter, Kuttabel and Magnetic.

Sea service was Sydney 1949-51. LS 1945, PO 1946 and CPO 1949. Discharged 19th January 1953.