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## Kean, Merle (Nee Bishop)

Passed away 2007. WR1713. Joined 2nd August 1943 as Assistant Writer, promoted Wtr 1/11/1943. Merle was posted Platypus 1/7/1944 then Magnetic 3/1/1945 and to Moreton 3/8/1945. Merle was discharged from Navy 29th October 1945 on compassionate grounds.

## Keig, Dave



When the call came from the Adelaide RSO to tell me that I was going in the First Intake of JR's in 1960, I couldn't imagine I would have his job some 13 years later! Then came the long train ride across the Nullabor, sleeping in a luggage rack and learning the rudiments of poker from another future Scribe, John Trafford.

Leeuwin in 1960 was thought of by most of the JR's as a 'Stalag' or POW camp – seemingly endless and senseless group punishments (doubling around the parade ground with rifle over head during the so called 'silent hours') that would never be accepted today. One miserable offender was actually drummed out of the Service (he had a 'still' built under his locker), with ribbons and flashes physically cut off his uniform by a Master-at-Arms at Divisions and muffled drums to accompany the slow march to the main gate. So, the transition to a hammock at Cerberus and then the Supply School in the Winter of '61 was a mere 'walk in the park'. Graduation as a Writer II was a real eye-opener though. Writing up pay under the supervision of such luminaries as 'Rhubarb' Roberts and John Magor was the real beginning to 20 years of a fabulous career filled with interesting people, mostly terrific postings, promotions and friendships that still endure today.

Warship Diamantina was the next step, with a year spent on Indian Ocean transits to Singapore – a real eye opener for a 'rawbone', seeing RN cruisers at first hand, the finals of the heavyweight boxing championship of the Far East Fleet with Ron Coridas and Ray Lemon boxing, visiting the atomic bomb test site at Monte Bello and an oceanographic survey in what seemed to us like Antarctic waters. Being overflown by Indonesian MIG aircraft was scary, as was eating the asbestos dust that accompanied any firing of the main 'armament'. Years later, the system awarded an ASM and clasp FESR for this particular operation.

Postings to Harman, Navy Office, Cerberus, Melville, Lonsdale, Cerberus (again) and then Victoria Barracks in Melbourne were accompanied by promotion to Leading Writer in 1964 and PO in 1966. This time also facilitated the experience of working with some of the characters (or rogues) of the Branch, such as 'Snow' Faulkner, Leo Kenshole, 'Boots' Brittain, 'Wettex' of football fame, Les Whelan, Kevin Simpson and the never to be forgotten Lew Horsfield. (Association President, Lew, distinguished himself by falling asleep driving to Albury/Wodonga whilst at the wheel of his VW, which promptly rolled over on the highway, waking his passenger (me) violently. I recall we put it back on its wheels and drove off very slowly, but perhaps the story has dimmed in my memory.)

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Promotion to Acting Sub Lieutenant SD SU W, apparently the youngest Commissioned Officer from the ranks since WW II, at the beginning of 1969 saw yet another posting to Cerberus, but with the variety of roles as SO Pay, SO Cash and Supply School Instructor. The latter job was fascinating as the various classes came and went. As the 'W' Training Officer, setting fair and meaningful exams took on a new meaning. Several of the Instructors were keen to remind me that I may well have passed the SD exams, but having failed one subject for CPO Writer, became the benchmark upon which I was to be forever judged in their eyes.

And who could forget the introduction of Group Pay. The Victorian CIB advised that the Cerberus payroll was to be stolen by armed robbers and the Pay Office quadrangle was sandbagged, with the Gunnery School providing machine guns and armed sentries for a couple of days. Not much fun doing rounds there at midnight I recall. A freezing sentry (sailor) with a weapon is a scary thought, especially in the depths of winter in country Victoria. The Writers, led by a very junior PO, were dispossessed of their volley ball court and disconsolate for days. The thought that they could be shot probably cheered some of them up as we were working to midnight for weeks to get the pay rise implemented. Interestingly, the A/POWTR became one of the team that I mentored and under supervision, Grogan developed quite well over the years.

Melbourne was the next posting and once the Fleet Air Arm Squadrons were embarked, multi national (RIMPAC) exercises were conducted off Hawaii. A further fleet operation occupied some four months with Exercise SEA HAWK, via Subic Bay and Manila, and then attachment to the ANZUK Force (ASM & clasp SE ASIA) with fleet operations and visits to Singapore, Hong Kong and Djakarta. To this day, I find it incongruous that the 'system' then withheld the award of the clasp because of service in the Strategic Reserve years earlier. A highlight of this posting was a unique fleet anchorage in Seeadler Harbour (Feb. 1972) prior to going to Subic. (The largest concentration of warships since the end of WWII, with numerous navies taking part, and I don't have a photo of it.) A tour of duty, recruiting in SA was followed by a posting to the Fleet Supply Team and working in a variety of roles in Brisbane, Derwent, Supply and Stalwart. Then came a posting as DSO in Hobart; three months of exercises and trials off the coast of NSW, then the big Exercise KANGAROO ONE.

I headed back to Cerberus and the Supply School, this time in a student seat for the Supply Charge Course, before joining Swan as Supply Officer for some 18 months – a fabulous posting. Swan was deployed to Darwin as part of a Naval Task Force standing-by in the lead-up to the Indonesian invasion of East Timor and the ensuing massacre of Australian journalists in Balibo (Operation LONGWISE). After a transit to Singapore, Swan then took part in a combined RAN/RN fleet operation, Exercise SWIFT SWING, en route to Australia.

Going into refit at Williamstown was the final part of that posting, but a family holiday in the US was a bonus at the commencement of a posting to the staff of the Australian Naval Attache in Washington, DC. The FFG project was getting underway and ANA's staff looked after the ship's companies undertaking training, many accompanied by their families. The workload was demanding and the

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learning curve steep, but the Supply Team successfully paid and supported personnel the length and breadth of the United States, occasionally extricating them from jail or the like.

ILS training and Navy Office Canberra beckoned, but after a short while, the potential for a new career outside of the military was appealing. Eventually a role in admin and logistics with oil and gas company, SANTOS, was secured and some years later, hanging out a shingle as a management consultant was fairly successful. The Navy provided great role models for a young guy making his way up the ladder from Leeuwin to Lieutenant Commander GLSU. The young Divisional Officers, Lieutenants like Jim Dickson and Peter Hardy, must have wondered what they had done to be posted to the JR training depot; just as the old and bold Chief and PO Writers like Herrick, Simpson, Medaris and Eckel must have turned grey over the new generation they had to train. (Just as we now do over the next generation!)

A fabulous career of twenty years that I wouldn't change for anything. Especially when I recall the day when airline baggage handlers were on strike and QANTAS Reservations Manager, Mr. Magor, carried my bags at Sydney airport... with tears in his eyes.

### **Kelly, Jill (nee Hildebrand)**



I joined the Navy from Melbourne in 1975. My postings include Cerberus (Pay Office with Allan Curtin), Albatross (AJASS), Coonawarra (Shoal Bay), Navy Office (Steno for CNS, working with Greg Kinnear and Robbie Robson which was great fun) and then back to Coonawarra. I paid off in 1983.

### **Kelman, Bruce Alexander**



Passed away 12/2/2010. Ex WOWTR R121398. Joined the RAN on 12/4/1977 as a JR at Leeuwin and transferred to Apprentice ETS in 1978 at Nirimba. He immediately realised the error of his ways and transferred to Writer in 1978. He completed Writer Training at Cerberus in 1979 and was posted to Albatross and Coonawarra, before his first sea posting to Melbourne in July 1981. He transferred to Yarra on the decommissioning of Melbourne in February 1982 and was promoted to LSWTR on 6/5/1982.

After a draft to NOCWA in January 1983, postings followed to Penguin and Fleet Supply Team, before seatime in Swan in May 1987. He was promoted to POWTR on 30/9/1987 and posted to Albatross as Regulating Petty Officer with the Seahawk Introduction Unit. A posting followed back to sea in Jervis Bay in September 1988 as COSEC until September 1991, during which he was promoted to CPOWTR. He was awarded a Maritime Commander's commendation on 11/9/1991 for services as

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COSEC on Jervis Bay. Next posting was to Defence Force Recruiting Centre, Sydney until January 1995, when he commenced duties as Instructor at the RAN Leadership and Management School at Garden Island, Sydney.

He was promoted to WOWTR on 14/12/1995 and performed duties as Senior Instructor at the above school. Although promoted to Lieutenant in January 1999, he decided to take redundancy so as to settle his children prior to commencing schooling. He was discharged on 18/12/1998. Relocating to Esperance, Western Australia.

### Kemp, Reginald G. 'Reg'



Ex LWTR PM2015. After being unsuccessful in joining the Merchant Service as a Cadet Purser, I applied for entry into the RAN Reserve at Lonsdale in March 1938 and was accepted as a Writer. On the 29/8/1939, I received a telegram at home from Lonsdale, stating the imminence of war and to report to the naval depot at 7.00 am the next morning. The following day, I was on the "Spirit of Progress" bound for Sydney to join Yarra at Garden Island. After a lengthy medical check-up, the Master-at-Arms showed me the ship's office, which was my place of duty for the next close on twelve months.

Yarra, which was a mine sweeper, went to sea in late September under the command of CMDR W.H. Harrington, sweeping between Sydney and Perth, making a clear passage for troopships into the Indian Ocean. We did this for the best part of nine months. We also visited the Southern Ocean, looking for German ships. Yarra visited all ports of Australia and Tasmania, which helped to train a number of new entries into the Service. The first three months on board was not easy and discipline was everywhere. At the end of August, I left Yarra in Perth and traveled to Cerberus. On arrival at the huge training depot in Victoria, my home port, I worked in most departments for a time and then went to the Drafting Office until I left the depot for sea service in Australia. My time in Cerberus was a change from life at sea and I made some good friends, who remain so to this day.

I joined Australia in January 1942 and went to the Captain's Office until I was drafted off in November 1942, returning to Rushcutters Bay for three months. My time in Australia was most fulfilling. The most senior of naval staff were onboard for a better part of the time and during the Coral Sea episode we were closed-up for lengthy periods. At that time, we had Vice Admiral Sir Victor Crutchley VC, RN, onboard assisting Captain Harold Farncomb, RAN, as well as many other senior officers, so discipline was taut. At the Rushcutters Bay Depot, the Pay Commander had me change the office in many ways with the help of a WRAN. This was my first experience with the opposite sex; her father was a RAN Commander.

Drafting Office in Cerberus had me return in early March 1943 to assist in a busy period. There was a rumour that personnel were required for a "N" class destroyer "pool" overseas. There was a vacancy for a Writer on Nizam and so I applied. Nizam was selected to make passage for a group of Writers and Supply Assistants to

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replace personnel in Mombassa (East Africa). Due to Lord Mountbatten changing his scene of operations to Colombo in 1943, the RAN had consequently set up an accounting office in Ceylon under Royal Navy conditions. (Right-in Colombo)The RAN Paymaster Commander already in Colombo was to make some changes to the original placing of personnel. I did not remain in Nizam as the Commander required a L/Writer ashore. Apart from a few breaks, I remained in Colombo until August 1945. Time spent there had its perks. I took passage in Geraldton late in August for home.

Due to a wealth of work at Potts Point, Sydney, I remained there until discharge in June 1946. In summing up seven years of active service, I can say that it was 'some experience.'

### Kennedy, Ray



R57566 – Served 13JAN61 to 12JAN81. On joining the Navy there were 2 RCTWTRs who had to wait for me to join before starting the Writers Course. One RCTWTR Griffiths changed his rating to RCTCK and the other RCTWTR Boucher was given a Medical Discharge before completing the course.

On completion of the course 27JUN61, I was posted to the Movements Office, Main Gate Cerberus until posted to Quickmatch on 25NOV61 until 11DEC62 having served with some memorable characters such as Peter (Shaky) Samuels, Peter Donkin & 'Woggie' Watson.

Having served at Watson in the interim, was posted on 15JUL63 to Rushcutter working on Service Documents for RANR Records and correspondence until 05FEB64.

After Rushcutter, I was posted as THE Writer on Diamantina on 06FEB64 – on seeing my posting I rang Navy Office to find out why I had been sent to Diamantina in WA and was promptly told "Your have a further 10 months sea time to serve and as you come from Bunbury, WA you were posted to Diamantina" "Huh, I come from BUNDABERG QLD"

"To bad you have already been posted". Needless to say I spent 11 months until 08JAN65 before being posted to Albatross

With the establishment of the RAN Trials Assessing Unit at the Gunnery Centre Woolloomooloo on 25OCT66, I was posted as Captain's Secretary and when the unit moved to Rushcutter I became the Librarian – responsible for the upkeep of all Books of Reference and official publications – a position I held for 5 months and was posted to Melbourne on 28OCT68.



On 24<sup>th</sup> May 1971 I was posted to the staff of the Directorate of Naval Personal Services to assist in the formulation and administration of conditions of Service and

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all matters related to the well being of Naval personnel – also established the “Umbrella” social workers office in Civic Centre with 2 Social Workers, Doug Kennedy, a WRWTR as receptionist and a WRMTD. After being there for nearly 4 years I asked LT Frank Shugg how long I have to serve there for & he told me 3 years and when I said I’d been there longer than that he had me posted to Brisbane. Having been out of the Branch for so long I asked to be posted to Kuttabul for 5 months to refresh my writer’s duties

### Kenny, Laurie

Passed away 1st May 2000. Ex CPOWTR R29718. Joined the RAN in March 1946 and paid off in October 1956. He served on HMA Ships Arunta, Tobruk, Barwon and Platypus. He joined RANR Division at Port Adelaide in 1959 and was an active reservist until 1981 as a CPOWTR.

### Kindness, John



Ex WOWTR R46938. I joined the RANR in 1950 as a RCTWTR and subsequently transferred to the RAN in February, 1952. I formed part of Writer Course 10. The Supply School instructor was CPOWTR Shamus O’Brien, and the class included Max Gillies, Alec Goodieson and Bill Monaghan. On completion of course, I was posted to Albatross with Bill Monaghan. There, I kept fair ledger for Jack Markham, although one of my jobs was also making up ink from powder. In 1954, I was posted to Platypus, where I worked with Mick Randell.

Whilst in Platypus, I served with Stanley George Cooper, a true officer and gentlemen. If you asked him a question, nothing was too much trouble to explain in the way of an answer. In 1955, I received a draft to Anzac with Ian McConchie. We had the pleasure of balancing the ledgers on 30/6/1956 for the last time, then posting the balances to the pay cards. I still refer to pay cards as the ‘new system.’ In 1957, I was posted back to Albatross as a LSWTR for AJASSS. We were housed in a brand new building behind gangway. I was discharged in 1958 and went back to the RANR. I had a few stints in Canberra at various directorates, mainly at DNRC, and had an occasional trip to sea, as well as postings like Moreton and other establishments around Australia. I transferred to the retired list in 1988, with rank of WOWTR. I had a very happy association with the Navy that lasted 38 years. I met a lot of interesting and unforgettable characters along the way. The names mentioned in other biographies, stir up happy and pleasant memories.

### King, Charles Cyril Thomas

Joined 14th June 1950. R38711. Served shore establishments Cerberus, Albatross, Kuttabul, Moreton, Watson and Penguin. His sea service consisted of Barcoo as AB/ 1952 - 1954, as LS Sydney 1957 - 1958, Melbourne 1958 - 1959. As Po Quiberon 1963 - 1964. Discharged DEE 13/6/1965.

## King, Eric Thomas

Passed away 2002. P/N 22891. Joined the Navy 21st February 1939 and after completing the Writers course stayed at Cerberus until he was posted to Australia 29/8/1939. It was noted he was issued with a 'lifebelt' 25/11/1939. After Australia he joined Penguin 4/4/1941 and Rushcutter 15/8/1941. Promoted LS 1/10/1942. Next was a sea posting to Nizam 11/10/1943 followed by a posting to Bathurst (AMS) 1/3/1944. Promoted PO 1/7/1944 and then joined Napier 21/7/1944. Quality 25/10/1945 and Quickmatch 1/12/1945. The rest of the time he spent ashore, firstly to Rushcutter 3/6/1946, Penguin 7/7/1950 where he was promoted to CPO 1/10/1950. He retired DEE 20/2/1951.

## King, John Kenneth



R94237. I joined pussers in January 1964 as part of the 8th intake of Junior Recruits at HMAS Leeuwin, where I spent 2 years, the second as a Topman. I bombed out as an officer due to having a duodenal ulcer and was sent then to Cerberus in 1966 to do the Writers' course (bypassing the traditional route of a year at sea as an OD).

Held back for one week cos I failed typing, but eventually posted to Kuttabul as part of Ship's Coy, serving time in the Accounts Office and then the pay office when Jack Markham was the Chief Writer. I was assigned to the Mine Sweepers' pay just as we were converting to computerized pays. I believe they're still trying to sort out the cock ups I made, when I drafted to HMAS Sydney, in August 1967, just in time for a major refit, so my first 4 months at sea were spent either alongside Garden Island or the dry-dock at Cockatoo Island.

Did two trips to Vietnam in Dec '67 and Feb '68. On the second trip my ulcer started bleeding and I also had an accident wrecking my knee (these two resulted in my being granted TPI in 1995). Finished the second voyage in sick bay and was then transferred to the hospital at Penguin. Did a few weeks in the medical ward there before being put into Ships' Coy in the pay office before being medically discharged in July '68.

A magnificent Naval career torpedoed by a belly ache. Now living back in my home state of Queensland after a much chequered career out in civvy street.

## King, Ronald Edward 'Curly'

Joined 5th July 1951. R 45602. Served in shore establishments Cerberus, Penguin. Sea service Vengeance 1954 - 31/12/1954. LS 1956. Discharged 4th July 1957.

## Kingsford, Greg

Ex LSWTR R115606. Joined the RAN in 1973. He completed the Writers course in January 1974 and was posted to the troop transport, Sydney. Further postings were Albatross, Perth, Lonsdale and Cerberus in 1978, after being promoted to LSWTR. Greg left the RAN in 1981.

## Kinnear, Garry



I joined the RAN at Leeuwin as a 16-year-old in 1968 and spent my first sea posting under training in warship HMAS Diamantina with LSWTR John Spreadborough. After completion of the Basic Writers Course around 1970, I was posted to FOCAF, from where I was reposted another couple of times during my earlier years. During these postings, I served with a few memorable scribes that still readily come to mind. Spent sea time postings in Stalwart, Melbourne (Admiral's Staff twice), a small stint on Anzac for a PNG trip, Supply (in a couple of ranks) with LCDR 'Ike' Quinn and was Captain's Sec in the end. (Had an overnight stay on Hobart in Fiji once, because I, and about 100 others, unfortunately 'missed' HMAS Melbourne when she sailed at short notice because of a cyclone. Captain H.P. Berger (Fleet Ops) was not impressed.) Spent shore postings at Kuttabul (almost my second home in the end), where once my brother Greg and I were posted at the same time, fairly hairy, and HMAS Melville (Darwin, for those who may never have heard of it in recent times). I avoided Cerberus like the plague and exchanged postings with Jimmy Tester when I was unfortunate enough to incur the wrath of the posters. Then I was lucky enough to get a posting to the nation's capital as the Promotions wizard and PP1A King (with WO Ron Dalgliesh and the frightening Frank Brown.). Next, Adelaide Recruiting was a pleasant change and enabled me to return home for a while, then, when that was up, I returned to DSP and dispersed 'Dib Dabs' around the nation.

Following a bout in Supply, I was posted overseas to Islamabad, Pakistan, where I spent 12 months. Supposedly, it was a two-year posting, however we were pulled out prematurely. My superior, Group Captain Roger (Top Gun) Lowery, even though he was a RAAF chap, was a real 'white man'. He didn't mind a drink either, which was probably why my main function there was Bar Manager of the Coolabah Club. That posting was probably the highlight of my career, where I learned so much and was able to travel throughout Pakistan and beyond, as far as the Greek Islands among many other places. (One achievement was that we were the first ever Australians to travel to the Chinese Border (Khunjerab Pass), 16,000 feet, in the Trans Himalayas, before the thoroughfare was officially opened to tourism. And in a diesel Hi-Ace too.)

On my return, I was originally posted back to DSP for a short stint then, I suspect maliciously, I was posted to NOPO.

My promotion to Warrant Officer came through and I found myself in DEFPAY in Melbourne. This was a little inconvenient as I had just bought a house in Kambah,

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ACT, on my return from overseas and this, with someone else having welfare concerns, saw me spend my last few months somewhere I would rather not have been. I was a keen sportsman through my time in the Navy and played most sports that the Navy offered. I represented the Navy in a few sports and that is probably why I am as slow as I am today.

I paid off from the Navy in July 1988 and as at 2006, am still a member of the Reserves.

I have got to say I enjoyed my time in the Navy immensely and would do it all again if the clock could be wound back. I met some wonderful people on the journey and some of which I am still very close to. Camaraderie is a wonderful thing and is evident at the recent reunions where many a story is told over and over again.

### Kinnear, Greg



R115102. I joined Leeuwin as a JR in Stevenson Division (43<sup>rd</sup>) on 13/4/1973 and went to Cerberus to do the Writers Course in May 1974, with Lou Smith as our mentor. I was then posted from course to Kuttabul in August 1974 as a pay scribe, sharing a cabin there with brother, Garry, a time that I really enjoyed. Also at Kuttabul then were Pete Gostlow, Stew Merrilees and 'Blue' Walters, to name a few. I then joined Stuart as my first sea posting in July 1975, whilst the ship was in refit in Williamstown. (A 'great' experience in winter for anybody who has never been there.) All good things come to those who wait and the ship went on the bicentennial trip to the USA in 1976. Brian Wedlock, 'Irish' and Greg Penno were the other scribes onboard at the time. After this period, I was posted to Navy Office - CNS/DCNS in January 1977. There I served with 'Robbie' Robson and also met Bruce 'The Beast' Klimeck. I was promoted to Leading Writer in June 1979 and moved to Navy Office – DCOORD-N. From there I was posted to Melbourne in June 1980, where we completed the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Ocean deployment patrol. I worked in the registry with John Reading and accounts office with the legendary Pat Scully.

Some of the other scribes onboard at the time were Greg Maddison, 'Blinky' and Greg Watson, again to name but a few. Back to Navy Office I went in December 1981, where I worked in DNMP and DSP. From there I went to Harman where I worked in Navy Office Pay Office (NOPO) until April 1985 and then was posted to Stalwart in April 1985 as Pay Leading Writer, with Gerry Anesbury as the POWTR. We had a very eventful trip 'up top', which included the 1985 gassing onboard, followed by a mercy trip on the way home to Macquarie Island in the Antarctic, due to the Nella Dan (Supply Ship) being trapped in ice. I was promoted to POWTR whilst onboard Stalwart. After my promotion, I was sent to Department of Defence (JIO) and worked there until July 1987, when I was posted to Harman (NO-DSP) in the Promotions section. I was promoted to CPOWTR in August 1989 and in December, was posted to Encounter as NOCSA Secretary. On 12/4/1993 I was discharged from the Royal Australian Navy as a CPOWTR. These



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days I work at Trans Adelaide (trains) in between taking the odd cruise around the Pacific.

### Kirby, Victor John 'Rip'



Passed away 14th May 2014. Ex ABWTR R52101. Served from 1956 to 1965 and at sea in HMA Ships Quiberon, Supply and Hawk. Rip was in the Quiberon and Supply during their early years and was with the commissioning crew of the Tide Austral (later Supply) in the UK for a few months.

He had the 'distinction' of being the only 2-badge scribe to have failed his 'hook'. Shore establishments included Cerberus, Lonsdale, Penguin and Rushcutter. In his 60`s he did doing voluntary work with

the Vietnam Veterans Association in Wauchope.

Awarded the AASM with clasp 'Malaya', NGSM with clasp 'Malaya', ADM and Pingat Jasa Malaysia.



### Kirk, Linton James



Passed away 5th December 2012. Ex WTR RANR PM4809. James joined the AMF (V56057) on 9/1/1941 and transferred whilst in the Army to the RANR as a Writer in July 1942. He served in HMAS Lonsdale, Nizam, GERALTON, Lanka, RANAO Colombo and Trincomalae and RTO Melbourne.

### Kisnorbo, Bert

Ex LSWTR R109874. Commenced life as a 'new grub' in the RAN when I joined the 35<sup>th</sup> Intake (Stevenson Division) at JRTE, HMAS Leeuwin in April 1971. I survived Leeuwin, achieving the gratifying status of 'top shit', prior to being posted to Stalwart as an ORDWTR for some sea service (one night only, outside Sydney heads) and then on to Cerberus for the WTR Category course. On completion of the course and on promotion to WTR2, I was posted to Watson and still have fond



memories of Vic Venaglia, Mick Devenish and Stu Merilees. On joining Sydney at Garden Island, I commenced some sea service with my one and only trip 'up top' to Port Moresby, Djakarta, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. I saw some further sea service in the Sydney and visited Auckland and Wellington in 'the land of the flightless bird'. Exchanging postings with my old JRTE comrade, Brose Palmer, saw me walking up the gangway of Supply and setting sail

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for the South Pacific in search of new adventures. Instead, I found myself sharing a cabin (quite a luxury) with WTR Johnny Ptak and reporting to LSWTR Mick Gleaves, with Supply bob, Fred Grace, at the head and Laurie Dillon making up the 'upper echelon' of the Scribe contingent.

On returning to Australia, after some 68-straight days at sea, supporting HMNZ Ships Otago and Taranaki defy the French with their nuclear testing programme at Mururoa Atoll and a memorable night of R&R at Rarotonga, in the Cook Islands, and some toe drying moments in Norfolk Island, I was posted to Cerberus. There, in the Pay Office, as a fully fledged WTR, I joined such heavyweights as Marty Grogan, Brian Eagles, Pete Tanner, Don Carmichael and Adrian 'Bomber' Brown, among others. Further shore time followed with a stint at Lonsdale in Port Melbourne, where I was personally tutored and mentored by the illustrious Pat Scully and Dave Whelan. I then joined Harman in Canberra and 'served time' in the Pay Office under the then 'Napoleon look-alike', CPOWTR 'Louie the Lip' Horsfield, together with fellow inmates, George Kitchener, Neil Spackman and one, Mick Kelleher. Again (I never learn), I exchanged posting with my old comrade, Brose Palmer, and ended up at DSP with Barry Clements, 'British' Hardwick, Robby Robson and Bruce 'the Beast' Klimeck. Also included in this bunch of 'chase the pissa' playing desperados, were 'Rocky' Rochford, Rod Pickles, Geoff Locke, Jeff McQuade, Ralph Swanson, the infamous Kinnear Bros and indeed, a dear old mate and true gentleman, the one and only Mick Scully. I was lucky to get out of DSP and score a quick trip to Diego Garcia, the Seychelles and Mauritius (where I was conceived and unfortunately for some, later 'extracted') in Moresby, prior to returning to Navy Office. From there, I paid off in April 1977.

Since, I have paid my dues to society and added a couple of extra consumers and tax payers (Daniel Michael and Alysha Jayne) to the populace, while travelling all over the place, playing construction worker on some of the most prestigious projects in the industry. These include stints at Fort McMurray and Calgary in the land of the frozen yanks (Canada), Mt Isa and Gladstone in Queensland, Bell Bay in Tasmania, Kwinana, Perth City and Ravensthorpe in the land of the sand gropers, as well as numerous other construction sites in NSW and Victoria. I am currently living at Bushland Beach and working in sunny Townsville, North Queensland, with my soulmate and better half, Michelle, and two four-legged 'daughters', Kizzie and Misha. However, I'm getting 'itchy feet' again and looking forward to new adventures somewhere else in this vast sunburnt country.

Meantime, I finally finished a Bachelor of Accounting degree in October 2007, at the ripe old age of 52, and am intent on setting the 'Accounting World and those damned corporate bean counters' on fire. Not!

I did not mention any of my WRANS colleagues, for fear of being drawn and quartered, burned at the stake and shot at dawn. However, I have fond memories of Cheryl Meyer, Lizzie Pendle, Gail Rochford, Wendy Robinson, Desley Culpin (SBA), Anne Router and one, Julie Moshioni among many others. My apologies to all those not mentioned. Just too many for this short 'bio'. You are not forgotten however, and will be always remembered.

## Klem, Lindsay Ronald



Passed away 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013. R94673. Joined fifth of January 1965 for 12 years. Served in establishments *Leeuwin, Cerberus, Nirimba, Harman, Albatross*.  
Sea time *Sydney* 1966, *Vendetta* 1968 – 1970.

## Klimeck, Bruce



After reaching the halcyon rank of POWTR in 1982, Bruce was commissioned as a Supply Officer in 1987. Following training, he was posted to Stirling, followed by his first sea posting as a Supply Officer in HMAS Stuart. The call of Navy Office again beckoned and a position in the Directorate of Naval Personal Services ensued. This allowed him to pester the Poster who sent him to HMAS Huon in July 1991. After three fun years in the 'Apple Isle', Bruce was posted to the Army School of Transport at Puckapunyal for ten months. This was followed by his first posting to Cerberus as the Logistics Officer and subsequently the Personnel Support Officer.

Following promotion to LCDR, he was posted as the Supply Officer HMAS Melbourne in September 1996. This was particularly poignant as his first ship was the Carrier Melbourne as a SMNWTR in 1976. He accepted a redundancy from the RAN and left after 24 years service, immediately commencing work as the Materials Manager for RLM Systems. RLM Systems was the company charged with delivery of the Jindalee Over the Horizon Radar for the RAAF. This role expanded to include Facilities Management and eventually he was the Operations Manager, leaving RLM in December 2003. He commenced work with Hewlett Packard as a consultant on the renovations of their new data centre in Melbourne, then left HP in May 2005 and commenced work as the Data Centre Operations Manager with Primus Telecom.

## Klimpel, Dianne (nee Harris)

Joined the WRANS in 1970 as a Writer and was discharged in 1974.

## Koost, Mark



LCDR, ex WOWTR. In January 1977, at the ripe old age of 15, Mark joined the Navy from Beachmere, QLD., to undertake 12 months training as a member of Mark's Division, JRTE, HMAS Leeuwin in Fremantle, WA. During this time, he was selected to become a Writer sailor. Writer training at Cerberus was delivered under fine instruction from POWTR Lew Smith at the old Supply School. His first posting as a Writer was to Creswell, during which time he was a member of SBLT Sid Lemon's division and under the guidance of POWTRs Ron Tregear and Morrie Johnston. After postings to Melbourne (Admiral's Writer to FOCAF), Albatross (Py and AJASS), Watson (PERSO), Moreton (PSO, Pay and Accounts), Kuttabul (SO Pay), Darwin (COSEC) and Nirimba (Pay, SO Cash), Mark was promoted to Warrant Officer Writer in June 1992.

Postings as a WOWTR included Maritime Headquarters as the Fleet Legal Assistant and Fleet WOWTR, and Albatross as the Personnel Officer.

Mark changed over to the 'dark side' as a Lieutenant in January 1998, whilst remaining a member of the Writer category. Subsequent postings were Albatross (SO Victualling), Maritime Headquarters (N40/Staff Officer to the Support Division), back to Albatross as Management Review Team Leader for the market testing of regional Garrison Support Services, followed by a posting as Military Support Officer to DCO Nowra, during which time he was promoted to Lieutenant Commander.



He then posted as First Lieutenant, Albatross, and in November 2004, he joined COMAUSNAVAIRGRP Headquarters as Staff Officer Capability Personnel. A total of 29 years service at this point, and still no postings to Navy Office! Mark is married to his wife Sandra, and the couple has two sons; Daniel and Matthew. They reside at Bangalee, NSW.

Mark was selected for the position of Staff Officer to the Head of Australian Defence Staff (RADM Raydon Gates RAN) in Washington DC and took up a three-year posting in April 2007.

## Knudsun, Alison (Nee Woods and Finn)

Ex WRWTR. Served from 1987 to 1992.

## Kubilinkas, Edna Mary

Nee Camlin. WR 202. Deceased July 2008. Mary was mobilised for service 18 November 1942 her rank on entry was Assistant Writer (Minor). She was promoted WRAN WTR 17 February 1943, and Leading Writer 1 October 1943. She was discharged 15 February 1946. All her time was spent at Penguin II.

## Kuhn, June Helen (Nee McDonald)



WR 800. Served at Lonsdale and Cerberus as a WRAN Writer Group III.. Discharged 9/11/1945.

## Kuhn, Alexander Edgar

Passed away date not known.

P/N 12872 joined up from the Darling Downs area, QLD. Served from 19th February 1921 until 3rd January 1946. The ships he served in were: Melbourne 1st - LSWTR 1927, Sydney 1st 1928, Brisbane 1st - 1928 - 1929, Westralia 1st - POWTR, 1939| Manoora 1st - POWTR 1939 - 1941. Discharged as a CPO.