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MacAngus, Don

Completed the Writers DO Conversion course from January to February 1970, and spent time at Waterhen, at sea in Duchess and at Navy Office, DSP.

MacDonald, Joan (Nee Olsson)

Passed away 11th February 2010 at Strathmore, Victoria. Joan joined the RAN 6th June 1945 and was discharged 17th September 1946. WR3025. Joan joined Lonsdale on enlistment and stayed until discharge. Her job prior to joining was a ledger keeper so joining as a Writer seemed appropriate. On discharge she was paid £7.10.00 war gratuity, a civilian clothing allowance of £6.10.00 and £16.07.06 in lieu of 30 days reestablishment leave. In those days this was a large amount of money.

MacGinley, Patrick James 'Pat'



Joined 25th April 1927. Served at Cerberus, Penguin, Melville, Albatross, Moreton, Creswell and Nirimba. He served at sea on Manoora I 1947 as LS/AB (Was a LS on posting in but disrated to AB) , as a CPO served on Sydney 1954/65 and Anzac 1962/1963. Discharged DEE 14th October 1965.

Mackenzie, B G

Passed away 2007

Mackinnon, Alan Douglas

Passed away date not know. Joined 10th July 1963 for 12 years. R94064. Served in establishments Leeuwin, Cerberus and Melville. Sea service in Sydney 1964 and Parramatta in 1967/68.

Maddock, John



R103833. Joined the navy in January 1969 as an adult recruit and was in Waller Division in Recruit School. Underwent various sea training aboard Anzac in the period April to August 1969, spending most of his sea time as Captain's Cabin Hand, but did work in the Ship's Office with Guy Jennings and fellow ORDWTR's Murt and Kel Clark. Following completion of Writer 5/69 course, he was posted to Fleet Headquarters in early 1970 as Operations Room Writer. Finally, he was posted to sea to Brisbane in January 1972 as an ABWTR, having forgotten most of what he'd learnt on the Writer's course, apart from touch-typing. Promoted to LSWTR in October 1973 and then posted ashore to the Fleet Writer Team. This was followed by a posting to the Accounts Office at Watson, later that year.

In early 1975, he transferred to the Academic Instructor Branch, and was posted to Leeuwin for tertiary training at Mount Lawley Teachers College, Perth. Promotion to POAI came in 1977. Having graduated from teachers college, he was posted to Leeuwin to teach academic subjects to the Junior Recruits. In June 1978, he was posted to Training Technology Unit No. 2 (TTU2) at Penguin. John was commissioned as an Instructor Lieutenant in October 1979, and posted straight back to Leeuwin, instructing the JRs in academic subjects. A posting to the Navy Video Team at the Training Technology Unit followed, where they produced training and PR videos for internal navy use.

John left Pussers in 1989 as a Lieutenant Commander, rejoining as a Reservist later that year, with a posting as Staff Officer Manpower Planning at Navy Office. The following 11 years were as a public servant in Defence in Canberra. He now enjoys the occasional naval reserve work, with the latest being at the Sea Power Centre, in Canberra in 2005, where he helped to write ship histories.

Magennis, John



Joined the Navy on 27 /3/1950 as a recruit then moved to the ship's company at Cerberus, working in the central registry. He was chosen to join the Vengeance, and went to the United Kingdom by a passenger ship called Austarius to pick up the new carrier. On his return to Australia, he served in Vengeance until January, 1954, and then drafted to Lonsdale. From there, he went to Navy Office, serving in the Manning Department until he was posted back to Lonsdale again,



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where he was discharged in 1956.

Makin, Shirley



Joined the navy in January 1974. She served at Melville/Coonawarra in 1974/75, Harman and Navy Office 1975/78, 1981/82, 1988/94, Moreton and Brisbane Recruiting 1978/81, 1984/985, AUSTFASO Seattle 1982/984 and Penguin 1986/88. She retired in January 1994. She has one son, Richard, born 1985 and now lives and works in her old home town of Miles, QLD.

Malpass, Joan (Nee Conway)

Passed away 2009. WR 4019. Joined 16/4/1951 and discharged 16/7/1954. Served Lonsdale and Cerberus.

Margetts, Bev (Nee Young/Willox)



Joined 7th March, 1965. Supply School then farewelled classmates as they went to other places and I stayed at Pay Office. While I always knew where money belongs, could not add up to save myself, especially in pounds, shillings and pence! Someone must have complained as I was soon despatched to Harman to work in the Captain's Office. Was good to getaway from Cerberus.

Was in the Captains Office with Terrie Mooney, then Dave Jordan until Sydney natives were needed to live at home as some of the quarters were closed for Sydney depots. I lived at my parents and commuted to the Welfare Office in Hunter Street, moved back to Penguin when the accommodation was sorted, then back to Cerberus. Spent time back in the Pay Office, but now we had gone metric and with only 2 columns to juggle, life became easier.

Later went to Albatross and the Pay Office, (Arthur Skene, I remember)then AMAFTU where I spent 2 years, with a trip to Cerberus for POWTR course. Re-engaged after initial 4 years but went FREE in October, 1969. Married Trevor Young, from the Electrical Air Communication persuasion a year after discharge, having travelled to WA and worked back in Sydney, and we lived in Nowra until after his discharge in 1973.



Marjason, Edna Florence

Passed away 23/1/1944. Joined 13th May 1943 and was posted to Platypus for Cairns. WR1241. She was involved in motor car accident and passed away 23rd January 1944. She is buried at the Cairns Military Cemetery.

Markham, Jack Leonard

Passed away. R33522. Joined 5th December 1946. Joined Cerberus on entry and shore postings were Harman, Penguin, Albatross, Kuttabul, Creswell. Sea postings included Shoalhaven 1949 – 1951, Australia 1953 – 1954, Queenborough 1957 – 1958, Melbourne 1958 – 1959 and Yarra 1964. Discharged (Free) 28th June 1968. Promoted CPO in 1958

Marshall, Joy

Ex ABWTR. Joined the navy in 1994 and Medically Discharged in 2000 after falling down a ladder and badly injuring a knee.

Martin, Stanley

Joined 22nd of June 1950. R38562. Sure postings Cerberus and Penguin. See posting was Anzac from July 51 to January 53. Discharged 21 June 1956.

Martin, Tracey (Nee Monson)

Served from 1987 to 1993.

Maskell, Andrew William



Andrew was awarded the CSM as follows: 2012 Australia Day Honours.

Awarded Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM) For meritorious devotion to duty as the Personnel Officer aboard HMAS Manoora and for services to the wider naval community.

Chief Petty Officer Maskell is an exceptional senior sailor displaying consistently professional excellence, inspirational leadership, thoughtful initiative and dedication to duty, particularly in complex and challenging situations. He has been instrumental in establishing effective personnel management standards and in facilitating the introduction of innovative initiatives throughout Her Majesty's Australian Fleet.

Mason, Margaret



Ex WRWTR WRE 201. I joined the RAN in June, 1942, when I was 18 years old, and went to Balmoral, as soon as HMAS Penguin was ready for us. We were the first intake there. During my time, I kept the fair and rough ledgers in the pay office, and spent time in the captain's office, typing reports. I left the Navy in 1946 and married a Lieutenant Commander.

I remember Geoff Carden; he was a true gentleman, and I think I have met Tim Hooley too, as I knew quite a few of the boys attached to Penguin at

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the time. A few other names that come to mind are: Reg Keifer, who I last heard, was on a property at Manduriry on the Newell Highway. He would be elderly now, as in the year 2007, I am now 83 myself. Elsie Sewell was a dental assistant. She is now Mrs Elaine Cook living in Sans Souci, NSW. Also there was Nancy McQueen, who was a stores assistant, used to come to our Sydney lunches until a little while ago. Jean Luders (nee Lamont), who lives in Adelaide at Largs North, provided a place for me to stay when I attended the Writers' reunion there in 2004.

Matherson, Laurie

Passed away - date not known. R35498. Joined 6th November 1947 as Ordinary Seaman. Approved to transfer to Writer. Served at shore establishments as a Writer at Penguin, Cerberus, Tarangau and Melville. Sea service was on Australia 1952 as AB/LS. Promoted PO 1st January 1955. Worked for the Special Joint Intelligence Bureau in 1957 after undergoing a Russian linguist course the previous year.

Promoted 26th July 1959 to Supply Sub Lieutenant. Served mainly at Cerberus, Lonsdale, Nirimba and Harman. Promoted Lieutenant in 1963 and did not progress any further. He resigned from the Navy 26th July 1968 joining Department of Trade and Industry as a civilian.

Matthews, Claude Douglas



Passed away 23rd October 2009. Ex LSWTR. R51987. Service from 18/5/1956 to 8/10/1962. Joined 18th May 1956 and promoted LSWTR 12th August 1960. He had a number of postings including Penguin, Queenborough, Albatross, Nirimba, Melbourne Discharged 7th October 1962.

Matthews, Reginald Gordon 'Blue'

Passed away 22 December 2012. Joined 16/5/1920 for 12 years. O/N 23198. Served in establishments Cerberus, Leeuwin and Melville. His sea service was Yarra 1940 – 1941. He was promoted LS whilst on Yarra. Promoted PO in 1942. He was discharged 27th June 1951 on promotion to Commissioned Writer Officer and during his service was promoted to Commander. He discharged to shore 9th October 1969.

Mayes, William Howard

Ex WTR. Served from September 1946 to 1948 at HMAS Cerberus.



McAlpine, Fiona



Navy News article dated 1st February 1991: “ ‘Our Best Recruit’ WRWTR Fiona McAlpine has won the 1990 Emil Christensen prize for ‘best general entry recruit’ passing out of Recruit at HMAS CERBERUS.

The award, a wallet and cheque for \$250, is sponsored by the estate of the late Mr Christensen, an ex HMAS TINGIRA Boy Seaman. Our CERBERUS correspondent said WRWTR McAlpine who joined the Navy from Boolaroo, NSW had displayed a willingness to assume extra duties and responsibilities, and gained the respect of superiors

and peers alike with her forthright manner, sense of humour and leadership qualities.

These qualities resulted in her promotion to Leading Recruit Wran and she subsequently was awarded Recruit of the Intake. Fiona also achieved excellent academic results and was awarded the prize for academic excellence. Her overall result for the recruit course was 96%.”

McAuliffe, Judy (nee O’Brien)



Judy joined the WRANS as a Writer (P) on 15/7/1957. She served at Cerberus from 1957 –1958, Penguin 1959, Torrens at the Combined Recruiting Centre until discharged "Married" on 29/12/1960.

She represented Navy at softball, badminton, athletics, and hockey and combined services at athletics. Judy married Brian, a POME, and has one son and daughter and three granddaughters. After fourteen years at home she went to work in the office at St Paul's

Primary School, Camden in 1975 and retired in December 2001. She lived in Campbelltown for 33 years and moved to Elderslie (Camden) May 2002. As at 2004, she was on the committee of the Ex WRANS Association and the Campbelltown Naval Association.

McCarthy, Alison (nee Grant)

I joined the PNF in 1990 and completed the Writer 45 class. I transferred to the Reserves in 1995 after the birth of my first child and, as at 2006, live Padthaway, SA, with my husband and two boys.

McCarthy, Carol J.



Ex WRWTR W86039. Joined the Navy on 8/3/1965 from Sydney town. She served at Cerberus, Harman (NO-DWE) and Albatross. Carol was discharged on 8/3/1969 and now resides in Maroochydoore, QLD.

McConnell, Mark



Mark retired from the RAN in 2003 as a LCDR and as at 2004, was the House Manager at Yarralumla and Admiralty House in Kirribilli. Mark was responsible for the day to day running of the Governor General's residences. Was given 2 3/4 years CFTS from May 2012 as Temporary Commander in Fleet Headquarters.

McCormack, Mary Megg



WR4205. Joined 26th February 1952 and served at Cerberus until discharged FREE on marriage 21st January 1955.

McCosker, John Reginald 'Jack'

R38515 Joined 18th May 1950. He served in various establishments including Albatross, Melville, Penguin, Kuttabul, Cerberus, Harman, Waterhen, Nirimba and Watson. His sea service was as follows: Arunta 1953 – 1955 as LS. Sydney 1957 to 1958. Promoted PO whilst on board. Vendetta 1960 – 1962. Promoted CPO 4/5/1962. Parramatta 1966 – 1967. Jack paid off 30/7/1970.

McDonald, Grace (nee Griffith)



Passed away 17 December 2013. Ex WRWTR. Grace was a member of the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service (WRANS) in World War II. She enlisted on 6/3/1945 and was discharged on 28/10/1946. Working as a writer (pay ledgers), she served at HMAS Penguin, HMAS Kuttabul and HMAS Torrens. She said that her training included activities that she may not have participated in had she remained in 'civvy' street. Grace returned to netball after the war and occupied positions at a District, State and National level.

She was given a Community Service Award in 1986 and in 1997, a Civic Reception and a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition for years of service as President of Randwick Netball Association and to sport in the City of Randwick. Grace was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 1996 for her services to netball. On 26/7/ 2000, she was awarded the Australian Sports Medal.

McDonald, Michael Earnest

Passed away. Joined 30th June 1963 and served for 9 years. His served at bases Cerberus, Albatross, Watson and Kuttabul. Sea service was on Anzac 1966/67. Discharged as Petty Officer.

McDonnell, Alfred Reginald

Assumed passed away. (DOB Sep 1918) Joined 29th April 1941. PM3585. Ex LWTR. Served in HMAS Shropshire during 1945. Demobbed 4th March 1946.

McFadden, Martin Leo

Joined 24 November 1963. R62675. Served at shore establishments Kuttabul, Cerberus and Watson. Sea service Vendetta 64, as LS Hobart 66-67 and Perth 67-69.

McFawn, Janet Frances (nee Bellis)



Known as 'Wran Jan', I joined the Navy in February 1976. I was posted to Harman from 1976 to 1979, first in Accounts with Pete Sanders, Bob Baird, 'Pi' Pieda, then to Navy Office in Manpower Planning, with Liz Budek as my PO. Other scribes there were Geoff Hardwick, Terry McHarry, 'Sharky' Sutherland, Greg Peers, Sue Theodore, Morgan Dunbar and Di Cavedon. I was posted to Sydney Recruiting from 1979 to 1981 as a LWR, then was posted back to Canberra, working at Campbell Park in Fleet Maintenance. I was promoted to PO in 1982 and then worked in Fleet Supply Services with Steve Rogers, Paddy O'Brien and Joy Newman.

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I married CPOMTP 'Irish' McFawn, who was working in DFM, in January 1984 and had our son, David, in 1985. I was discharged in 1986 and Irish was discharged in 1987, after 20 years service. We then moved to Tasmania, settling in Launceston. I had our daughter, Jenny, in 1988. Irish now works for the Launceston City Council and I work part time in a food outlet. Irish and I are members of the Launceston South Naval Association, he as Vice President and I as Treasurer. We would be pleased to see anyone travelling down our way.

McGeown, Pat



I joined the RAN as a JR in 1970. After sea time as an ORDWTR on Stalwart, I completed the Writers course in 1972 and was posted to FHQ, then HMAS Melbourne. A 'crash draft' came in 1973 to Port Moresby (HMAS Tarangau 2), where I served with the PNG Defence Force. Next posting was Moreton as an ABWTR, then Fleet Supply Team in 1976 as a LSWTR. My best draft ever was to the minesweeper Ibis for four months, followed by Perth, Nirimba, Coonawarra (Naval HQ), then as a POWTR at RAN Staff College, Penguin.

In 1980 I headed to Navy Office DSP in S&S postings where I made many new friends, followed by a draft in 1982 to Training Technology Unit 2, making Navy Training Videos. Back to sea in 1984 to Vampire and then I left the Navy in April of that year. Since my departure, first off I developed a comedy bus tour called 'Pat's Uninteresting Tours' and this paid my way for three years. I studied at NIDA as a playwright for one year, then became a copywriter at Ogilvy & Mather Advertising. Next it was off to New Zealand, where I produced the breakfast show at 91 fm and also worked as a ring announcer in wrestling on TV3. I went to Thailand in 1990 where I worked in advertising with a French company, EURO RSCG for five years. Then I spent six months writing and producing two TV programs that aired on CNBC, followed by six years producing TV shows on Thai TV Channel 3. I also presented a daily TV program, "Talk of the Town." In 2002, I returned to Australia with my partner, Aung, from Burma. I spent the rest of that year working as a freelance writer and voice-over and since 2003, as creative-director with a radio station c91.3fm in Sydney. I also completed two short films - "Wisdom of the Ancients" and "I Want Fat".

McGrath, Robert 'Bob'



I joined the RAN as a junior entry recruit on Good Friday 6th 1969. The train trip over the Unlabored was great and it went downhill from there. Our Chief Divisional Officer at Leeuwin was one fearful Con "Dutchy" Sappelli (CPOFC) who only feared two things in life, White Pointers and snakes. We agreed on the first, not the second.

After the late Ted Ivanov and I returned from our weekend from Garden Island with numerous wildlife that we subsequently housed in our respective lockers.

I had the misfortune to leave my locker open before leaving for classes one morning. The unfortunate Divisional Kellick was LS Prez Prestocki who found my

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locker open and 'Fred' my 6 foot Carpet Python came out of my size 7 boot to see what the problem was. At that stage all the Navy could charge me with was destroying Naval Property as "Fred" had turned my size 7 boot into a size 14 as it was his living quarters. The upside was the other two that were asleep in my white fronts didn't move. This was my first taste of chooks, stoppage etc. in the RAN and Dutchy's distrust of me for my remainder of time in Leeuwin despite good academic and sporting results.

On completion of Leeuwin I was posted to the "Tina" GOR266 with Johnny Spreadborough. My first day on the Tina when ORDs had to do inspection every morning ended in disaster and chooks. LS Bobby Youens questioned whether I had shaved that morning, when I informed him I had not shaved for 3 weeks, I had my first meeting with another feared Chief, CPOCOX JLJ Wilson who contrary to popular belief had a sense of humour and was a fantastic mentor to the JR's on the Diamantina. One of the lasting lessons I learnt during this period on the Tina was what happened at Leeuwin, remained at Leeuwin. Whilst in Singapore a Kellick from a senior Division at Leeuwin had caused me some grief. We just happened to be in a house of ill repute at the same time, when I saw the same gentleman again, I took my revenge unfortunately, something I regret to this day. Apart from wrecking the brothel in Nee Soon, I was charged again for being adrift as I was on Cinderella Leave. I commenced my Scribes course early in '71 and in retrospect it was when my alcoholism started to emerge. During this period I met some great people that have remained loyal friends despite my indiscretions and downward spiral that was to follow over the next few years. It may have been a blessing if Marty (Grogan) and Wayne (Harris) had failed me on Pay and Accounts on course and re-categorized me. As the older members of this magnificent website would agree. Fortunately, after initial allocation, they swapped me and Maxie Bryant from Pay to Personnel and I had the most productive period of my time. John E Nolan (Sid), Stevie Daws, now LCDR, Billy Kelly, Sabine Dittman and Heather Graham who put up with my antics for a considerable time. During '71 Sid Nolan raised SD papers on me and thankfully for everyone concerned, they were deferred for 12 months, my deterioration over the next 12 months ensured they were filed in bin 13. The 3 monthly forecast at the end of '71 had me joining the Parra (46) on 4 Jan '72' with Barry Clements the Chief Writer. Chrissy/New Year 71/72 was spent In Rockhampton, subsequently ending in my relationship with Heather and creating a lifelong friendship with her father who enjoyed Johnnie Walker Black and Red and the Red Lion in "Rocky".

As previously stated, I Joined the Parra in Jan '72 with Barry, Bomber (A.L Brown) and Kenny Roberts. This posting was the continuation of my downward spiral. The first couple of months alongside at G.I. were fairly uneventful although unfortunately Barry and I did not see eye to eye on virtually anything. Barry was a good sportsman in his younger days, but now seemed to have very little time for sports or Wednesday "Sporties". For the most part I will accept responsibility for our breakdown in relationship as my priority was sport, socialising, drinking, Not typing ROP's or being in the Ship's Office. To

Barry's credit he gave me a "sporty" for the final game of cricket of "72 with the proviso I returned after the game to type the ROP for March. The Skipper of the Oxley who was a participant in the game requested players of both sides to join him in a quiet drink. True to form I blew it, the last recollections I have of that evening was Bomber coming into the Ship's Office at 0400 and telling me to get my head

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down, clean up all the spilled corrective fluid, throw the skins in the rubbish and front Barry in the morning. Needless to say the outcome of that confrontation went one way and at that time I seriously considered walking out the main gates of GI. This was not to occur for another seven (7) months. Easter was in April of '72 and as I was a Mexican, I volunteered to stay onboard with another Scribe who will remain nameless as he is still a good friend. What I wasn't aware of was that we had to store ship over that period. During Store ship, I believe 24 cases of beer evaporated, which would account for the Stokers being legless for the 5 days of Easter, along with Duty watch and the duty SA (WTR Mac). Fortunately due to creative stacking in the cool room the discrepancy was not discovered until well into our deployment. One of the rare one's I got away with.

After a PP1 assessment of 3 for morals, I protested to LCDR Phil Mulcare (SO Parramatta) who remarked that I was highly over marked in all areas and the only reason I was marked as high as I was, it saved him writing a letter to NO. Following more numerous indiscretions on my part, in September, '72, after the first session in the Quarterdeck Bar of the Chevron, I decided the Navy and I would be better off apart. Another Scribe who will remain nameless as he paid off a WOWTR and would prefer to remain anonymous, went onboard the Parra grabbed the gear I requested and I then proceeded to hitchhike down to Mexico (Vic). After numerous lifts, I made it to the Victorian Border. As it was 0300 in the morning, I pulled up a piece of sheeting that was inside a paddock off the highway. When a cow became inquisitive, I hit the highway again very swiftly, I presume it was then when I lost my wallet and had 17 cents to my name and no ID. Eventually I made it to Ballarat some 36 hours after leaving the Chevron with many humorous memories of the trip.

When I arrived in Ballarat, I told my dear old Mum I had legged it; she was delighted as she opposed my enlisting originally. At her suggestion I dyed my hair Blonde, unfortunately she was not a hairdresser and for a considerable time my hair was orange before it became fashionable many years later. It obviously worked, as the Shore Patrol from Lonsdale passed me within a block of my house without giving me a second glance. I returned to GI, the Parra and the ensuing consequences. The comment from the OOD, was welcome back McGrath report to the Coxn.

The result was my first warrant (28 days suspended) and a forecast posting to Nirimba. I'm not completely sure of the conversation that took place between me and Barry (Clements) but I do recall saying to him that I was not going to join Nirimba or any other Sydney based depot. An amended posting forecast had me joining Cerberus in '73 which I duly honored and looked forward to. On one of the rare occasions I did go ashore at Cerberus during this period was a balmy evening down at "Hasto" beach where everyone ended up skinning dipping. I and a young lady (Wran) found ourselves in a boat in the front yard on the beach. The gentleman that owned the property took objection to what was occurring in his boat and we both bolted, the problem was we had negative clothes as a certain POWTR must have thought we had drowned and brought our clothes back onboard. Thanks to the late John H (Shiner) Wright who brought us back onboard and did his best to preserve the ladies' modesty. I still remember to this day the look on the QM's face as he waved us through. Fully clothed, we returned to the gangway and picked up our short leave cards

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In June 1973 I accepted a crash posting to Harman. I then became President Lew's problem for the next two (2) years until I was posted to the Hobart. Some of the more notable troops that were at Harman at the time were Spacky, Scruffy Williams, Brose Palmer, Maxie Bryant and Teddy Coyle another partner in Crime at NOPO. One particular incident at NOPO landed me back at Harman very swiftly. Teddy and I were prone to spending our lunch hour or two at either the 'Kingo' hotel or the Burns club. This particular day happened to be a payday and we had overstayed our lunch hour (again) Bill Monaghan (Leut) in charge of NOPO told me to go and get the car as we had the remote sites to pay. After I had gone through the second set of red lights on London Circuit, Bill went berserk and said he was having my Pusser's license revoked as soon as we returned to NOPO. I drunkenly advised Bill he couldn't do that as I didn't have one and further to that I didn't have a civy license either as the Ballarat coppers took that for 05 in '71. Bill drove the rest of the pay trip and I returned to Harman permanently.

Probably surprising to many, Harman's CPOCOXN Desmond Victor Harper was one person I admired greatly. On arrival at Harman, the first thing I did was unpack my boxing gear and proceeded down to the gym (not the Junior Rates). A doddering old gentleman was using the boxing equipment that stopped and watched me as I began training. After about 10 mins the elderly gentleman asked if I would like to spar with him. While thoroughly enjoying bouncing rights of his head he was continually telling me to keep my left up. The floor boards of the Gym at Harman in '73 were very hard but not as hard as Des hit me. For quite a few minutes I was looking at the roof until he helped me up and said "next time listen to me, keep your left up". After he left the Gym, I was informed he was the CPOCOXN and former European Middleweight Champion by the PTI. As Lew will confirm, Des (with the XO's permission) would front me up at the gym in lieu of another PD100, I never dropped my left again and Des never dropped me again. Although I never won on points, my argument to this day is never beat a 'Swain' in boxing, it will save you a lot of visits to the table. The one time Des did go hard on me was when I put in a request to keep a pet onboard. Despite very good advice to the contrary from Des, I persisted with my request as pets were permitted at Harman on approval from the XO. The fact my pet was a 10ft Diamond Python (request denied) resulted in another trip to the Gym with predictable results.

In July of '75 I joined the Hobart with Denis Benfield, George DeMoel, Graham Rodda and young Dave Mac. The Hobart was the only ship or establishment I was never trooped in.

McGregor, Malcolm



Malcolm passed away 28th November 2012. Ex LSWTR and Naval Policeman. Mal was having surgery at the time and died on the operating table. Mal joined the RAN in 1973 as an Aviation sailor, transferring to Writer in 1975. He completed Writer training in course 2/75 from February to May. Mal re-entered the Naval Police in 1979 - 80 and left the Navy in 1991.

McGrory, Helen Josephine 'Kim'



Joined 21st April 1952. WR 4247. Served at Cerberus for the duration of service. Discharged on marriage 12th September 1954.

McHarry, Terry



Ex CPOWTR R58784. Joined the RAN as RCTWTR in March 1962. Following Recruit and Writer training, he was posted to Ships' Company of Cerberus in Accounts under Kevin Simpson and 'Stainless' Steele. Later, he moved to Central Registry with Doug Pyers, before receiving his first sea posting in Anzac with CPOWTR Barry Murray, LSWTR Mick Compton and ABWTR Alan Robinson.

He was posted to DSP in Navy Office in December 1964, where he took over from Dave Jordan, posting Ordinary Seaman for their sea time training and then to category courses. He was also involved with setting up the initial training for the 'Oberon' class subs.

Promotion to LSWTR came in February 1965, then he completed the Advanced Writer course in August 1966 and was promoted to POWTR in May 1967. He was posted to Vendetta with POWTR 'Bluey' Guild, LSWTR Terry Standen and ABWTR Alex Buchanan, then returned to DSP as assistant to CPOWTR Bruce Campbell, Electrical Postings first and then I/C Communications and ORD Seaman postings. In May 1974, he relieved POWTR John (JJ) Nash as Captain's Sec on Moresby, which undertook surveys of various parts of the Western Australia and Northern Territory coastlines. He was promoted CPOWTR in August 1975 and opted for a billet as Pay Office Chief at Albatross. Terry returned to Navy Office for the third and final time in December 1975 and worked firstly in Manpower Planning under Captain Adrian Cummins, before returning to DSP, I/C of Engineering postings. He paid off in March 1982.

McHenry, Leslie (nee Henricksen)



"I married Tom McHenry in 1953, only did two of the 4 years as we were not required in the WRANS once you were married those days. Tom was an RCI, served 13 years in ships Shoalhaven, Shropshire, Warramunga, Condamine and retired as a Petty Office Naval patrol at Lonsdale in 1958. Tom died in 2007.

I joined the WRANS as a Writer in 1951, the first intake of post-war WRAN's. Approx 20 girls arrived at FND before the quarters were ready for us, because the word had got around that the Army were recruiting at a date earlier than the WRAN's were to be on deck and that would never have been done sir!

Biographies - Mike Surnames

We survived and nine of us were drafted to Navy Office, Manning Dept, Victoria Barracks. Chief Writers were Les Calder, Peter Crow, George Bird, John Dennis and Eric Crawford.”

McIver, David



Joined the RAN 1979 from Hobart, Tasmania. He served in HMA ships Perth, Darwin, Harman, Albatross, Moreton, NAVCOMSTA HAROLD E HOLD, Cerberus and Navy Headquarters, South Queensland. He transferred to Naval Reserves in 1999, having completed 20 years in the PNF.

McKay, Bernard ‘Bernie’



Passed away 28th March 2012. R94687. Joined as a JR in January 1965. He completed the Writers course in mid 1966 and then served in HMAS Vendetta on her gun line tour in Vietnam in 1969 to 1970. Others on the Writer's course were Peter Young (same JR intake), Paul Paech and Kev Whiteway. For the Vietnam gunline tour by Vendetta, as well as Lindsay Klem, Ross Hardy (Kellick) and PO's were Joe McGrade and Rob Raue.

In late 1970, he completed an EDP course in Canberra. After the course, he was posted to HMAS Watson in October 1966. In 1973, while serving at FOCEA, he left the Navy. Since 1975, he has been involved in Racing Administration as a Stipendiary Steward with the Queensland Turf Club and the Victoria Racing Club, before becoming Chief Steward in Tasmania, and from 1987 to 1993, a Chief Steward for Malaysia. He was currently "semi retired" as the Handicapper for Tasmania when he passed away at the age of 63 years.

McKay, Patricia (nee Walsh)



Ex WTR (ST). Joined the navy from NSW in August 1961. She served at Cerberus in 1961, Harman & Navy Office from 1961 to 1963, Cerberus in 1963, and Harman (Navy Office) in 1964. She married Lynne McKay in December 1964 and settled in Queensland. She is secretary of the WRANS subsection of the Naval Association in Queensland, of which a fair percentage is writers.

McKennay, William George Malcolm

Joined 16th July 1946 for two years. Spent all his time at Lonsdale and Navy Office in Victoria. Demobbed 19th July 1948

McKeown, Robert



Joined the RAN in May 1994, and graduated from Supply School with Basic WTR 109 later that year. He has had postings to HMAS Harman, Kuttabul, MHQ (three times), Sydney, Cerberus (twice), Manoora, Penguin and Melbourne and as at 2004, is the LSWTR at FIMA Sydney. At the time, he stated he enjoyed his first ten years, and was looking forward to the next ten.

McLaughlin, Ian Robert



Passed away 11th May 2011. Ian was born 6th November 1931 at Williamstown Victoria. He joined the RAN 5th June 1949 and served until 5th November 1971. P/N R37480. After completing his Writer course he was posted to Platypus 28/3/1950 and was promoted to LS at that depot on the 1st October 1952.

After the promotion he joined Penguin for Shoalhaven 1952 – 1954. Off to London depot 15th July 1954 where he joined Melbourne 1955 – 1956. Vendetta 1959 –1960 . He posted to Harman 10th October 1960 (Promoted CPO 11/8/1961) and Tarangau 1964.

After a short break at Lonsdale he joined Queenborough 27th July 1966 –1968 after which he was posted Harman.

McClean, Alexander Campbell ‘Snow’

Joined 16th November 1950. R39485. Shore service Cerberus, Penguin, Harman, Lonsdale, Kuttabul, Nirimba, Waterhen and Creswell. Sea service Quadrant 1955 - 1956, Queenborough 1956 -1957, as LS Melbourne 1959 - 1960 , Queenborough 1962 - 1963. promoted PO 13/11/1964. Dismissed 10th April 1967 on the grounds of currency fraudulent conversion and falsifying documents.

McLean, Coral (Nee Cottenden)



Ex WOWTR. Joined the WRANS in January 1978 and after training, was posted to Penguin. Her next posting was to Coonawarra where she met her husband, Bill (Mac) McLean, a LSUC. Whilst in Darwin, Coral worked with Pat McGeown, ‘Brose’ Palmer, Rod Pickles, Brett Saunders and (the late) John Counsel. From Darwin, Coral was posted to COMAUSNAPSUP, then on promotion to LWR, worked in the pay office of Waterhen. Next she was posted to the CAG LSWTR billet at NAS NOWRA where, with no air-capable ships in commission, she spent her time pretending to be a ‘birdie’ and doing admin work for CMDR Air at the ‘Tower’.

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On promotion to POWR, Coral found herself again at Penguin, before being fortunate enough to be posted to her home port of Adelaide and Encounter with Ray Sexton. Her next posting was to Watson, with Liz Budek, before promotion to CWR saw Coral as the Supply Officer (Pay) at Kuttabul. Coral then moved to Sydney Recruiting and on to Defence HQ at the Directorate of Naval Recruiting in Canberra. Acceptance of her Warrant moved Coral to the Directorate of Sailors' Career Management, where she was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross "for outstanding achievement managing the administration of Reserve Sailors". She then spent 18 months at sea onboard Kanimbla and Success, where she was lucky enough to get both an 'up top' and a Rimpac trip in.

With Success in dry dock, Coral was temporarily posted as PERSO Kuttabul and then back to Navy Office where she worked as an Independent Investigator, investigating Redresses of Grievance submitted to the Chief of Navy. While in this job, she undertook a six-month secondment to the Commonwealth Ombudsman and investigated complaints against the Australian Federal Police, coincidentally, working with Peter Hassell. Coral transferred to the ANR in August 1998 and as at 2005, lives just outside of Canberra with Bill. Coral is a HR Manager at the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and completed a Master of Public Policy at the Australian National University in 2004.

McMullen, Judith



Joined the WRANS from Tasmania in Nov 1975 with former POWTR Lesley Lake and former LWRMED Robyn Perrin (nee Howlett). Never posted to a seagoing Warship. Did get the opportunity to go for a Navy Helicopter ride once.

Posting to Cerberus Pay Office in 1976 with CPOWTR Brian J. Tucker; to Recruiting Hobart, TAS with WOUW Owen Pontin; PSO Western Australia as a LWRWTR on HDA to PO for the full duration of the posting (had a cat that actually lived onboard with me); LWRWTR in the Accounts Office HMAS Albatross with CMDR Tim Van Wyck; WRWTR/LWWTR in the Penguin (twice) Pay Office with CPOWTR John Bignall and LWRWTR Jeannie Roberts (formerly Brennan nee Grothe); a posting to PSO Northern Territory where I was medivaced south; CPSO Sydney; Accounts Office at HMAS Kuttabul with former POWTR Chris Bales; Discharged from the Navy in 1985 from Albatross after serving for 10 years.

Enjoyed my long service leave touring around Europe. Have done a few things in the way of employment since I discharged from the Navy but am now a TPI with DVA. Involved with the Caloundra RSL and the local chapter of the TPI's.

McNab, Donald William 'Sandy'



Written by Tara Bolton (nee McNab) daughter of Donald McNab. Ex writer, known as 'Sandy' McNab.

Born 11 July 1920 – Passed away 17 March 2000. My Father was born in Cotteslow Western Australia on July 11th 1920 the youngest of four children, he spend much of his time as a young boy on his own yacht sailing the Swan River.

F2729/20 . Dad joined the RAN in Fremantle, WA as a writer on 2 September 1942 and served on several ships, the last being HMAS PERTH 1, a 6" class cruiser. He joined HMAS PERTH 1 on November 28 1941 and served in that ship during the Battle of the Java Sea and the ship's final action in the Sunda Straits, where she was sunk when hit by four torpedoes by an unexpectedly, overwhelming Japanese force in the early hours of March 1 1942.

Dad was one of approximately 320 to survive the sinking of the ship from the ship's company of 681 Officers and sailors, of which only 215 returned to Australia 3 ½ years later, having suffered as prisoner of war at the hands of the Japanese. Dad spent his years of captivity at Bicycle Camp, in Bundung on the island of Java.



It is interesting to note that whilst in captivity, Dad and fellow POW's were forced by the Japanese to appear in the Japanese propaganda movie "Calling Australia", in which it was portrayed that the allied prisoners were living in a resort type surrounds and conditions. Needless to say, their existence was the total opposite, suffering years of starvation, deprivation and sub human conditions.



On another interesting note, 10 survivors who salvaged a lifeboat and tried to sail to Australia before being captured by the Japanese where able to hide their canvas sail in Bicycle Camp, and Dad was the descriptive writer, printing the names of survivors in ranks, those who died and those who were injured. Today this canvas is displayed at Garden Island in Sydney. Dad's posting at discharge was Leeuwin on 4 January 1946.

Dad was a loyal member of the Adelaide Naval Club as both Vice President and President of the HMAS Perth Association in South Australia. Dad was always proud of his association with HMAS Perth.

Dad passed away in South Australia on 17 March 2000 and the following year his ashes were transported by HMAS DARWIN to the Sunda Straits, where at sunrise on 10 March 2001 the ships company had a ceremony with a guard of honor as his ashes were scattered above the wreck of the HMAS Perth 1. Don McNab joined his beloved ship and crew members who were entombed on that fateful night in 1942 in the Sunda Straits, Java.

I am so very proud of my Father for the years of suffering he endured whilst a prisoner of war and the mental and physical battle he fought throughout his life, not once did he ever complain, he would just say "I fought for my country, for the freedom of our wonderful nation, Australia".

McNae, Greg



Joined the RAN as a JR in 1976. He spent four years in the Safety Equipment branch, before changing over to Writer in 1980. He had eight years as a scribe, with postings that included Leeuwin, Albatross, Melbourne, Stalwart, Cerberus, Harman, Navy Office, Moresby and Cairns. He left the navy in 1988 and as at 2003, is living in SE QLD on three acres of land with partner Lisa and twin girls, Teejana and Rhiannon.

McNamara, Denis Roy



Joined 23rd September 1963 and discharged 22nd September 1972. R62525. Denis joined as a Data Operator and served at Cerberus, Harman, Lonsdale - sea service Sydney and Yarra before transferring to the Writer Branch 1st July 1969 as LWTR.

McNamara, Garth



Joined 11th March 1952. R47623. Served at Cerberus, Albatross and Lonsdale. Sea service was on Quickmatch 1955-56. Discharged as LS 10th March 1958.

McNeill, Rob



Ex POWTR R57790. Joined the Navy on 12/3/1961 and completed my Writers Course in September, 1961. During my time at Cerberus, I played in the Colts Rugby Union team with LCDR Storey as Coach and then in the Cerberus First XV for most of the season. In September, 1961, I was posted to Watson Captain's Office as a WTRII until December, 1962, and thence to Quickmatch until April, 1963, with Ted Ball as CPOWTR. Quickmatch was decommissioned in April, 1963 and then I was posted to Sydney in the Captain's Office until November, 1963 and transferred to Sydney (Retinue) on FOCAF staff until February, 1964.

During that month I returned to Watson for Rushcutter Diving School staff. Again in the Captain's Office, I served with POWTR John Montgomery and was also secretary to LCDR Ron Titcombe, who was in charge of the Diving School. Also at

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Rushcutter was 'Paddy' O'Brien, 'Rip' Kirby and 'Beachball' Sharman, and there were great times to be had in the Sailors' mess on duty days either behind, or in front of the bar. For those of us who lived at Watson, we used to travel to Rushcutter each day in the back of a Navy truck. I was promoted to LWTR in June, 1964. The scribes at Watson were 'Salty' Eckel, Neil Churches, Andy ('Boots') Brittain, and Nick Winter, who used to run an SP bookie service on most Saturdays. Salty Eckel, of course, wrote his "Salty on Sport" column for Navy News and at the time, I played in the Watson First XV football team. Boots Brittain was a great table tennis player, and we had many contests each night between drinks. The most memorable, but tragic moment of that period was standing near the Chapel at Watson and watching the Melbourne return to harbour, following the collision with the Voyager.

In December, 1965, I was posted to Hobart as Captain's Secretary to Guy Griffiths and spent the next 12 months in the USA. Commissioning in Boston, the ship worked up with units of the US Fleet, before deployment to Vietnam in 1967. In the ship's office was POWTR Phil Watson, Lew Muller and Gary Waters. CMDR Dick Brown was the Supply Officer on board, with LEUT Murray Forrest as Supply Officer Cash.

I was promoted to A/POWTR in August, 1966, and on return to Australia, was married in December, 1966. I had originally asked 'Paddy' O'Brien to be my best man, and when he was unable, due to family circumstances, Frank Guisti stepped in, with Marty McFadden as a groomsman. At the church in Kensington, a Sydney suburb, Frank collapsed on the steps of the church with kidney stones and was carted off to Penguin by ambulance. Marty then became best man.



In February, 1967, I was posted to Moresby, with LEUT Farquhar as Supply Officer and Lew Smith as Writer. Moresby was deployed to Papua New Guinea for six months, surveying shipping lanes. We had a great time at Rabaul, Lae and Madang, playing the local natives in football and whilst at sea, deck hockey during most afternoons. Whilst off Lae, we lost the ship's chopper, when it crashed into the sea near the ship while taking the Captain on a reconnaissance flight. Fortunately, no lives were lost.

I was posted to Harman (NO) in August, 1967, for the Fleet Air Arm and Submarine section. Jack Cummins was the CPOWTR of the section when I arrived and shortly after, Laurie Dillon replaced him. Bob Creighton was LEUT SDSU of the DSP at the time. All three were fantastic people to work with. Brian Park, Les Beresford, Fred Curbishley and 'Paddy' O'Brien were others who were serving at Navy Office at the time. Amongst others I remember were Dave Groves, Dave Hill, 'Aussie' Carruthers, Lester Hensby, 'Wog' Watson, Glen MacAndrews, Lew Horsfield, Arthur Morris, Bill Grundy and Geoff Sinden.

In early 1968, I was selected for promotion to Commissioned rank, but during the medical, discovered that I was diabetic. I was given the option to continue in the RAN, but decided to be discharged PUNS in 1969.

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I commenced work with OTC in 1970 and in 1992, I joined Southern Nuclear Imaging. I retired December, 2006. My wife, Marion, and I live in Sydney and we are involved in a range of activities both social and family, the latter especially, with our four grandchildren.

McNelley, Blanche (nee Lawless-Pyne)



Ex Wran Writer WR/666. On 25/1/1943, she joined the RAN as a pay ledger writer at HMAS Moreton. She says that all the Wran's were accommodated in barracks and had to live under navy regulations. In January 1946 she transferred to HMAS Kuttabul, Garden Island, where she was tasked with processing the discharges for sailors returning from overseas service. She recalls that they all had different allowances and there was quite a bit of working out and bookwork to do in regard to the job.

By the end of September that year her job was over and she returned to civilian life. As at 2005, she was aged 81 and lives in St George district of Queensland and spends her time bowling, golfing and working with the Red Cross. She received an Australia Day award in 2001.



McQuade, Jeff



Ex LSWTR. Joined the navy in October 1973 as a JR. He completed the Writers course 6/75, under 'Bomber' Brown and was posted to HMAS Harman, with Lew Horsfield and Bob Baird. Next came a sea posting to HMAS Brisbane with Ian Milliard, Wally Bristow and Mick Scully. He returned to Canberra and worked at Campbell in Weapons Design as a LSWTR in 1977 and then to RTEO under DSP in Navy office in 1978. In March 1980, he was discharged from the navy.

McQueen, Gwen Lorraine (Nee Little)

Passed away 31st August 2013. WR2080. L/Writer (1944/1946). Served in Lonsdale, Monterey and Leeuwin.

McVickers, Thomas James 'Tom'



Passed away approx 1986/87 in motor car accident. Joined 16th August 1958. R53438. Served at Cerberus Lonsdale and Harman. Ships served on were Quickmatch 1959/60, Melbourne 1962/64, Sydney 1964 and Stalwart 1968/69. Discharged in 1978.

McWaters. Robynne 'Lou' (Nee Cross)



Lou served at Cerberus from November 1978 to April 1980 and at Building D Russell Offices until 1981 and then Mobile Recruiting at Pyrmont until 1982 and spent a little while at Fleet Registry. Robynne was a Senior WRAN Writer.

My Story “ Once I moved from the bush to a coastal town I loved being in, on or near the ocean. How that progressed to wanting to join the Women’s Royal Australian Naval Service I am not sure but I knew I wanted to from 1976. I applied 2 months after turning 17, 2

years later.

I joined with a couple of other young ladies from Bundaberg and a group from Queensland and northern NSW. I remember staying at the Peoples Palace in Brisbane and meeting the girls, all our interviews etc and our swearing in. I became W124835 in the flesh! We flew TAA south on Melbourne Cup Day 1978. The Australian Cricket team were on the plane from Brisbane to Melbourne. I had the largest brown fake leather "port" and it was difficult to drag it about without wheels. It became one well travelled "port"!

Intake 183 was at HMAS Cerberus by dinner time that night. I was given a bunk in the far left corner in the first room, ground floor closest to the reg Office – and the telephone.

I was one of half a dozen young ladies who wasn't 18 years old and couldn't even go to the Wets when Recruits was over. I injured my collar bone at a PT session. I told the PTI I couldn't do somersaults but he did insist. Ouch. As I couldn't write I did verbal exams with Colvin Instructor, PO Dell Ponterollo. How much pressure was that? !! My room mates (left) were Jenny Green (WTR), Lynda King (ROS previous intake) and Trisha Porter (ROS).

Learning to make beds, spit on shoes, walk through a chamber filled with smoke, recognise a Commander from a Commodore, line up and salute to receive the great pay packet - all before being allowed to return home for Christmas.

Things I remember from those several weeks also included:

eating Tosca chocolate bars – remember them anyone?;

wondering how those who couldn't swim, and had to attend backward swimmers, joined the Navy? ;

being astounded that WRANS were receiving calls from male recruits a few days after arriving;

giggling, giggling and more giggling!



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shopping, lots of birthday weekends, disco dancing (when hearing songs from that time I am immediately transported back in time) and more shopping. I learned I could drink Tequila, not get drunk and not get a hangover. How sad is that for a now much older woman to profess?

After spending the Christmas break in Tropical Far North Queensland and going through a cyclone it was back down south to begin my Writers Course in the Supply School (now the Museum). I didn't move over to Mitchell block until more than half way through the Writers course. Another end room. Did I snore and everyone was keeping this from me? I think we were also the last group marching to class each day from way up near Millys/SCRAN hall (also not in the same location).

Petty Officer John Chant was the Instructor. I first drank coffee during this course. Jenny, who drank hot water not coffee, would make us all frothy coffees. I loved payroll the most and was almost disappointed that I didn't get a pay office spot on completion.

I recall having to go behind the Recruit block to polish a tap prior to Admirals Rounds. God it was cold!!!! April 1979 I was standing on the platform at Cerberus on my way to HMAS HARMAN to live and a Navy Office Russell Offices D block Record of Training and Employment Office posting. The big wide Service was now very real!"

Meade, Steve (Scruffo)

Joined the RAN in 1977. His postings included HMAS Harman (Navy Office), Cerberus, Albatross, Tobruk and Kuttabul. He paid off in 1983, and as at 2003, was working for BHP in Adelaide, looking after payroll for the Queensland Coal Mines.

Meares, Lisa Maree



As a LSWTR in 2004, she was awarded a Maritime Commander's Commendation for "outstanding professionalism and dedication in the provision of superior administrative support services whilst serving in the Patrol Boat Group Headquarters". She was promoted POWTR on 1/7/2004.

Meckelburg, Robert John

Passed away 19/12/1964, motor car accident. Joined 8th February 1964 and served on Anzac as ORD 1964 until November before posting to Cerberus for Writer course.

Medaris, Jack



Passed away 23rd November 1990. Jack joined the RAN 10/9/1948. After a brief period at Cerberus he posted to Penguin 10/5/1949 and then Tobruk 31/8/1951. He was promoted LS 1/1/1952. He subsequently posted to Cerberus 28/1/1953 and was promoted PO 1/1/1954. Posted Lonsdale 21/3/1955 and a sea posting to Queenborough 10/4/1956. Posted Lonsdale 3/9/1957 where he was promoted CPO 6/5/1959. Shortly after 21/7/1959 he posted Melbourne where he stayed until 26th July 1960 when he posted Cerberus. A sea posting to Torrens 11/8/1961, Lonsdale 6/7/1963 and Sydney 29/7/1965 before joining Lonsdale 10/10/1966. He discharged 25/1/1971.

Medaris, Patricia



Or Pat as she was known passed away 6th June 2009. Pat was born in Alberton, South Australia, who husband Jack Medaris who was also a Writer passed away 23rd November 1990. Pat served for 3 1/2 years in the navy before she left.

A few years after she left the Navy she joined the War Widows Guild of Australia. In the time she was a member she became a member of the Board of Directors and was both State and National Secretary 95-98. She was also President of the Guild from 2003.

Mee, Margaret Lorraine



W4072. Born 8/3/1925. Joined 6th March 1945 and discharged 1st October 1945. Served at Moreton. Rejoined 1/6/1951 until 24/8/1952.

Mena, Anne (nee Don)



Ex WOWTR, LEUT RANR. I joined the navy July 1981 as a RCTWTR. From Cerberus I was posted to DSP for 2 years, then Cairns, Albatross, Recruiting Sydney and Nirimba, where I picked up a husband in 1990 and had my first born girl, Teone, in 1991.

Next, I went to HQADF in Russell Offices and then Recruiting in Hobart. After promotion to CPOWTR I ended up in pay at Cerberus. I threw my hat in the ring and volunteered to go to sea. I was warned, "Be careful of what you ask for" by 'Blue' Walters the poster. Needless to say, HMAS Torrens was my next posting for about two years.

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Then, off to Coonawarra, where I had my first son. I was promoted to WOWTR in January 2000 and was posted as the Fleet WOWTR and Fleet Legal Assistant in MHQ and went to Sydney unaccompanied. With compliments of the ADF Reunion Travel entitlement, I had my second baby girl, Arehu in December 2000. I was posted back to Coonawarra for a few months and then secured a posting to Cairns.

I was Discharged in December 2001 and went to live in Bougainville. However, due to family circumstances, I rejoined the Navy on CFTS in December 2002 and was posted to Albatross. I changed over to LEUT (WTR) in September 2004.

Merrett, Norma Edith

Passed away 8 June 2013. WR1646 Writer Enlisted 18 August 1943 and served at HMAS Rushcutter.

Merrilees, Stew



I joined the Navy as an Aircraft Artificer Apprentice on 14/1/1966, two pays before decimal currency, on a salary of £10.0.0 (equivalent \$20.00) per fortnight. I changed over to WTR in January, 1968, possibly saving the lives of a few naval pilots.

I served in HMA Ships Sydney III, Perth II, Anzac II, Melbourne II, Vendetta II, Brisbane II and Tobruk II. The establishments were Nirimba, Cerberus, Kuttabal, Watson, CPSO Sydney, Albatross and Moreton. As a 'Rocky', I have served at Moreton, MHQ, Amphibious

FEG, Creswell, Cairns, Reinforcement Holding Company - Army, Randwick, NHQ South Qld, PSO Brisbane, DNOP, Centenary Naval Review and since 2006, HQ 1DIV.

My ranks along the way were; Naval Artificer Apprentice (NAA) 1966, Aircraft Artificer Apprentice (AAA) 1966, Recruit (RCT) 1968, ORDVAR 1968, ORDWTR 1968, WTR2 1969, WTR 1970, A/LWTR 1971, LWTR 1972, LSWTR 1974, P/POWTR 1998 and CPOWTR 2006.

People that I have served with (or drank with) include; Marty McFadden, 'Nobby' L.R. Clark, Glen MacAndrews, 'Uncle' Doug Higgins, Derek Jeffries, Bill Trott, John 'Harpoon' Halpin, Charlie Bardwell, Gary Waters, Ron Tregear, Murray Forrest, Lindsay Lake, John Deidrich, Johnny Werne, Vic Venagle, 'Ollie' Twist, Sid Hogget, 'Tug' Wilson, Eric Okley, 'Blue' Gill, Brian Gorringer, 'Haji' Barber and Andy Siegman (we did our Tobruk handover in the Bells Hotel, down at the 'Loo'). If I have omitted anyone, especially the newer generation, it is not on purpose. I am too old and have had too many lunch time sessions.



I have had a marvelous time as a scribe, met some wonderful characters and made some great friends. Probable highlights have included the 1978 trip 'up top' in Vendetta, home ported at the 'Kangaroo Bar' in Sembawang, and the houseboat trip up the Hawkesbury for Pete Gostlow's 'bucks' weekend, (1975 I think). Ted Hase was piped on board as COMAUSHOUBOAT1. We blew up a boat before we made it to the road bridge and then nearly sunk a second the next day!

Millard, Ian Ross



Ex CPOWTR, R67043. Joined the Navy on 13/1/1968 from Adelaide and completed Adult Entry Recruit Training in Cerberus. He was part of the commissioning crew as an ORDCO on Stalwart, then almost completed the TO Course at Cerberus before it was discovered he needed glasses. On changing over to Writer in 1969, he completed the course at the Supply School and spent time in Leeuwin, Melbourne, Kuttabul, Nirimba, Supply, Platypus, Watson, Brisbane, Lonsdale (CPSO), Navy Office (DGNPS) and Cerberus (Accounts Office). He left the Navy on 26/4/1985.

Miller, Karen (nee Bleazard)

Karen trained as a scribe in the course 5/77, and after 10 years, left the navy in 1987. She joined DFAT and served on a few overseas postings. As at 2004, she is based in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Miller, Robert William 'Dusty'



Passed away 14th August 2011 aged 83 years. Official Number R30585. Dusty joined the Navy 26th April 1946 after training joined Kuttabul 1/8/1946. He was promoted LS 1 year later (1/7/1947) Posted to Melville 15/1/1946, Penguin 8/4/1958 and discharged 7th May 1948.

He rejoined the Navy 8th September 1949 as an AB, promoted to LS the next day. Posted Sydney 5/1/1950, Australia 21/4/1950, Sydney 20/2/51, Australia 14/6/51 and then promoted PO 1/10/1951. He joined Cerberus 20/12/1951 and he stayed there until he joined Bataan 25/9/1953, Penguin 28/10/1954 where he was promoted to CPO (2/8/57) thereby gaining a posting to Moreton 8/10/1957. He went to sea on the Melbourne 4/10/1960 and Penguin 31/10/61.

His next posting to Harman was his last as a Writer on 27/11/1962. Promotion to Supply Sub (W) occurred 5/3/1963 and he was promoted to LEUT in 1965. His postings as an Officer were to Navy Office DMT and DSP and also FOCEA.

Milligan, Brigitte



Brigitte Milligan rejoined the Royal Australian Navy in 1990 and has served at various shore establishments. She was promoted to Petty Officer in 1995. In August 1996, she was posted to the Personal Services Organisation, Western Australia, as the Sailor-in-Charge of the removals and entitlements section. As a POWTR, in 1999 she was awarded the Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM) for outstanding service as the Sailor-in-Charge of the removals and entitlements section of the Personal Services Organisation, HMAS Stirling. "As

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the Sailor-in-Charge, she displayed excellent levels of knowledge of the relevant instructions and ensured that members and their families received their correct entitlements.

She also demonstrated a high degree of tact and understanding when dealing with families who were experiencing extreme pressure and stress during the removal process. Her position also required her to provide expert advice to families of deceased members, a situation requiring compassion, patience and sensitivity. Petty Officer Milligan has excelled in all these areas and has received numerous accolades which have greatly enhanced the image of the Personal Services Organisation and the Navy. The HMAS Westralia disaster highlighted the outstanding abilities and dedication to duty that Petty Officer Milligan possesses. Her firm belief that the welfare of the families is paramount ensured the best possible service and advice was given. Her encouragement and leadership qualities were inspirational and reflected great credit on the organisation. Petty Officer Milligan has developed new processes and databases to greatly improve the effectiveness of the organisation with a commensurate improvement in the services to the members and their families. The effectiveness of her databases has been recognised by Defence and is expected to be used nationally in all the new Defence Relocations Centres. Petty Officer Milligan's outstanding devotion to duty has been in the finest traditions of the Personal Services Organisation and the Royal Australian Navy.”

Mitchell, Laurie ‘Mitch’



Joined the Navy as a Junior Recruit on 7/10/1967 from Brisbane. The 21st intake was some 108 poor lost souls, all of whom probably needed a lot of help to find themselves. After three months, we were packed off on about six weeks Christmas leave with pay and thought, ‘how long would this last?’ After six months, I was selected for ‘promotion’ to Leading JR. Wow. This meant an additional \$2 to the \$12 per week. (We used to be paid \$24 p/f, with the balance going into a bank account.)

The next move was to Topmen Division. (This was a stream that selected candidates for further educational qualifications and officer training.) At 16, and being told that I wouldn’t be flying choppers, I took the ‘out’ option and went to sea, some ten months after the rest of my intake, in July ‘69. Thankfully, they gave me my preferred branch of Writer though.

My first posting was to the Daring, Duchess. I drafted onboard on Friday and spent the weekend over the side with a paint brush. I learnt about slinging hammocks and as the mess deck dodger, keeping the wash-up fanny hot and tables cleaned. Welcome to the ‘real’ Navy. The 15 months onboard as and ORD were invaluable in forming my backbone and establishing a great respect for what goes on in the mess decks and at the bottom of the ladder. Highlights included an escort run for Sydney to Vietnam, then we headed off to the World Expo in Osaka, Japan. A sporting injury saw me with a posting to HMS Terror for three months over Christmas, 1970, working in the Ship’s Office....well not really working. Other ports we called at were the regulars; ‘Honkers,’ Subic, Manilla, etc. (All of them good grounding in life skills.)

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The Basic Writer Course 4/70 saw CPO Ron Dalgliesh trying to impart some knowledge into us and to knock off some edges after sunning ourselves on the 'uppers' for so long. At some stage, the 'dark side' took over and after a run up to 'Screamers,' we ended up in Brisbane, without any approved leave. That didn't impress Ron D or LCDR Ian Lee-Conway one bit, so no 'pen and pencil set' was awarded to yours truly, who managed to top that course.

Postings followed, to Kuttabul FHQ, Fleet Supply Team, Queenborough, Sydney, Watson, Tarangau and Kuttabul again. I was promoted to LSWTR while at Tarangau in March, 1972. Those days simply flew by. Gee we lived hard and fast. 'Aging 14 years between the age of 17 and 24' was an old saying, but it was probably correct. So many friendships were made with fellow scribes and others, and we were all invincible – except when under the glare of the WOWTR.

Marriage in January, 1975, seemed to be a kick in the pants for me, and the Officer Candidate papers were re-raised. Both myself and a fellow SD candidate, Key Drinkwater, were over weight for commission and we both suffered the Sick Bay's solution in the form of little green pills to get the 'kgs' off. As it turned out, selection for a Supplementary List commission was offered to me and accepted. This was again a very 'different' experience, going back to basic training, including 0600 PT and doubling everywhere. The excess weight fell off as the body got hold of the new regime. While the naval skills previously learnt were of great assistance, the transition from LS to MIDN was not as easy as it could have been. More edges had to be removed.



My postings as a Supply Officer were Kuttabul, NOIC QLD, Moreton, Supply School, Navy Office, Naval Supply Services, Campbell Park and Deputy Chief Naval Material, Russel Offices, and the 'best of the best,' as Supply Officer of Swan, out of the West. The Charge posting in Swan was two years of hard work, and hard play, supported by the best bunch of DSOs and S & S senior and junior ranks you could ask for. They all played a special part in making the four SE Asian deployments, two EAA deployments, and numerous coastal visits, a most memorable part of a 23-year Naval career. We spent some twenty of the twenty four months away from Garden Island, WA, and didn't complain about it.

There really wasn't anything after the Charge job that would have measured up, and having two sons entering high school, the 'pin was pulled' in March, 1989. A little time was spent with the Reserves, in helping to put together a RANR Supply Officer basic course and other bits and pieces. But this never really came up to the bar, so after a while it slipped under the radar. A short stint of 18 months was completed in 2002 and 2003 in a Joint Logistics role in Building 1 of the Russell complex, Canberra. This was terminated in July, 2003, when the Posting Note sent me to shore 'Retired.' (Medical Cat. 4 saw the end to that little session.)

Mobley, Mark



Joined RAN in January 1967 as a MOBI then transferred to JR in July. Proceeded on Common Sea Training in Vendetta early in 1968 with 'Bluey' Guild, Terry McAitch, Terry Standen, Alex Buchanan and Max Sharples. Posted to WTR Course 1/69 with Stew Merrilees, Alan Golledge, Ted Ozols among others, then went back to Nirimba. Drafted to Stalwart in November 1969 for 14 months, then spent two years on the Fleet Writer Team, hopping around the fleet on loan, most notably to Sydney, Melbourne, Anzac, Yarra and Swan.

Headed back to Nirimba yet again, then went back to sea in Vampire in August 1973, where he was promoted LWTR and posted to Kimbla. Posted from Kimbla to begin another stint at Nirimba in February 1975, which lasted until July 1977, when he transferred to the Naval Police. Rose to the rank of Sergeant (CPO equiv) in almost minimum time and transferred to Reserves in MAR 1988. Joined the public service as Technical Officer at the Naval Historical Collection at Spectacle Island and remained there until July 1995, carrying out some 'Rockie' time. Two years Reserve time followed, mostly in Recruiting, during which he enlisted 'No.2' son into the RAN. Spent two years working as Assistant Manager of the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park. Performed more Reserve service from April to September 1999 and he has been on Continuous Full Time Service since then.

As at 2005, he was Divisional Officer and Regulator for technical trainees at the Navy Technical Training Unit at Waterloo, where he expects to remain until Compulsory Retiring Age in 2011, or later.

Monaghan, William 'Bill'



I actually started my service as a RCTSMN, carrying out National Service in June, 1951. In those days, we only did four and a half months, six weeks of which were spent at sea in a corvette, HMAS Colac. I recall being violently sea sick on a trip from Adelaide to Geelong. (The bloody things used to roll when they were tied up alongside.) At the end of this, we were promoted to the rank of Ordinary Seaman, and a very ordinary seaman I was. I went back to my job as Administration Clerk with the Brisbane City Council, then, six months later, I joined permanently in April 1952. (I was savvy enough to join as a Writer this time).

Lofty Langworthy was our instructor in Writer 10 class and the first two who posted out were John Kindness and I, both going to Albatross where we spent the next two years. The place was very rudimentary in those days and you drew a pair of gum boots on loan from Naval Stores so you could walk through the mud to get to work. From Albatross I went to Kuttabal for a short stint as the 'fairy' for Cliff French. It was ledger closing time and due to 'Froggy's' lethargy, we were getting way behind. So, I bribed a young WTR II named 'Bluey' Guild to work with me on Saturdays to get the ledger closed on time. Next, I posted to Sydney. Alec Goodieson was in the same Writers' Class and later on we became good friends. We served together on the Sydney and had a few runs ashore. The Sydney did a stint attached to the Far

Biographies - Mike Surnames

East Strategic Reserve and visited Hong Kong. The carrier's programme was Secret and even the sailors knew nothing. The night before we sailed, I was with someone who was picking up a suit. I was looking at the display of material when this Chinese tailor said "You want suit? I make". I said "No. We are sailing tomorrow". He said "Yes, but you come back in two weeks". So I let him measure me for a suit and sure enough, we were back in Hong Kong 10 days later. (Chinese tailors knew more about secret ships' movements than the ship's company!)

The Sydney was also in Melbourne at the time of the Olympic Games. A pipe came over, "30 volunteers are required to act as Marshalls at the Olympic Games; names to the Commander's Office". I was in the Pay Office then and by the time I got up to deck 4, there was a large queue in front of me, so I gave up. Vince Earles was the Commander's Writer. I said to him at lunch in the mess, "I tried to get my name down but I was too late". "No you weren't" he said. "I was taking down the names. We're going to the Games." And so we spent a week at the Games, while the ship went to sea to film "On the beach" with Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner.

I picked up a hook before I left Sydney and was posted to Watson. After Watson, I joined Melbourne on Admiral's Staff. On promotion to POWTR, I was posted to Penguin, relieving Frankie Shugg as treasurer of the Petty Officers' Mess. My next posting was Kuttabal. There I passed final exams and qualified as Associate of Chartered Institute of Company Secretaries, with the intention of leaving Pussers. I had also qualified for Commissioned Writer along the way, but without any realistic expectations. It came as a bit of a shock therefore, when the signal came out promoting four of us, Keith Hook, Derek Norton, Kevin Scanlon and me to SBLT. I was actually in two minds what to do. In the end I left it to my wife to decide. At the time, we owned a house in Sydney and had four children. Her decision was to stay, and there I stayed for another 15 years.

I served another two years in Albatross as Supply Officer (Cash), followed by one year as Supply Officer (Cash) in Nirimba. Jack McCosker was Chief Writer and 'Wriggly' Gardner was in charge in the Captain's Office. I was posted to the Sydney for the early 'Vung Tau ferry' days, (I did the 3rd, 4th and 5th trips). (An Instructor Officer came up to me in the Nirimba Wardroom and said to me, "I've served on the Sydney and I'll give you a run down on where everything is". I didn't bother to tell him that I knew places on the Sydney where you could hide during Sunday Divisions and even the Jaunty's henchmen couldn't find you.) After the Sydney, I was posted again to Admiral's staff as Assistant to CSO(A). This was a new title for what we used to call the Fleet Supply Officer. 'Googa' Gent was the Chief Writer, which was the fourth time we had served together. (Thanks for the help Googa).

Tarangau for two years, accompanied, was my next posting and I must say, it was the most enjoyable two years of my service. I was Secretary to NOIC PNG and during the first year, 'Woggie' Watson was PO in charge of Captain's Office, then the second year, 'Bulkhead' Wall, both of whom I still regard as friends. 'Lion' George Halley was NOIC during the first year and then went to Navy Office in Officers' Appointments. Before he left he said to me, "Where would you like to go, Bill?" I said "Anywhere except Cerberus and Canberra". And so, I went to Canberra. I had a succession of jobs and ended up Supply Officer, Harman, my final Posting. Somebody in 'Yogy House' made an error and promoted me to LCDR, so I promptly resigned before they realised their mistake.

Montgomery, John Joseph Roger



Passed away on 2nd May 2009. Joined 10th July 1951 at Cerberus as a RCT Clerk and was in the Writer 8 class. He spent some time at Cerberus and then Penguin before he joined Sydney 20/06/1955. Then Penguin as an AB until 4/6/1956 when he was posted to Penguin. Joined Melbourne as LS 5/9/1958 until 26/7/1959. He spent his next period of service at Nirimba (where he was promoted PO 5/5/1961) until 28/6/1962 when he joined Vampire until 8/1/1964. Posted to Kuttabul and then Rushcutter. Promoted CPO 29/4/1966 and discharged DEE 9/7/1966

Moodie, Terence E J

Passed away October 2001. P/N 20173. Joined 3/7/1934. Promotions were: LDG 29/3/1938 PO 16/10/1939 CPO 15/8/1942. Postings during his service were as follows: Cerberus 3/7/1934 – 15/3/1935. Penguin 16/3/1935 23/4/1937. Sydney 24/4/1937 – 1/2/1938. Cerberus 2/2/1938 – 17/3/1939. Australia 18/3/1939 – 19/6/1940. Westralia 20/6/1940 – 14/8/1942. Cerberus 15/8/1942 – 5/3/1944. Kuttabul 6/3/1944 – 30/9/1947. Penguin 1/10/1947 – 21/1/1948. Australia 22/1/1948 – 25/4/1949. Penguin 26/7/1949 – 13/4/1950. Lae 14/4/1950 – 31/5/1951. Platypus 1/6/1951 – 4/1/1954. Lonsdale 5/1/54 – 15/10/1954. Terence was discharged PUNS 15/10/1954

Moonie, Terence Ernest 'Tammie'



Passed away 21st September 2010. Tammie joined 16th May 1955. R51032. Promoted WTR 16th March 1957, LS 7th November 1958, PO 5th May 1961, CPO 19th August 1966. Terence was one of the 1st eight Writers promoted to Warrant officer 16th May 1972 with a seniority date of 17th December 19071.

Shore Postings included Penguin, Watson, Watson, Harman & Navy Office. Sea postings included

Melbourne August 1956 to March 1957 then Tobruk until

June 1957, Melbourne July 1960 to December 1961. Parramatta January 1967 to February 1969.



Mordaunt, Francis Xavier

Francis joined Cerberus 15/4/1945 – 24/9/1935. Posted Penguin 25/9/1935 – 26/1/1939. Canberra 27/1/1939 – 12/5/1939. Australia 18/5/1939 - 19/6/1941. Sydney 20/6/1941 – 20/11/1941. Went down with the Sydney. He was promoted LDGWTR 1/2/1939 and PO 14/11/1939.

Morgan, Ian Alexander

R52407. Joined 21 September 1956. WTR II 21/03/1957, WTR 06/06/1958 and LS 12/02/1960. Disrated 27/02/1961 and re-promoted to LS 28/02/1962. POWTR

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03/04/1964. After initial training he was posted to Penguin 07/07/1957 and joined Vendetta 10/12/1958 until 30/8/1960 when he joined Harman. Posted to Albatross 28/02/1961. Posted Vampire 02/07/1962 to 29/11/1963 after which he posted to Penguin and then Kuttabul early 1964 and discharged 20/09/1965.

Morgan, Allen Ray

Passed away 16/05/2004. Joined 11th March 1949 and discharged PUNS 11th December 1963. Served at Cerberus, promoted CPO in 1956 and posted to London Depot 1956-58 and Albatross later. Sea service consisted of Australia 1950/52 with a brief period on Sydney in 1951 and Melbourne 1962/63.

Morris, Kevin . J.



Ex LSWTR. Kev served in Vampire from 1966 to 1970, and as at 2005, is still living in the UK where he manages a pub in the south of England.

Morrison, June



Ex SWRWTR W107866. I wanted to join the WRANS to see Australia at someone else's expense. (I got from Adelaide to Melbourne and return. All other travel has been at my own expense.) It was all very quick after my father signed the papers. On 2/3/1970, I was leaving Adelaide as a Recruit WRAN Writer with my work colleague, Helga Hundertmark (now Jongewaard) for Cerberus, where I celebrated my 18th birthday the Sunday after my arrival. I went through the six-week basic training and the Writers' Course with Gordon Coucil as our Petty Officer.

On completion I was sent to the Movements Office where I was bored stupid (I was told to bring a magazine to work) so, when a Sub-Lieutenant came in and said they were looking for a WRANWTR to volunteer to work at Naval Health Benefits for two weeks, I jumped at the chance. I worked in NHBS with Kevin Simpson and Bob D'Elton and ended up spending the remainder of my service at Navy Office (Melbourne) in RAN Relief Trust Fund working with POWTR Tom McVickers, CMDR Cameron (Rtd), POWTR Doug Higgins and CMDR Alf Calder (Rtd).

In April 1971, I injured my right eye whilst taking a staple out of a report to be tabled in Parliament, after Tom McVickers had retyped the first page because the Commonwealth Auditor did not like the wording. I had used a 'pig stabber' to remove the large staple and the tool slipped and I brought it up into my eye. I was placed on the medical category 'Unfit for Posting', as I was under a civilian specialist after Tom walked me to Prince Henry's Hospital, which was next door.

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Four operations later, and left with 90% loss of sight in the right eye (and minus the lens), I was discharged PUNNS as a Senior WRAN Writer in February 1974, six days before my engagement expired. I've learned to adjust and have had no further operations.

Moy, John Dudley

R37171 – Born 13Mar1931; Joined RAN from Sydney, NSW, on 3Mar1949; Deceased 8Jan1970, at his home in Sydney (from a heart attack, then aged 39), while serving at Platypus. John commenced his 21 year naval career at Cerberus on Writers' Course 1/49. His postings included: Penguin (Apr'50-May'52), Sydney (May'52-Sep'53 - participating in the British nuclear tests at Monte Bello, W.A. on 3Oct'52 and the Queen's Coronation Cruise to the U.K. in Mar-Aug'53), Kuttabul (Sep'53-Jan'55), Commonwealth (as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force at Kure, Japan, Jan'55-Jan'56), Platypus (Jan'56-Oct'56), Kuttabul (Oct'56-Nov'57), Quiberon (Nov'57-Jul'59), Penguin (Jul'59-Apr'61), Cerberus (Apr-May'61 – for POWTR Course), Penguin (May'61-Dec'61), Melbourne (Dec'61-Jan'64), Albatross (Jan'64-Mar'64), Harman Navy Office (Mar'64-Jul'67), Perth (Jul'67-May'69 - including two trips to the



Vietnam War) and Platypus (May'69-Jan'70). John died in Jan'70 and was given a Naval funeral at St. Thomas' Church in North Sydney, NSW, led by Chaplain Wallace Long (who also married John and Valerie). John's ashes were scattered, as he'd requested, in Hervey Bay, QLD, by Chaplain Long and the Ships Company of HMAS Melbourne. John is remembered by a plaque in the Garden of Remembrance at Carr Villa Memorial Park in Launceston, Tasmania, close to the home of his loving wife, Valerie, and he is also survived by a son, Chris (ex-CPOEWL) and a daughter, Alison.



Honours & Awards: Naval Board Commendation (Apr'69); (Commonwealth Forces) Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (13Mar'64); Vietnam Medal (24Oct'67); Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (2Mar'68); Australian Active Service Medal (1945–75) with Korea clasp; Australian Service Medal (1945–75); Navy General Service Medal with Malaya clasp; U.S. Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon (1968); U.S. Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon (1968); U.S. Navy Citation (1968); Australian Defence Medal (issued posthumously in 2008) and a Medallion to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the End of Major British Nuclear Test Trials on Australian Soil (2007).

Mullen, Anthony Edward Carrig

Born on 17/4/1940 in Barmera, S.A. He entered the RAN on 13/1/1958 and signed on for six years. He served at Cerberus from 1958 to 1960, Penguin in 1960, Cerberus again in 1960, Melbourne from 1960 to 1961, Cerberus from 1961 to 1962, Sydney from 1962 to 1963 and Lonsdale from 1963 to 1964. He re-entered for six years as Writer on 3/4/1965.

Muller, Lewis John 'Lew'

I joined the RAN in April, 1961, in Adelaide and over approximately 14 1/2 years, served in HMAS Cerberus (Pay Office), Barcoo 63-64, Leeuwin (Removals), Hobart 65-67 (Pre-Commissioning and Capt's Sec), Penguin (Asst Sec), Navy Office (DSP) with 'Whispers' in Seamans' Postings, Stuart (Chief Scribe) and Waterhen (Capt's Sec). I paid off in August, 1975. I met and enjoyed the company of many 'good blokes' over those years, some no longer with us, and thoroughly enjoyed my time in the Service. Ex CPO

The highlight of my career was undoubtedly time spent in the Hobart. Time in the US was educational to say the least, but Vietnam service on the Gunline was what it was all about. The single incident which impacted on me most was the USS Forrestal fire, in which 134 USN sailors lost their lives and many more were injured. The Hobart was called so the ship's doctor could assist, and we stood off in case we were required for any rescue operations. I was Capt's Sec. to Guy Griffiths, undoubtedly one of God's finest men, and it was an honour to work for him.

Munro, Jean (Nee Otter)



Passed away 14/4/2011. Ex POWTR. Joined 12th May 1943 and discharged 31/12/1946. Served at Rushcutter, Fairmile (Secretary of the Fairmile training school and Penguin. On leaving the Navy, she went into the corporate world as a secretary and married in 1948. After retirement, she joined the ex WRANS Assn of NSW, and also worked voluntarily in the NSW Naval Assn Office for 12 years, the last five as State Secretary. On reaching the OBE (over bloody eighty), she retired in 2001 and is now President of NSW ex WRANS Assn. As at 2003, she was on a committee planning a memorial for all who served at Rushcutter, which is no longer in commission. She was also on the Committee planning the National Naval Reunion in Sydney in 2004.

Murray, Barry Milton Laws



Passed away 4/10/2004 Ex CPOWTR S7831 and R33351. Commenced as a Reservist in 1942 and served until 1946, then joined RAN in 1946 and retired as a CPOWTR in 1967. He was the CPOWTR on HMAS Anzac in 1964.