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Nash, Johnathan 'JJ'



Passed away 3rd March 2011. Ex CPOWTR and LCDR RANER. Joined the RAN on 8/5/1965 as an Adult Recruit in Rankin Division.

Commenced Common Sea Training in Melbourne for three months, then joined Vampire in October and sailed for 'Up Top' on 14/2/1966, the day of the introduction of decimal currency. In October 1966, commenced the Basic WTR's Course, then was posted to Kuttabul as WTR2/WTR and worked with CPOWTR Jack Markham. From October 1968 to December 1969, went back to sea

in Sydney, working for LEUTs Ray Bragge & Kingsley-Perry, CPOWTR Slim Corkery and POWTR Ron Campbell. Posted to Moreton from January 1970 to January 1973 and promoted LWTR in February 1970. Completed the ADVWTR Course in September 1972, then in January 1973, joined Perth as an A/POWTR, to fill the LWTR's billet in Accounts and Officers' pay section, down aft under 52 5" gun mount. Posted to Moresby in Brisbane and took over from CPOWTR 'Wiggy' Bennett, (and had the SRE speaker returned to the Ship's Office during the handover).

In May 1974, joined Harman (NO) for DSP, as 2OIC of Seaman Postings Section under CPOWTR Graeme Quinn. Cyclone Tracy caused a mass migration of Shipwrights North and I got a crash posting to relieve a WOMTH in Townsville Recruiting in February 1975. In January 1977, joined Harman, working in Captain's Office/Personnel Office, relieving POWTR George Kitchener, then moved to the Accounts Office 12 months later, working with CPOWTR 'Pi' Pieda. Promoted to CPOWTR in December 1978 and posted to Cerberus. Joined the RAN Management School in January 1978, as an Instructor (Service Knowledge) for PO Leadership Courses, WO Management Courses and Junior Officer Administration Courses; taking over from newly promoted SBLT Andy Hamilton. Heading back to sea in Swan in August 1980, provided many highlights including two RIMPAC exercises, three Japan port visits and a four-day visit to Shanghai. In August 1982, rejoined the RAN Management School at Cerberus.

Promoted to SBLT SDSU W on 10/10/1982. Completed the Basic Supply Course and then posted to Kuttabul (MHQ for Fleet Supply Team) in July 1983, as the oldest SBLT in the Fleet. In January 1984, joined Sydney (FFG 03) in Seattle as DSO, returning to Sydney town in late March 1984. The Pusser was LCDR John Hill, CO's Sec was POWTR Neville 'Nobby' Clarke and my kellick was Paul 'Sandy' Shore. After workups with the Fleet, we deployed for six months to SE Asia in company with 'Building 215' and Canberra. Promotion to LEUT effective 10/10/1984.

In January 1985, joined Cerberus as Wardroom Mess Manager for 12 months, followed by a move to Quality Control Coordinator for the Training Dept. Then, in July 1986, received a crash posting as Sec to NOCVIC in the Defence Plaza, St. Kilda

Rd Melbourne. NOCVIC was CDRE 'Tos' Dadswell, who handed over to CDRE Jerry Carwardine on retirement.

On 20/1/1987 I resigned and on 8/7/1987, commenced Full Time Service in the then Emergency Reserve as CO's Sec HMAS Cerberus. (Worked once again for CDRE Jerry Carwardine, until he was promoted to RADM and was replaced by CDRE Jim Dickson.) On 3/7/1989, granted Higher Rank to LCDR and took up an NBillet posting at Harman (NO – DNTE) as the funding manager of all training conducted overseas. Six months later, the desk was transferred to Cerberus under the new Command of Commodore Training (COMTRAIN). In July 1990, posted back to Harman (NO – DNTE) to allow me to rejoin my family and acted the role of trouble-shooter.

In April 1991, 'volunteered' as the Inspector-Administrative Review (Internal). In simple terms, I became the Chief of Naval Staff's Independent Investigator into all Applications for Redress of Grievance (AROG) referred to CNS for review. The ROG system had replaced the old Complaints system some years before. Whereas previously less than 2% of all applications for redress had failed, I managed to change that to a 52% success rate. On 13/9/1996, I retired on medical grounds, following two unsuccessful operations on my spine in 1991 and 1994.

Nelms, Lyn (Nee Smith)



Ex LWRWTR. Joined the WRANS on 18/2/1972. Following Recruit and WTR category training, Lyn served at HMAS Cerberus, followed by a posting to Albatross. Next she served in Recruiting at Moreton and then moved back to Albatross. She was discharged from the Navy on 19/7/1976 as a LWRWTR. Lyn was a Navy spouse for 22 years and her husband of 37 years is an ex 'Birdie.' She has spent most of the 37 years in Nowra, Melbourne, Canberra and Arlington, Virginia USA. As at 2012, she is living in Canberra and is retired. She has two children and three grandchildren.

Neville, Richard Francis



Passed away 24th February 2014. R39999. Joined 5th January 1951 for 6 years. Served in shore establishments Cerberus, Albatross and Kuttabul. His sea service was in Sydney as a LS 8/1954 - 9/1954.

Nichols, Marjorie Dawn (Nee Hales) 'Mardi'

Passed away 16th December 2012 at Smithton, Tasmania. Born 5th February 1931. WR4141. Joined 21st August 1951 and served at Cerberus in the Accounts Office. Discharged 28th August 1953 on marriage.

Noble, Douglas Arnold

Doug served from 1950 to 1956. He was a better than average sportsman, playing football, cricket and tennis, and along with the late Ron Battams, played a few games with St Kilda. While in Sydney, he played for the then all powerful 'Sydney Naval' team. He died on 6/10/2005.

Nolan, John Ernest 'Sid'



Ex WOWTR R59813. Joined the RAN on 11/3/1963 at Cerberus as a RCTWTR. He was promoted WTR2 11/9/1963 and posted to Albatross. He proceeded to sea in Yarra on 26/10/1964 and served on that vessel during the Indonesian Confrontation. He was confirmed as WTR shortly after joining Yarra, then was promoted LWTR on 11/1/1966. Next came a draft back to Cerberus, joining the Pay Office crew on 24/3/1966, followed by a posting to Melville on 23/9/1968, then back to Cerberus again, rejoining the infamous lunchtime volley ball team as a POWTR on 23/9/1970. Sid then proceeded to sea with a posting to Melbourne on 15/5/1972 and returned to Cerberus yet again on 2/1/1974. Two months later, he was promoted CPOWTR. Sea time in Vampire followed from 4/12/1978, then came a draft back to Cerberus for the fifth time on 10/1/1980. Sid was promoted to WOWTR on 21/5/1981 and took up his final posting to Nirimba on 17/8/1981. He was discharged to shore on 10/3/1983 and transferred to the Reserves on 21/9/1986, where he served until 20/9/1991. Throughout his time in the Service, Sid Nolan was renowned for his often outrageous sense of humour. Sid died on 5/9/2003 in Willows Gemfields, Qld after a short illness with cancer. His decorations are: GSM-MPN, GSM-BOR, DFSM, NM, DFSM1*, VLMSM, ASM with Clasp FESR, AASM with Clasp Vietnam, AASM45-MLS with Clasp Malaysia.

Ralph Burge remembers. "We were close mates in the sixties and we shared many good times together. When Sid and I were living in the Married Quarters at Cerberus, he invited me to go fishing with him. We didn't go to far - stayed on the base and parked his old FJ, I think it was, on a bank above the water. While sitting patiently for a nibble, we suddenly heard a worrying noise - it was Sid's car heading towards the water. It thundered past us into the salty ocean!!"

By Dick Gottschalk - Sid Nolan what a character. I always remember the time when Sid was the commander's Writer at Cerberus where, as a part of his duties he controlled the fortnightly drawing of the depot's Tombola. We got hold of POWTR Boots Britain's Tombola ticket, copied his numbers down and put his ticket back in

his drawer. I think Max Sharpies went over to Sids office, filled Sid in on what we were up to and came back to the pay office and proceeded to call the false numbers. This was not an ordinary Tombola this was a huge jackpot under a certain number of numbers drawn. Anyway Max calls the numbers and I can still hear Boots saying "got that one" "got that one too". It was just so hard to keep a straight face. Max even chucked in No 91 and Boots replied, "nope haven't got that one". Anyway of course Boots has got all the numbers way under the required, drops everything and runs over to Sids Office. I don't know how Sid managed it but he kept the charade up for 10 minutes before Boots finally caught on. When Boots came back all he said was "you pack of bastards". We weren't really - but I still think its funny.

Norris, John William

Passed away 8th September 1956. S5292. Joined 5th March 1941 and demobilised 1st February 1946. Served at shore establishments Rushcutter, Kuttabul, Penguin. Sea service was in Warramunga as AB/LS 1943 and Napier 1945.

Norton, Ray



Passed away 27th July 2013. Ex LWTR and CPOLIN R57688. I joined the RAN on 12/2/1961 and spent the next seven years as a WTR2, WTR, and LWTR. Curiously, I seemed to share my postings with the real reprobates of the Branch and spent more time doing 'chooks' and on 'stoppage of leave' than I spent ashore. (As at 2005, at 66 years-of-age, I have exchanged the 'chooks' for gardening and the stoppage of leave for 'stoppage'.) In 1966, whilst serving in Darwin, I volunteered to be tested for language aptitude and so began another life. I spent 1968 to 1972 in Hong Kong (after that I was scarred for life and 'rabbit runs' just didn't seem the same way anymore). I did my 20 years and paid off in 1981 as a CPOLIN, then joined the Reserves (Naval Intelligence) and did a further 19 years, varying between full time and stand by Reserve. I retired as a LCDR at age 60. It seems as though the wildest periods of my life were spent as a scribe, and I regret them not one bit.

Norwood, Edward Wallace 'Ted'



Passed away December 1971. Ldg Wtr. O/N 13512 A gentleman from years past. Ted was born at Albert Park, Victoria on 15th January, 1907 he joined the Royal Australian Navy in Melbourne on 19th June, 1922 for 12 years.

However, his 'actual' engagement did not commence until 15 January 1925 which was his 18th birthday. Service under 18 years of age was known as "Boys Time" and did not count.

His postings included Tingira, Cerberus, Platypus, Melbourne, Sydney. He was discharged FREE 17th July 1929. However during World War II he joined the Royal

Australian Fleet Reserve at Cerberus on 24th June 1940 and allocated a new Personal number M1121. His service in this period was Cerberus, Moresby and Rushcutter. He was demobbed from Rushcutter, at own request, 18th March 1946. Ted was known for his writing he wrote two short stories on the 'Old White Lady' which he served on April 1941 - March 1944. These can be found in our web site under 'Stories'