

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

<b>Saffell, David Michael</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Salmon, Steve</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Saltmarsh, Vera</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Samuel, Peter Montague</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Sanders, Edward Earle</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Sanders, Ken</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Saunders, Herbert Henry</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Saunders, Brett</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Saunders, Raymond</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Saunders, Rowan Stanley</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Scanlon, Kevin</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Scari, Robert (Bob)</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Schultz, Peter G</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Scott, Barry Aldred</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Scott-Waine, John Carlisle</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Scully, Edward Terence 'Mick'</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Shannon, Andrew Murray</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Sharman, Peter Anthony 'Beachball'</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Sheehan, Clarence Naughton</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Sherwood, John Francis 'Jack'</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Shugg, Frank</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Sibley, Andrew John</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Siegman, Andy</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Simpson, Kevin Henry</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sinden, Geoffrey Howard</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sinclair, Alan</b>	<b>14</b>

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

<b>Skene, Arthur James</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Slater, Tim Slater</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Small, Kerry Thomas</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Smith, Anthony John</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Smith, Ashley</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Smith, Derek Arthur</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Smith, Frederick Stanley</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Smith, H A</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Smith, Joanne (Jo) (nee Hancock)</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Smith, Kate (nee Triffitt)</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Smith, Keith</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Smith, Kenneth Leslie</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Smith, Lewis 'Lew</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Smith, Margaret (Nee Fulston)</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Smith, Ross Charles Eastlake</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Smith, William Douglas Alison 'Doug'</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Smyth, Arthur William 'Bill'</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Smythe, Stephen Arthur</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Snape, Cecil Raymond</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Snowdon, Barbara (nee Lyon)</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Sorensen, Carl J</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Sparkes, Ned</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Speight, David 'Dave'</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Spender, Donald John</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Springhall, Margaret Jamieson (Nee Davis)</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Springhall, Wayne</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Standen, Terry</b>	<b>35</b>

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

<b>Steele, Alan William</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Stevens, Edward Charles 'Ned'</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Stewart, Grahame</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Stickler, Terry</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Stokes. Edward George Cyril 'Eddy'</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Strachan, Lewis</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Stuart, William Farcourt</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Sturzaker, Geoffrey John</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Sugden, Charles Allen 'Charlie'</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Sutherland, Kathleen McNeil</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Sutton, Peter</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Swales, John David 'Jack'</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Sweeney, Trevor</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Swift, Wayne</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Swindells, Donald John 'Don'</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Syme, Trevor</b>	<b>41</b>

## Saffell, David Michael



Joined as a JR in 1967 (20<sup>th</sup> Intake) and discharged 1979. Served at Leeuwin, Diamantina, Cerberus (for course), FOCAF HQ, Sydney, Albatross, Tarangau, Carrier Air Group, Melbourne (as CAG LSWTR).

## Salmon, Steve

Joined 1971 and trained at a Met Observer , serving at *Albatross* , in the *Melbourne* for SEAD duties, and then the Battle Class Destroyer *Anzac* before finally being convinced to change over to scribe by Marty Grogan. Given that I had an aversion to birdies and the 'Tross, deciding that being a scribe was more attractive option.



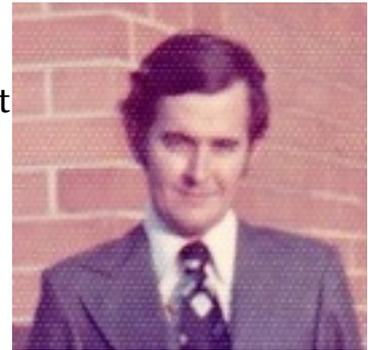
Writers course in October 1974 under POWTR Lou Smith was followed by a short stay at *Cerberus* then posting to *Harman(NO)* DSP in Canberra to work in the Seaman Posting area with Jerry Lewis and norm Leaney. Feb 1976 saw me joined *Vendetta* in refit at Williamstown dockyard with the likes of Bob Baird, George Edgell , Mick Kelleher and Ollie Twist before managing a quick trip up-top. Really enjoyed the time on there but unfortunately things don't last and I returned to *Cerberus* to work Removals / Housing / Accounts again with George Edgell, as well as Jeannie Brennan (Roberts), Deano Dowling, Nev Harrip and WO John Patison until being promoted to LSWTR and posting to *HMAS Lonsdale* Accounts. Next off to *Hobart* just in time to introduce 'computerised' Pay, get promoted to POWTR and take over as Captains Secretary. A great posting with Pete Spalding as my Kellick (then he too got promoted) and Harry Adams as CO. Following return from IO Deployment joined the carrier *Melbourne* to carry out her final de-commissioning, then again off to sunny *Cerberus* for 'instructional duties'. Spent the next few years moving between Supply School and Management school as an instructor, until returning to the 'real world' in *Cerberus* Accounts Office. Involved in the trial and introduction of DEFMIS before picking up my 'boards' and spending time at *Kuttabul* as SO(Cash) rounding out with time in the newly created Commodore Training area looking after Supply and Defence Co-operation training. Discharged from the PNF 1991 and transferred to Reserves.

After short stint chasing 'dole bludgers' for Social Security, picked up an APS position in – you guessed it - Supply School at *Cerberus*. Initially under the guidance of CMDR Bob Richards, I managed to survive there for nearly 15 years until before picking up 12 months CFTS in DNOP. After working there with Anne Mena I looked into changing over to the darker side, before throwing in the APS position and getting another short contract filling in at *Cerberus*. Decided to take the plunge and accept promotion to LEUT (WOE) in Oct 2009 at the ripe old age of 56 which was a real shock to many, but I had always enjoyed being with Defence and decided this was another area I had not tried. Despite this, with nothing showing on the horizon in uniform I took up another APS with Army at Watsonia Barracks until out of the blue I got a phone call asking if I was interested in another

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

two years at Cerberus in the 'school of scones' as SO3-Training. That was too good and opportunity to pass up and it has given be a great exposure to the increasing tri-Service environment. Again the have been predominately a great bunch to work with, from all three colours. Currently two thirds through that contract but with nothing showing in the future it looks like back to DFSS Watsonia until I deicide to retire 'again'.

Outside of Defence, have been in a relationship for over 25 years, though I have yet to commit. Between the two of us we have a total of eight grown up children, ten and a half grandkids and one great-grandchild. After about a ten year break, got back into motorbikes and ride with the Vietnam Veterans MC Gippsland Chapter. Enjoy that as the camaraderie is very similar to what you get used to in the Services. the next few years moving between Supply School and Management school as an instructor, until returning to the 'real world' in Cerberus Accounts Office. Involved in the trial and introduction of DEFMIS before picking up my 'boards' and spending time at *Kuttabul* as SO(Cash) rounding out with time in the newly created Commodore Training area looking after Supply and Defence Co-operation training. Discharged from the PNF 1991 and transferred to Reserves.



### **Saltmarsh, Vera**

Passed while it away date NK.

### **Samuel, Peter Montague**

Passed away date NK. R37561. Joined 25th July 1949. After his initial training he stayed at Cerberus and was promoted LS 1953. His sea posting was Arunta 1953-1954, Quickmatch 1960 - 1962 and Supply 1966 - 1967. Shore postings included Cerberus, Penguin, Maralinga 1957 to 1958, Harman, Lonsdale and Huon . Promoted PO 1958, CPO 1962. Discharged 24th July 1969.

### **Sanders, Edward Earle**

Joined 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1950. R38595. Shore establishments Cerberus, Kuttabul and Lonsdale. Sea posting was Sydney in 1955 and 56. He was also posted to Penguin for the Commonwealth 52-53. Discharged 27 November 1956, as a leading Seaman.

## Sanders, Ken



When joining Pussers, I had intentions of applying to do a Linguist Course, Russian. I had mixed with a lot of Russian speaking migrants at school in Bathurst, and had picked up a little. At NHQ down the hill from KUTTABUL the two linguists were PO/Wtr Laurie Mathieson, and Naval Airman Ted Grange.

They knew of my hopes, and when they came up to collect pay, they gave me writing and translating exercises to do, and brought back



the previous ones, corrected. etc. The course was discontinued, and I was offered Malay, or Mandarin. Stupid kid that I was, I refused that. Later, Laurie Mathieson's name came up, being involved in the "Coombe Affair" something to do with lobbyism.

## Saunders, Herbert Henry

Passed away 7/12/1941. Joined 30th May 1933. After completing his training he joined Canberra 19/8/1933 until 17/11/1933 when he joined Australia until 22/10/1936. (Promoted LS 1/8/36) Subsequent postings to Penguin, Cerberus where he was promoted PO. Posted Arawa 1939 until 1941. Promoted CPO 1/9/1941

## Saunders, Brett



Ex CPOWTR. Joined the Navy on 9/10/1972 and served almost 30 years. My shore postings were HMAS Leeuwin, Cerberus (twice), Lonsdale (twice), Kuttabul, Harman (twice), Coonawarra, Cairns, Recruiting in Perth (very hard that was!) and Stirling. The ships I served in were Anzac from 1973 to 1974, Vendetta 1975 to 1976, Derwent 1979 to 1981, Hobart 1985 to 1986, Canberra a 1992 to 1994 and Adelaide 2000 to 2002.

I had had enough after the 'children overboard' run at Christmas Island and thought it was time to leave for new pastures. I paid off on 1/4/2002. Highlights during my navy time were meeting my wife, Trish, visiting Canada in 1985 for their 75th Naval Anniversary, and the Red Sea run in 1992-93, up the Suez to Naples for Christmas. Teeing off at the Cairo golf course on the 17th hole, with the pyramids behind, was really something. I loved the work and the play, and especially the people.

## Saunders, Raymond

Joined 12<sup>th</sup> January 1942. B3101. Discharged 6<sup>th</sup> September 1946. Served at Cerberus, Penguin Ladava and Madang n PNG.

## Saunders, Rowan Stanley

Passed away 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Joined 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1966 and served for 12 years. R95344. Originally joined as a communicator and transferred to Writer in 1968. Served at Leeuwin, Cerberus, Platypus. Service at sea as Comms Yarra and as a Writer Perth 1969/70.

## Scanlon, Kevin



Joined 30<sup>th</sup> January 1951. R44014. Bases as a scribe were Cerberus and Lonsdale. Sips served were Australia 1954, Quadrant 54/55, Quickmatch as LS 57/58, Melbourne as PO 60/61 and Queenborough 61/62. Promoted to Officer rank 1<sup>st</sup> March 1962 and served at sea on the Duchess 64/65 as Leut. Discharged March 1979.

## Scari, Robert (Bob)



Joined in 1975 and discharged as a CPOWTR in 1995. Served Cerberus, Harman(NO), Leeuwin, NOCWA, Stirling, NOCNA, Coonawarra, Penguin, Waterhen, Maritime Headquarters, Stuart (DE), Yarra, Adelaide and Moresby. Made a lot of good friends from my time in the Navy. The most memorable being selected to serve aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia for 2 months during the 1982 Commonwealth Games.

## Schultz, Peter G



I joined the RAN as a JR on 9/4/1979 and commenced the Basic Writers Course on 6/1/1980 (Mick Scully instructing). My shore postings have been: Creswell, Moreton, Cairns, ADFA, Harman (NO), Harold E. Holt, Stirling, Defence Centre Melbourne, DIO, DSCM, Harman (as PERSO) and RANRTF. My sea postings were: Parramatta, Flinders, Stalwart (paid her off), Westralia and Adelaide (as COSec).

I was promoted to CPOWTR on 1/9/2005 and as at 2007 am

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

employed as the Operations Manager, RAN Relief Trust Fund. I am married to my wife, Jo. Some of the highlights I have enjoyed during my career to date are; the handover of H.E. Holt from the yanks, the RAN 75th celebrations whilst in Finders and Exercise Longlook 97.

Honours and Awards: AASM (with clasps ICAT and IRAQ 2003), Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, DFSM\*\*, ADM.

### Scott, Barry Aldred

Passed away 10/2/1964. Joined 29th July 1963. After initial Recruit training he was posted as a ORDWTR to Voyager 7th November 1963 and subsequently he was presumed drowned on the Voyager being sunk by the Carrier Melbourne.

### Scott-Waine, John Carlisle



John served during WWII, joining up on 12th April 1943 and demobilised 8th July 1946. O/N S8366. After joining Cerberus on entry he was posted to Kuttapul. He posted to Ladava 1944 and Madang 21/12/1944. He spent 2 months at Harman before proceeding to Rushcutter for demobilisation.

### Scully, Edward Terence 'Mick'



Passed away 01/11/2005 as a result of a massive heart attack. Ex POWTR Edward Terence "Mick" SCULLY R62312 Aged 60. RAN Service 1st July 1963 to 21 September, 1983. Ships Sydney(Vietnam), Melbourne and Brisbane (twice). Medals: AASM (Vietnam), VLSM, ASM (FESR), National Medal, Defence Medal.

Marty Grogan provided this story about Mick. Mick and Pat were at one time serving in HMAS CERBERUS together. Both rascals, identical twins and both prone to misadventure. Pat, one night, got caught in a compromising position with a WRAN in the hedge surrounding the Wrans Quarters after the Movies and after curfew for the Wrans. The Chief Regulator (similar to the job Mick did at St. Michaels) at the time took a dim view of the ongoing antics of the SCULLY twins and made sure the Captain gave Pat the maximum punishment. Consequently Pat was given 14 days stoppage of leave and privileges for his one minute of pleasure in the hedge. Pat was devastated but Mick came up with a cunning plan. "You're my Brother so I will share the punishment with you, every second day I will front up and do your punishment, no one will ever

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

know. So it went to plan, Mick one day, Pat the next. After they had completed the 14 days Mick said to Pat "You owe me one". Some years later Mick was serving onboard HMAS BRISBANE and after a night on the Turps was late for work and copped 14 days stoppage of leave as a punishment. Mick was on the Ship in Sydney and Pat was back down at HMAS CERBERUS in Melbourne. Mick rang Pat and said "I'm calling in my marker, get your backside up here, I've got a new shiela and I will lose her if I have to do 14 days straight stoppage of leave". Pat said "Brother dear, I'm on my honeymoon, I'm broke and I've busted my right leg which is in plaster". Mick was furious and shouted down the phone "I don't want anymore of your weak excuses, get your ugly head up here and do your time"

## Shannon, Andrew Murray



"Joined the RAN on 14 March 1955, engagement 6 years. On completion of the Basic Seamanship Course moved onto the Supply School (14 September 1955 – 11 November 1955) for the basic Writers Course. Whilst at Cerberus I played cricket for the Depot.

Then was posted to Kuttabul 12th December 1955 taking up a position in the Tenders Pay Office working on the rough and fair ledger system. During this time a new pay card system was introduced which was devised by, I believe, Cdr(S) R Watson.

During an Admiral's Inspection that year, one of his staff stated that there was a fire in a waste paper basket to see what our reactions were. One member picked up the basket and threw it out a window. Not the right reaction, all pay card cabinets should have been closed and removed to a safe place then take care of the fire. Consequently we were all given a dressing down. Cdr (S) F Crowther was the Supply Officer and Lt. R Rockey RN was the Supply Officer Cash. (Photos Left 2000 - Right 1955)

Posted January 1957 to Sydney where I took up the position of Commanders Office Writer. The Commander was A W Savage and the office was run by L/Cdr H Carlisle RN.

The Sydney made two trips in 1957 to the Great Barrier Reef, one before mid winter leave and the other one after, these two trips were not hard to take. The second trip was a survey trip involving two helicopters that were onboard. At the end of the second trip on the way home we were given the opportunity to have a flight in the helicopter. The pilot gave us an understanding as to what it was like to make a deck landing in a fixed wing aircraft. This was an experience I will never forget. Then joined Watson 31st January 1958 and worked in the Accounts Office. On 13 June 1958 I joined Nimba, worked the pay office and then surprisingly I was posted as the Electrical Officers Writer. I remained in that position until my next posting. I also played in the Depot cricket team.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

9 May 1959 saw me posted to Lonsdale, Navy Office, working in the Manning Department. On 15 September 1959 I moved to Harman when Navy Office was moved to Canberra. On 6 November 1959 I was rated A/Ldg/Wtr.



8 January 1960 saw me posted to Queenborough working in the Captain's Office. I was confirmed Ldg Wtr on arrival onboard. We sailed from Sydney on 15 February 1960 for our deployment in the Far East Station. We stopped at Cairns, Darwin then onto Singapore via the Lombok Strait. Whilst in the Far East we visited Hong Kong, Kudat, Labuan, Bangkok, Satahib and Penang. I was one of four Naval Personnel who drove the ship's Land rover from Penang to Singapore. As usual many exercises were carried. Plenty of sport was played. I represented the ship in cricket and soccer and had the honour of playing cricket with the RN in the local competition.

29 June 1960 we were relieved by Quiberon sailed for home on that day via Darwin, Cairns and arriving home on 15 July 1960. 7 January saw me posted to HMAS Kuttabul and I was discharged on 13 March 1961. I enlisted in the RAFR on 14 March 1961 and on 15 February 1965 enlisted in the RANER.

I completed ACT as follows: Sydney on 1965 1966, and 1967 Kuttabul. Enlisted RANR on 16/02/1968 at Rushcutter until RANR was transferred to Watson. Whilst in Watson I completed and investigated into all the ships named "Archer" as the Reserve Training Vessel was Archer. I found six ships named Archer, five in the RN plus our one. A small booklet was put together and printed in the Navy League Magazine. It has been updated as another Archer has been built for the RN.

Joined Stalwart 16/03/1968 for ACT and Cerberus 1/12/1968 for Petty Officer Writer's course. Rated A/PO.Wtr(P) 3/03/1969 and my ACT (13/09/1969) was the Advanced NBCD Course. Confirmed PO/Wtr on 3/03/ 1970. Further ACT in Watson 7/03/1970, Yarra 24/09/1971 and Cerberus 8/10/1972. I took my discharge from the RANR on 15 February 1974.

### **Sharman, Peter Anthony 'Beachball'**

Passed away date NK. R52569. Joined 7th November 1957. Served in establishments Cerberus, Kuttabul, Tarangau, Watson, Albatross, Melville, Penguin, Rushcutter. His sea service consisted of the following postings: Melbourne 1960 - 1960 and 1961. Quiberon 1962-1963. Melbourne 1968 - 1969 then Duchess 1969 - 1970.

In his earlier days he played up somewhat, granted his first Good Conduct Badge November 1960, and it was deprived December 1960. Restored June 1961 and deprived 1963. Again restored in 1964, deprived 1966, restored late 1966, and he finally received his second Good Conduct Badge 1968.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

His promotion situation was similar, Promoted LS 1962, Disrated 1963, Promoted LS 1964, Disrated 1966, Promoted 1967. Finally promoted PO 6/12/1968.

Stories about Beachball: Pat McGeown says "Beachball was one of the characters in our Branch. Whilst at Moreton he posted in as a POWTR in the Pay Office. He was involved with the Senior Sailors mess. The best time to get him was about 1030 to 1130 each day. One morning he came to work with his hands cut to pieces. The night prior after the mess closed he tried to release some mud crabs from the crab pot under the wharf. They won."

John Pretty says " I worked with the Beachball at Penguin 1963-64 era. I recall he had a liking for a "wee drop" or two. Her also had a VW Station wagon that was more often than not running out of petrol in the most inconvenient places e.g. Cahill Expressway lanes on the Sydney Harbour Bridge, blocking up traffic for a long way behind. His only comment was something to the effect of "sh\*t Happens

Nobby Clark says " I served with Beachball in 65/66 at Rushcutter - what a draft. We also shared a flat at Bayswater Road Kings Cross along with Tubby Tressider(SN). We had about 8 set of keys as our flat was the stopping off place for the Victualling Run (Sel Norish) on it way back from Kuttatubul, then all those in the know used to drop in and pick up their little parcels.

I think this is maybe where I really learnt how to drink. But I do remember some great times. Especially Beachballs then girlfriend - later wife, Kathy - who used to drop in and do the washing/ironing and cleaning. What a great lady."

Maurie Jeppeson says "The Beach, I posted into Penguin as a WTR2 and in my only time in the pay office (2 weeks) the Beach was the LWTR. The second day there Beach said to me coming up for the mess for lunch. I was gob smacked a LH inviting me to lunch. The Beach introduced me to Ron Cope (the Bar Manager) and between 12 and 12:30 I managed 6 beers. The Beach had 8. I was back at work at 12:45 and the afternoon was a blur. The next day when the Beach invited me again I begged off. Fortunately I was sent to the Personnel Officer to work with POWTR "Wog" Watson the next week, saving my liver. Wonderful days. "

## Sheehan, Clarence Naughton

Passed away 2004. Joined 29th January 1945 and demobilised 10th March 1947. In this time he served at Moreton, Cerberus Penguin, Rushcutter.

## Sherwood, John Francis 'Jack'

Passed away 26th April 2010. 21 years served as President of the Harbord Diggers RSL Sub Branch.



Joined the RAN on 6th March 1946 as a Writer II Probationary. at Cerberus. Promoted to AB 1946 and his first posting was Lonsdale and other shore establishments Rushcutter, Penguin, Platypus Leeuwin Watson Creswell where he was promoted to LS 1/7/1948.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

His first sea posting was Bataan 1949 until 1949, Sydney 1953 –1954, Tobruk 1958-1960, Melbourne 1964 until discharge 4th October 1966. Promoted PO 1951 and CPO 1955

Note: John served twice on Platypus. Platypus at this stage was a maintenance ship but had been placed in reserve until it was paid off in November 1956. (Platypus the naval base did not come into operation until 1967)

### Shugg, Frank



R37196 and LCDR SD SU. My PNF service began from Melbourne as a RCTWTR on 7/3/1949 and concluded with retirement on 11/5/1986. In addition to that, I also completed two three-month periods of Reserve Service.

The intake was a large one, over 100 recruits, and transport from Lonsdale to Cerberus was in an Army semi trailer, fitted with wooden bench seats. Class M 44 commenced under the supervision of LSMN Morrison and Belbin. Seamanship training was onboard Latrobe and Writer Instructors at the Supply School were Commissioned Writer Officer Nick Carter and CPOWTR Edwin Rogers, the OIC being Senior Commissioned Writer Alf Calder. Some writers on this course were Barry Benfield, John Burge, Bob Bryce, Les Corkery, Gordon Gent, Spencer Mansfield, John Murrells, John Moy and Don Tillett.

Progression through the rank structure to CPOWTR was in 1962, whilst at the Supply School. It was here that I qualified Instructor CPO WTR. I was selected as Chief of the Queen's Colour, to parade through Melbourne to the Shrine of Remembrance, an event now called 'Navy Week.' I was approved for over age selection for SD Candidate and was promoted SUB LT SD SU W in 1966, with new number 02569.

During this period I saw many changes. Supply Officers lost their distinctive white between the gold braid and went to the executive look, the transition from pen and ink to biro, the move through three pay systems, the change from KR & AI to Din Pers, Service Certificates to data processed computer printouts and modern technology in video screens.

I had twenty-four postings in all, some more memorable than others. I was on the warship Murchison for service in Korea, witnessed the 'A' Bomb explosion at Monte Bello, and enjoyed the Queen's first 'Splice the Main Brace.' Tarangau had lasting memories of personalities and party tricks, the site where Japanese War Criminals were tried and hanged, and watching the Qantas Constellation aircraft's hairy take off with one hundred sailors onboard and one lady, bound for Australia. Penguin's 4th Submarine Squadron gave me a sea experience in an RN Submarine, S 23 Andrew – wow. I also received an award from the Herbert Lott Trust Fund. In the carrier Melbourne I was launched and arrested in a 'Tracker' aircraft to pick up more Australian and Foreign currency in Singapore, then there was the disaster with USS Evans. There are special memories with my last sea posting as SO Supply, with Captain David Martin. Cerberus has always been a special place. Whilst

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

participating in many sporting activities I also steered the S&S Field Gun crew to its only victory. I attended the first trial of the week long, no leave, combined Army and Navy moral leadership course with two other LWTRs, Jack Cummins and Laurie Kenny. I also qualified for 'cross rifles' and was awarded the ledger certificate. Below: 1951 Frank Shugg and Lesley Henricksen

In Cerberus I served for what must have been an unmatched time in the Pay Block, with the two tallest, then Commissioned Writers, Lofty Langworthy and Ed Rogers and the two shortest CPO Writers, Irving and Walkerden. During this period there was the amazing race of one writer chasing 'Big Ed' with an axe; a long story – ask me about it sometime. I met and married LWRWTR P Heather Southam, and we have two children. I witnessed the march past with CDRE Shimmin after the presentation of my LS & GCM. The twenty pound gratuity (\$40) came later.

Outside the normal duties of the Supply Department, other areas of employment included Deputy Director of Sailors Postings, Staff Officer DNT overseas training, Defence Co-operation Training Organization and Finance, Recruiting Officer Western Australia, and OIC AUST FASO, Seattle, USA, for ships Sydney and Darwin. On Sydney's departure for Australia, after the formalities alongside, the ship sailed and received three cheers from Ship's Company. Following the departure of ship Darwin, we closed down the office with many memories, including the heaviest snow fall recorded in Seattle just before departure, and having successfully dispensed and balanced over 22 million dollars in three and a half years.

There has been many incidents, humorous and otherwise and wonderful people and personalities, too numerous to mention individually, that I have met and shared company with during my Naval career. I may consider a 'did you know' series later, to what has been a great time in my life. Fond memories and thanks to the male and female writers that constituted a wonderful branch.

### **Sibley, Andrew John**

Joined 05/08/1952. O/N 48055. He served in establishments Cerberus, Watson, Moreton and Penguin. He was discharged Unsuitable for the rating of WTRII 5<sup>th</sup> October 1954.

### **Siegman, Andy**



Ex CPOWTR. Joined the navy in July 1976. Shore postings included Navy Office, Cerberus, Nirimba, Penguin, Platypus, Harman, Albatross and Coonawarra. Served in ships Brisbane from 1979 to 1981, Tobruk from 1984 to 1986 and Moresby from 1989 to 1991. Also served at HADS PNG from 1986 to 1988 and at RANLO Bahrain in 1992.

After discharge in September 1997, he joined the International Organization for Migration (IOM), a UN linked

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

intergovernmental organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Short term IOM duty assignments included Dili, East Timor, Islamabad, Pakistan and Amman, Jordan. Long term IOM postings included Darwin, Australia from 1999 to 2001, Vienna, Austria from 2001 to 2002, Herat, Afghanistan in 2002 and Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 2002 to 2006. He was posted to Bangkok, Thailand in August 2006 as the Regional Resource Management Officer with admin/finance oversight responsibility for all countries in the region, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Laos and Myanmar. As at 2006, he was living in Bangkok in the suburb of Lat Phrao, approximately half way between the town and the airport, with wife Sandi.

### Simpson, Kevin Henry



Ex CPOWTR R29880. Joined the RAN on 12/3/1946. Ships and establishments he served in (in alphabetical order) are; Albatross, Anzac, Cerberus, Lonsdale, Melbourne, Melville, Nirimba, Penguin, Quickmatch, Sydney and Vengeance. He was discharged on 17/12/1968 with the rank of CPOWTR.

Kevin was awarded the AASM with Clasp Malaya, NGSM with clasp Malaya, UNSM Korea, ASM with clasps Korea and FESR, LS&GCM and the RAS Badge.

After discharge, he became Office Manager and later CEO of Naval Health Benefits from 16/1/1969 to 4/8/1988. He is now living Adelaide (as at 2007) and is an Honorary Member for Life of the RAN Writers Association.

### Sinden, Geoffrey Howard



Passed away 3rd July 2011. He joined the RAN 13th April 1956 as a RCTWTR although his time in the RAN in those days was not counted until you were 18, therefore he had to wait another year before his service counted.

Shore postings Cerberus, Lonsdale, Albatross and Harman.

His sea posting was Melbourne 1959, Sydney 1963 – 196 and Moresby 1967 -1969 .

LS 1960, PO 1965 and CPO 1969 Service after 1970 not known.

### Sinclair, Alan

Passed away 28/10/2006. Joined 2nd December 1942 and discharged PUNS 6th September 1945. After shore service he was posted to Manoora 1944. A posting to Kanimbla 1944 - 1945. He was assessed as having deafness in the right ear and was advised to seek a repatriation pension which was granted 7th September 1945.

## Skene, Arthur James



Arthur's Navy career spanned both RANR and PNF service, commencing as an RANR 16-year-old Cadet Writer in 1960. After 28 years permanent service, his career finally concluded as the Director of Reserves-Navy as an RANR Commander in 2001. He served in Rushcutter, Penguin, Wagga, Watson and Vendetta as a Writer in the RANR, before joining the RAN in January 1963.

He rose through the ranks from Recruit WTR to CPOWTR, with service in Cerberus, Kuttabul, Harman (Navy Office), Melbourne (FOCAF ADSEC staff to RADV VAT Smith and RADM TK Morrison), Tarangau, Albatross, Watson, Tarangau and Penguin. In 1974 he was promoted to the Special Duties List as a Writer officer and served in Penguin, Coonawarra (Sec to NOCNA) and Harman (Navy Office) (DNOP). While serving as Secretary to the Naval Establishments and Ships Complements Committee on the staff of DGNM, he was transferred to the General List. He then served in Melbourne, the Defence Establishments Division, Cerberus and Cairns (as SO), where he was promoted Commander in December 1984.

His next postings were Kuttabul (FONSC), Cerberus (S.O.) and Harman (Navy Office) and Defence Headquarters. Following his transfer to the Reserve List in February 1991, his Defence service continued as an Administrative Service Officer with the 2nd Field Logistic Battalion, Anzac Class Logistics Office, Defence Establishments Organisation, Army Command and Staff College (at Queenscliff), and Strategic Resource Analysis Section in Defence Headquarters. He was asked to return to RANR service on a continuous basis (3-4 days each week) from mid 2000 as Assistant Director of Personnel (Reserves) and finally as Director of Reserves-Navy on the staff of Director General Reserves-Navy. He stepped ashore from continuous Reserve/Defence service in late 2001. Arthur was transferred to the Retired List of the RAN in February 2004, having served the RAN and RANR for a total of 43 years and 10 months.



Arthur is now retired to Dicky Beach on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, where he is learning to play a full sized Orla home organ, dabbling with drawing and water colour painting, and indulging in family genealogy.

## Slater, Tim Slater

"I joined the navy on September 15, 1980 as a 19-year-old and was promoted to SMNWTR\* on December 6, my birthday. I then started my basic writers course on January 12, 1981. The writers I did my course with included Lance Atkins, Laurie Carruthers, Bruce Lockyer, Alan Dummett and John Abbott. I can't remember who our instructor was, I think it was Sid someone. It was so long ago.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames



I was then posted to the Cerberus personnel office in May 1981 and came into contact with WOWTR John Diedrich, POWTR John Southon, LWRWTR Angie Hollis and LSWTR Bob Muir. My most vivid memories of that posting were filing PH14s and PH13s for officers, filling in EDP forms and playing volleyball in the pay office quadrangle with the pay guys including Annie MacDermott, Mark Chee, Phil Griffiths, Lea Doak, Boof Atkins, Rob Merrylees and some bloke Beresford. We used to get all hot and sweaty playing in our 8s and then trudge back to work.

Volleyball was a fun activity to be involved with and I was in the Navy team playing in the local competition with John Southon, Bob Muir, who thought he was a gun setter and he was pretty good and Rick Bray.

After about 15 months at Cerberus I was posted to Torrens on August 2, 1982. I remember my first site of the ship sitting in dry dock after driving my Escort panel van from Melbourne to Sydney. It was quite a sight and a big change to be finally going to sea, starting again in a strange environment and not knowing anyone on board. But I did catch up with a few mates from writers course in Sydney who were serving on other ships, including Laurie Carruthers who was on Brisbane at the time. I also caught up with John Abbott who was on Tobruk along with Rob Merrylees.

My time on Torrens was my only sea experience. It was hard work but memorable. We escorted the Royal Yacht Britannia at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games and had a good run ashore there. The writers on Torrens when I joined were ABWTR Kevin Mus, LSWTR Bob Alexander famous for his LLDs - and CPOWTR Gordon Rothe. After the Brisbane visit we also escorted Britannia on a South West Pacific trip, visiting places including Port Moresby, Solomon Islands and Fiji where I got ripped off buying some of those wooden knives at the port.

The supply officer was LCDR ? Roberts and the CO was Captain John G McDermott. During my time on Torrens the writer team changed with CPOWTR Ray Sexton replacing CPO Rothe and ABWTR Craig Ritchie replaced Kevin Mus. The navigator was then LEUT Rowan Moffitt, later Rear Admiral.



The ship then went on a South East Asian deployment where my eyes were really widened to what the world has to offer a young sailor! We visited ports including Bangkok, Hong Kong, Kure, Manila and Surabaya before heading back to Freo.

That was quite a trip with the highlights being pretty much all of it, there was a black tie dinner at Manila, smoking cigars and quaffing Dom Perignon champagne, climbing up the Bromo Volcano at dawn on donkey-back and just basically seeing the world and having a great time ashore, but forgetting about the hard yards at sea. As you do.

Another memorable moment at sea was when we were sailing past Esperance on the way across to Fremantle and we tuned into the local radio station to hear my father do his weekly buy, trade and sell radio show.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

I was a forward damage control number at action stations but was relieved from my station after no-one could understand what I was saying, which is not good for a comms number, and joined the first aid party. I also tried to grow a beard on Torrens but was told to shave it off one day by the XO just prior to embarking on an Anzac Day march through Melbourne during a ship visit to Geelong. That visit was also memorable for me after I defeated most of the greenies in my mess at an arm wrestling competition in a local Geelong pub, one up for the writers!

I was sad to see my one and only ship being used as target practice by HMAS Farncomb in June 1999 and was happy that RADM Moffitt ordered a huge poster print that used to hang proudly in submarine headquarters of the Torrens being blown to smithereens, be taken down. I posted off Torrens on August 15, 1983 and returned to my home state. I was originally bound for Leeuwin but my posting was changed to the pay office at Stirling where I worked with I think was POWTR Sid or was it Dave Hockham, LSWTR Bruce Kelman and ABWTR Ray Chilton, who has remained a close friend ever since.

They were tough times at the pay office with Ray and I struggling to keep up with the workload at the growing base. We worked our butts off, hardly ever took a sporty, but I remember we went for a sail one day, I think it was about the only sporty we ever had there. Then I got a call from an old boss, POWTR John Southon, who was then working in DSP, asking if I wanted a posting to the other side of the world and join the team at AUSTFASO in Seattle.



I posted out of Stirling in October 1984 and headed stateside where my job was to pay the rents and utility bills for the families of the Darwin crew, something exciting like that. But the posting provided a great opportunity to see some more of the world.

The crew I remember working with there were ABWTR's Butch Cassidy and Ian Dollery, LSWTR Knocker White, POWTR Brose Palmer, LWRSTD Kerry Alder, LEUT Gerry Davis and LCDR Frank Shugg, WOWTR John Arro and some civy bloke Ian Domalgowsk? I was also accompanied by my fiancé

and bride to be Sharon, who I had met at the Booragoon pub while serving at Stirling. Pic below 1981.

My most vivid memories of AUSTFASO was sitting around bored watching everyone play chase the pisser at lunchtimes - I couldn't get into card games, which was very un-writerly over me - playing indoor soccer with Butch Cassidy and the boys and some boozy golf games at the local, excellent golf courses.

The AUSTFASO adventure introduced me to the wacky world of American football and I have followed the game ever since, but not the Seattle Seahawks as they were, and always will be, a crap, second-rate team! I also went to a few Washington Huskies games and they were awesome. Sharon and I had some great trips down to Mexico, Puerto Vallarta and did the Canada thing from Vancouver through to Jasper, down to Banff and back, which was great. But the AUSTFASO adventure gave me a taste of freedom and break from military life and discipline which made it

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

hard for me to get back into the groove for my next posting to Navy Office, Harman when I joined there on January 6, 1986.

I worked at the Directorate of Navy Training with the POWTR Graham Rankin, that was a busy job on the file post and I also caught up with a few old mates there, namely Laurie Carruthers, Craig Ritchie and Ray Chilton, with whom I made an infamous movie that some of you may have been forced to watch by another good mate that I first came into contact with stateside, Peter Hind, who was then a LSWTR on the Darwin. The movie was called No Comebacks and it was dreadful!

I was also promoted to LSWTR while at DNT in November 1986. We had a good time in Canberra and I had a flying visit to Perth in April with my bride-to-be to get married with all our families present, then we flew back to Canberra straight afterwards. I was due for another sea posting at this time but my six-year initial period of service was coming up and I was dithering about whether to re-engage or not. I signed on for another short term but then decided to chuck my elective discharge in as I did not fancy another stint at sea as a marriedy.

I was then posted to another job at Navy Office, at DFEP with my old mate Peter Hind while we worked on our movie with Ray Chilton on weekends. We also conscripted a bunch of scribes from Harman as extras to be in a pub scene that was shot in Queanbeyan. I paid off from the Navy on March 17, 1988.

### Small, Kerry Thomas



Ex CPOWTR. R59339. DOB 17/10/1944. Joined 24th August 1962. Some of his shore postings were Cerberus, Penguin, Creswell, Albatross. His sea postings were Sydney 10/10/1964-28/3/1965. Yarra 29/3/1965-7/4/1966. Melbourne 21/4/1969 - ? LS 11/11/1966.

Kerry and wife Cynthia, (ex WRSTD) have their lovely house at Castle Hill and also have a property at Grose Wold (near North Richmond NSW) where they breed exotic animals. He is very relaxed and pleased with his life and with his lot as a 'country

squire'.

### Smith, Anthony John

Passed away 19th April 2012. Born 3/11/1930. R41707. He had previous RN service from 13/5/1948 to 30/11/1955 and then spent time as a Police Officer (London Bobbie) prior to emigrating to Australia. Joined the RAN 1st August 1958, promoted LS 8/5/1959, PO 14/8/1959 and CPO 10/1/1964. Shore establishments as a Writer Cerberus, Penguin, Melville, Kuttabul, Albatross. He served Vendetta 1962 - 1963.

He was promoted SBLT 3rd February 1964. During his officer career postings of note were SO Platypus/Nirimba and Stalwart. A final posting at Navy Office

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

overseeing Non Public Funds which included the management of the RANRTF and RANCCB. He retired as a Commander.

### Smith, Ashley



In 1991 ORDWTR Ashley Smith, was the the Navy's 1st heart transplant. In May 1991 his situation was grim but several weeks later a suitable donor was found and Ashley had the transplant.

In September 1991 Ashley was the guest of honour at a mess function in the Senior Sailors Mess Penguin.

No further information on what happened to Ashley.

### Smith, Derek Arthur



Derek joined the RAN in May, 1953 from the RN. His parents were 10 pound migrants and, being still under age 21, he was accepted for transfer. Joined HMAS SYDNEY II in Portsmouth during her Coronation Cruise and stayed on board for a 10 month Korean deployment to August, 1954. Mentors included CPOWtr John Sherwood and POWtr Jack Cummins. Posted to Captain's Office, HMAS Watson as Wtr and L.Wtr to Jan,1957 thence HMAS Anzac (Battle Class) to Aug.1958. (Cmdr JP Stevenson in command, SO Ken Schmack, Indon. Konfrontasi, Malaya). Various postings in Sydney area to July,1960. Thence HMAS Voyager as PO Wtr(SO-

Bertie Worrall), Malaysia, FES Strategic Reserve) and HMAS Swan (WWII Sloop, Midn Training Ship) to Sep 1962. HMAS Penguin & Albatross Pay and Cash offices until promoted ASLT SDSU Jan 1965. Thence from SO-Pay and SO Cash at Cerberus to various postings including HMAS Sydney (again) as Capt.Sec and later DSO, under SO Capt Ian Crawford. Later HMAS Anzac(again) as SO. Time in Anzac included Christchurch Commonwealth Games in 1974. Paid Anzac off as her last SO and Senior Officer. Final signal ended "United we Stood". Career Highlights: Promotion to Officer in 1965, Peter Mitchell Prizewinner 1972, Transfer at LCdr level from SD List to General List, Staff Officer to Chiefs of Naval Materiel Radms GJ Willis, PH Doyle and David Martin in Navy Office, 2 years on exchange with the RN (as a Cmdr) in Ship Design of DFSR. All the good mates served with, both non-commissioned and commissioned., including special mates Frank Shugg (my best man) and Graham Smith. Retired from RAN in 1983 from posting as Manager Materiel, Garden Island Dockyard. Now living as a fully retired person at the Sunshine Coast in Queensland.

#### The Story

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

"Stop both engines". The Captain's quiet command rang out across the darkened bridge "Stop both engines" The Officer of the Watch repeated into the wheelhouse voicepipe.

"Stop both engines" Repeated the Chief Coxswain, some three decks below in the tiny wheelhouse. At the same time, the Telegraph repeater handles were swung right round, back again, and back to the RED stop position. A bell clanged as the repeater was acknowledged from the engineroom far below in the bowels of the Ship.

"Both Engines Stopped Sir" reported the Chief Coxswain

"Full Astern both engines" "Three short blasts" Again the calm, measured tones of Captain George Carmichael Oldham sounded, to be repeated again down the chain. A few moments later, the whole ship started to pulsate and vibrate as the mighty bronze propellers, metres under the stern of the ship obeyed the irresistible urging of the steam turbines, to thrash the water into foam trying to stop the momentum of this 23,000 ton Light Fleet Aircraft Carrier.

Further engine and helm orders were to follow

Carrying a full complement of propeller driven Sea Fury and Firefly aircraft, thousands of gallons of highly flammable Avgas to drive them, magazines full of Bombs and Bullets, and a full complement of over 1000 men, HMAS Sydney(II) was, herself, a floating bomb

suddenly threatened with catastrophic collision from an unknown vessel in the twisting, tortuous confines of the Shimonoseki Strait, as she moved between the two main Japanese Islands of Honshu and Kyushu, on her way to another patrol off the West coast of Korea towards the end of what was to become known as "The forgotten war". The strait was supposed to be clear for "Sydney" to night transit, but somehow, 3 separate US LSTs, moving at eight knots with a three knot (and increasing) tidal stream from west to east, had slipped into the strait under cover of darkness. Narrowly missing the by now stopped Aircraft Carrier, and passing close down her Starboard side, a bellow from the darkened bridge of the first LST demanded to know "Why don't you get out of the f g way". Over the next two hours, the same drama played out twice more with disaster narrowly averted.

Of course, none of the events being played out on the Bridge was. at the time, known to Probationary Writer Derek Smith, a young lad of eighteen, swinging in his Hammock and trying to get to sleep in the Supply and Secretariat mess below the main hangar deck. That knowledge would come later as, obeying the instructions of the Captain's Secretary (Lieutenant `Shakes' Walker, RAN). he typed 6 perfect copies of the Captain's report of the incident which, after the Captain's signature was to be despatched to CTG 95.1, CinC, FES and FOCAF back in Sydney, to arrive some weeks later. There was, of course no electronic mail in those days.

Only a relative newcomer to the Royal Australian Navy, Derek had joined HMAS SYDNEY almost 12 months previously in Portsmouth, England, where the ship,



## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

having transported the Coronation Contingent to the United Kingdom, was to represent Australia in the Spithead Naval Review and to witness the young Queen Elizabeth II and her equally young husband (Prince Phillip) as they sailed down the unending lines of some 213 ships flying the White Ensign, 16 foreign warships, numerous fleet auxiliaries, merchant vessels, tall ships, yachts and pleasure craft of all kinds anchored off Spithead, to the cheers of sailors lining their upper decks.

After a childhood spent in the rural countryside of the Cotswolds and later in York, England, during which he had found an interest in the Sea Cadet Corps, rising to the rank of Petty Officer Cadet, Derek had attempted to gain entry as a Midshipman to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth. In those days however, weak eyesight was a bar to entry as an Officer and he had to settle for entry as a rating; in his case, again due to weak eyesight, a Writer. This was still only seven years after the end of WWII and the RN (and the RAN too) were very different organizations to the present services.

After initial courses at Portsmouth (HMS Victory) and a specialist course at HMS Ceres at Wetherby, Yorkshire (within a bicycle ride of York), he was posted to the Navy's Mobilization Office in Portsmouth, where a small team of writers maintained a card system record of de-mobilized RN S&S personnel, in case the Korean war situation got worse.

Father meanwhile, who had some years previously expressed an interest in emigration to South Africa and/or Australia, had been approached by Australia House with a firm offer of a job as Head Gardener at Yarralumla, the Governor General's Residence in Canberra. A government rented house went with the job which, basically, was to 'fix up' the gardens in time for the new Queen's tour of Australia in 1954. Since they would thus escape the pleasures of the immigrant camp at Villawood, or East Hills, this came under the heading of an offer too good to refuse and, late in 1952, leaving their only daughter (married with one child) in York, and their eldest son in the Royal Navy, they found themselves embarked in SS New Australia, as "Ten Pound Migrants" on their way to the Great (unknown) South Land.

Being still under the age of eighteen, Derek was eligible, under the terms of an Admiralty Fleet Order, to apply for transfer from the Royal Navy to the Royal Australian Navy. Provided, of course that the RAN wanted him. Since he had been trained in the noble art of being a Writer and fortuitously, there being an RAN ship in the area, the RAN would save the cost of a full kit of clothing, initial recruit training and specialist course training. Also, with a RAN Ship fortuitously in the area, they would also save the cost of a passenger ship fare from England to Australia. So, the RAN decided not to look a gift horse in the mouth and the answer was Yes. So in May, 1953, KitBag over one shoulder, hammock over the other and excited hopes in his back pocket, young Derek found himself saluting the quarterdeck of HMAS Sydney as he joined his new ship, his new Navy, his new country and his new life.

There were some downs to this part of the story. Having spent my teens in Yorkshire, the accent was a bit strong, the attitude was a bit 'superior' and the system inculcated was a bit different. However shipmates in HMAS Sydney were

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

excellent and soon put young Derek in the picture. SA(N) Wally Scholz, in particular was invaluable as an extremely patient attitude advisor and other messmates soon knocked the sharp edges off. "When in Rome - do as the Romans do" was excellent advice and the accent soon became less noticeable, to eventually disappear altogether. Others, some of whose names have now unfortunately disappeared into the mists of time were also invaluable. However, L/Wtr Kevin Henry Simpson, Chief Writer John Sherwood and PO Wtr Jack Cummins come to mind in particular from the 'Sydney' days. John Sherwood sticks in the mind particularly as the one who told me, when I was about to sit an exam for Leading Writer - "Leading Writer? You? You'll never be a Leading Writer as long as your arse points to the ground". I remembered those words at each subsequent promotion, including elevation to Commander some twenty two years later in 1974. Kevin Simpson was later to become CEO of NHBS after leaving the Navy many years later.

Following the Coronation Cruise when, like Jules Verne, the ship travelled some 30,000 miles (48,000km) in 90 days, there was time for some leave in the country town that was Canberra in those days, before re-joining HMAS Sydney for her last deployment to the Korean conflict between October 1953 and August, 1954. Based in Kure for the majority of her ten months away from Australia, HMAS Sydney would re-fuel and re-arm before cruising through the Inland Sea of Japan to transit the Shimonoseki before taking up station off the Korean west coast. The weather was mainly cold and seas rough, but what did we care; We all received half a tin of sardines per day per man to ward off the cold and Writers were warm and cozy in their offices far below.

Finally, it was time to leave my first RAN Ship to go to the Radar and Navigation school (as it was then) at HMAS Watson on the beautiful South Head, Sydney. Watson then was a collection of WWII huts on the headland. The TAS School and permanent buildings one sees today were not there in 1954. The Captain's office was a larger hut than the rest, but still a hut. Captain Timothy Monckton Synnot, (brother of the later CNS and CDFS Vice Admiral Anthony Monckton Synnot), was quite a character but, like many 'characters' good to work for. The HMAS Watson chapel was, at that time, still a tin hut but Chaplain Trainer was even then talking of the perfect spot to build a memorial chapel. While at Watson, in the first repudiation of Jack Sherwood's prophecy, I was promoted to L/Wtr.

In January, 1957, after 2.5 happy years at Watson, I was posted to my first stint in HMAS Anzac. Battle class Destroyer undergoing refit in Williamstown. I was the L/Wtr in the Captain's Office, part of a structure of offices behind the single 'stack' with a couple of twin STAAG Bofors on the roof. with PO Wtr Ken Purdie and Wtr Ron Dalgleish behind the filing cabinets as the pay office. It is of little wonder that my hearing is now so poor. When those Bofors went off, the noise and vibration were unbelievable, to say nothing of the shower of asbestos lagging and dust in the air. But that was well after the Williamstown refit was finished and we became a true Warship. Captain was Cmdr John Phillip Stevenson, XO was Leut R G Loosli and SO Leut Ken Schmack. My particular 'oppo' was LSBA Harry Wood. Whatever became of him?. What a happy ship she was. We deployed to the Far East Strategic Reserve, for the usual six to eight months. Those were the days of Indonesian "Konfrontasi"; and transits of the Sunda straits were a bit fraught. Malaya was in the

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

throes of becoming Malaysia, and we were there for 'Merdeka'. We visited the Philippines, North Borneo, (Sandakan) and of course Singapore while HMS Terror was still going. In other incidents, we survived a 6 week self maintenance period in the bottom of the dry dock at HMS Tamar, in Wanchai, Hong Kong when a Typhoon swept over the island. (It is quite disturbing to see green water coming over the Caisson at the end of the dock while the ship is sitting on the dock bottom with a great hole in her bottom).

In those days too, Stonecutters Island in Hong Kong harbour off Kowloon contained the RN Rifle Range and we camped there for several days while the whole Ship's Company requalified on .303 rifle firing. One could also borrow 14 foot sailing dinghies from HMS Tamar and around Stonecutters was a favourite dinghy sailing course. Now, the island is buried under the Hong Kong international airport. Hong Kong was our favourite port. 'Phil' Stevenson always managed to bring the ship alongside at the far end of the Destroyer Basin in HMS Tamar with no tugs and no fuss. When, one day I plucked up the courage to ask how he did it, his reply was that he had 80,000 hp down below and he used every one. We also had many a good 'Banyan' at Pulau Tioman island off Malaysia which, I believe is now a high priced tourist destination. To venture off the beach into the jungle then was to come back covered in leeches and other nasties.

During more local exercises we "accidentally" put a 4.5 inch round through one of sister ship Tobruk's gunbays, fired a live 21 inch torpedo at White Topped Rocks, over in WA waters, only to have the torpedo gyro topple and the weapon double back to explode on the rocky bottom directly under the ship. One of the Officers (I think it was 'Dolly' Gray had a sore head for a while caused when the scuttle deadlight through which he was goofing, dislodged and banged his head.

My time in (battle class) HMAS ANZAC was an eventful and satisfying posting in a happy ship with a great Captain in Commander J.P. Stevenson, RAN and a good S & S team. After all, we did win the Gloucester Cup for 1957 (best all round performance in the RAN). In January, 1958, ANZAC was getting tired and a long period in dockyard hands was scheduled. There was little work which could be foreseen for a full Ship's Company so the ship, although not de-commissioned, was "de-crewed" and I was posted to the 'leader', (sister ship) HMAS TOBRUK for six months, until DSP could get its act together. The ship was alongside for most of the time and Captain (Richard Innes Peek) and his crew were quite different to ANZAC.

August, 1958 saw me posted to HMAS KUTTABUL (FOICEA). For the modern sailor this means Flag Officer in Charge, East Australia Area. For me it meant a fairly dull life in the Garden Island Central Registry. The only lights in the tunnel were provided by my mates in the job, 'Googa' Gent and Joe Bice. Making up files, cataloguing and distributing was pretty boring work after my trip 'up top' in ANZAC. However, we did have great fun at the expense of the civvies who thought they were in charge of the Registry.

Promotion to Petty Officer Writer (and thoughts again of John Sherwood and his gibes) came in May, 1959 after six years in the Andrew and at the end of July, 1959 I went to my next shore job in the Pay Office at HMAS Penguin. In those days Penguin was a great place to be, especially the social aspects of the Petty Officers'

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

Mess and the close proximity to the bright lights of Sydney. Then came the more serious side of being a senior sailor, when I undertook the Petty Officer Staff Course in HMAS Cerberus. The reader must remember that, being a re-tread from the RN, I had never been to Cerberus before and here I was seeing Cerberus for the first time as a Petty Officer Writer. I can't remember who it was, but someone once told me that when he woke as a recruit at Cerberus on his second day in, he looked out of the window of his recruit block at daylight to a vista of hoare frost on the playing fields, knowing he was about to have to go out there to do PT. His first thought on that day was "I've made a terrible mistake".

After several subsequent postings to CERBERUS, I have always been able to completely understand that thought.

In July of that year (1960), another draft to sea. This time to HMAS VOYAGER (left) (Daring class), Captain D.C.Wells, RAN in command and Lieutenant Commander SDSU(S) Bill (Bertie) Worrall as Supply Officer. I found Voyager to be an exciting ship. Fast, sleek, every bit a greyhound of the seas. We were deployed to the Far East Strategic Reserve during Indonesian Konfrontasi and visited Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand where the Senior Sailors were entertained at his private residence by the (then) Military & Naval Attache (Captain J.P. Stevenson). (See Part1-HMAS ANZAC). I often reflect and wonder in our more modern Navy whether that sort of entertainment would now be contemplated. Of course it wasn't all play, although the Navy of those days did seem to get to 'play' more than I believe they do today. There seemed to be more opportunity for fun then, and we did have fun. The P.O's Mess organized and went for runs ashore together on more than one occasion. Seamen, Chippies, Engineers, `Leckies, Writer and Stores (N) & (V) all played together as well as worked together.

Unusual for the times was a visit to India. Before returning to Australia in mid 1961, we travelled up through the Straits of Malacca between Sumatra and Malaysia to reach the Indian Ocean. Anyone who has transited the Straits will know that it is a very busy international waterway. Heading north again, we entered the Bay of Bengal and then sedately proceeded 150 km up the Hooghly river to anchor in the stream off the great city of Calcutta, sprawling on the west bank of the river. The Hooghly, an arm of the mighty Ganges looked to us a little like a much larger version of the Yarra in that it was very brown and turgid. But, unlike the Yarra it also served as a laundry, a bathroom for millions of lower caste Indians and, on several occasions during our 4 day stay, bodies were seen floating gently past the ship. My impressions, retained over the years are that Calcutta was hot, smelly and extremely crowded, with bicycles and rickshaw style taxis everywhere and cattle roaming the streets. I'm not sure about now, but then cows were sacred to the Hindu religion and could not be cleared out of the city.

After our stay and following a transit back down the river, we headed for the central east coast and a destination no-one had ever heard of - Vishakhapatnam. VOYAGER was the first Australian warship ever to visit Vishak and we went simply to replenish and refuel. Its only claim to fame is that it was - and is - the home base of a large proportion of the Indian Navy fleet. Apart from that it is a pretty bare place. In the early 1960s, the Naval Base had just started construction and, although

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

some Indian Navy Ships were there it, in company with the town beyond, had not progressed far. Security was very tight as the Indians were purchasing mainly Russian ships, changing direction from the days immediately after the Raj when their fleet comprised mainly ex Royal Navy Ships.

We returned to Australia in mid 1961 and in September, I went to the old sloop SWAN. A grand old ship but with many idiosyncracies. Slow and not particularly comfortable, but then she had been bombed by the Japanese in Darwin in WWII. In 1961 she was the Midshipman Training Ship and we spent that summer visiting Adelaide, then Tasmania for the Hobart Regatta, and the winter cruising the Barrier Reef.

One of the old ship's problems was that the astern turbine was stuffed and the Engineer could only manage 2 to 3 minutes going astern before he must take steam off the blades. I never did find out why.

However, when manoeuvring in the Torrens, things got a bit tricky from time to time. But, in their own way we had great times. My time in SWAN was particularly memorable in that while on board, it was the only occasion I ever stated a complaint against an Officer. The cause should not be discussed here, but the personal, but official, complaint to the Captain was against the First Lieutenant, Lieutenant Commander (Later Admiral) Michael William Hudson. The Captain, Commander Peter J. Hutson RAN found in my favour and I received an apology from the XO. Typical of Mike Hudson, he bore no later grudge against me for having the temerity to bring him to task.

Twelve months after joining SWAN, having completed just over two years seetime, I went back to HMAS PENGUIN, this time as Assistant Secretary and in charge of the Registry and Service Records. Captain John Dowson was in command and I recall my time in PENGUIN as a very relaxed depot in a beautiful spot on the harbour. The names of my Writer colleagues escape me now, with the exception of Leading Writer/Petty Officer Writer 'Salty' Eckel, who seemed to spend more time playing, coaching and writing about sport than normal Writer's work. But a great friend and character nonetheless. Vale Salty.

Towards the end of my time in PENGUIN, came that terrible night in February, 1964 when my old ship the beautiful VOYAGER, inexplicably impaled herself across the bows of HMAS MELBOURNE with such tragic results. With many others, I was called to help out in Fleet Headquarters, manning phones and doing whatever was necessary. Those days were not made any easier knowing that several people that I had known were still in VOYAGER and were subsequently listed as casualties. Chief Coxswain 'Buck' Rogers, who would have been calling Tombola in the forward cafeteria, being one of them.

Having avoided the delights of southern NSW so far in my career, that all came to an end in April, 1964 with a posting (draft) to HMAS ALBATROSS. Of course, we still had a Fleet Air Arm then, so the station under the command of Captain (later Rear Admiral) 'Black Jack' Mesley, was busy and so were we in the Accounts Office. Four years earlier, I had attempted the CW exams for promotion to Officer.

My record and recommendations since then had been complimentary enough to persuade the Naval Board that I deserved a chance. So, in January, 1965, in

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

company with POSN (Petty Officer Stores Naval) Jack Petrie, we found ourselves posted, without even the benefit of a "Knife, Fork and Spoon" course, to HMAS CERBERUS as Acting Supply Sub Lieutenants.

### Smith, Frederick Stanley

Passed away 2011. P/N 30150. Joined the RAN 1st October 1946 and posted Cerberus for training. On 27th November he was posted to Kuttabul and Penguin 30 September 1948 for discharge 5th October 1948.

### Smith, H A

Passed away 2010.

### Smith, Joanne (Jo) (nee Hancock)

Ex WRWTR. Served at Cerberus, Penguin and as a Reservist at DNR Pers and RTEO Navy Office, Canberra.

### Smith, Kate (nee Triffitt)

Served from 1983 to 1994 at Harman (Navy office), Stirling and Platypus.

### Smith, Keith



S7644. Joined 30th November 1942 and paid off 3rd February 1947. Served in New Guinea and in HMAS Manoora from August 1945 to 1947. I was the Writer to Captain J. M. Armstrong when we had our headquarters in a planter's house among the coconut plantations at Milne Bay in 1943. (Captain Armstrong later took over the 'Aussie' (Australia) when Captain Dechineux lost his life in the Philippines.) I remember typing out his message to the Naval Board, "We want a Headquarters ship." HMAS Ping Wo was drafted to New Guinea and it became the headquarters of the NOIC New Guinea.

When it arrived in about July 1944, three other Writers and I were drafted to it. (As at 2006, one still attends the Chinese ships reunions and the other two have passed on.)

On the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Japanese midget submarine raid in Sydney Harbour on 30th May 1942, I attended the service and was reminded of the sad event. From 16/4/1943 until 1/9/1943 I was in HMAS Penguin and worked in the Captains Office alongside a Royal Navy Petty Officer Writer T. E. McCalley, PMx55451. Often he told me his story. He was serving on either the RN battleship Prince of Wales or Repluse when they were both sunk off Singapore in December 1942. He was saved and taken to Colombo and the ship he was taken on, HMS Cornwall, was also sunk

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

by Japanese planes. Apparently another ship brought him and his mates to Sydney. On the 30th May, he told me he was sleeping on the upper deck of the Kuttabul while his English mates were on the lower deck. The Japanese torpedo struck the wall of Garden Island adjacent to the Kuttabul and the blast propelled him through the open doors of the ferry into the sea. His mates below were killed (AB Frank Kirby of HMS Cornwall and ORDSMN David Trist of HMS Repulse). He often told me, he thought he was dreaming. Of all places to be sunk a third time, in Sydney Harbour, was beyond him and he went to put his head back on the pillow. He was saved somehow. I used to say to him “why don’t you put in for a draft back to the old dart”, but he would not reply. A few years back, I heard from Writer J. Swales (RIP), that he had a girl friend in Sydney. For the past ten years I tried to find out what happened to him, without result.

I was drafted to New Guinea in September 1943 and lost all contact.

I was in HMAS Cerberus just before VP Day, as the war was coming to an end. The ship's company had all just retired to our hammocks when a call came over the loudspeaker. “The war is over.” We soon got out of our hammocks and assembled in front of the “Blocks,” still in shock. A call went up, “We want the Wets! We want the Wets!” (for the wet canteen to be reopened in order to celebrate.)

About 500 veteran sailors ambled to the Officers' Wardroom shouting, “We want the Wets!” The duty officer appeared and addressed them. “Lads, we have no official word that the war is over, but when we hear, we’ll open the Wets for you.” So we ambled back to our hammocks. The war was over two days later. My mate and I were supposed to remain on duty that weekend but we agreed there was no use in staying. So off we went to Melbourne, being picked up on the road by a truck. My mate met his girl at Frankston while I arrived in Melbourne after midnight, Friday, August 15th, when the celebrations were coming to an end.



## Smith, Kenneth Leslie



P/N 125442. I remember visiting the Melbourne Recruiting Office in 1978 as a 15 year old, and speaking with POWTR Crossley about joining the Navy. He asked me what sort of job I wanted, to which I replied, “well . . . your job would be good”. He wrote ‘Writer’ on my application form. Well, 22 years of service and I never actually made it to a Recruiting Office despite ticking that box on my PE42 on every occasion.

I am a Whelan-trained Writer, along with the famous Rod St. George, Wayne Riordan, fellow JRs Dale Wiese, Damien Roberts, and others. We were released to practise our Writer wizardry in March 1980 I think it was, and my first posting was DSP. I worked for Sue Finch and Norm Leaney in the Communicators Cell (section 6). It was a good first posting for me – I learned a lot. Poor old Norm though, Sue and I both smoked and Norm was such a health fanatic. He really didn’t like the smoke filled cubicle (it was a rather small office), but it was fairly common in those days. There were quite a few good scribes there in

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

1980 – in no particular order – the living legend Pat McGeown of course, Mick Devenish, Terry Wigney, Casper Healey, Kevin Radnidge, Graeme Campbell, Amanda Parkinson (what a hunny), and many others of course. Pat McGeown asked me where I wanted to be posted to after DSP – I asked for LONSDALE, and blow me down if I didn't find myself at LONSDALE. Young SMNWTR Smith posted to relieve the then LSWTR Steve Salmon in the Pay Office. Great job – great team. Col Bray, Andy Thomas, Rus Houston, Mick Boyd, and Kipper Houghton (he was in town somewhere - RTF?) I wasn't there very long, but long enough to become reasonably proficient in the newly introduced Interim Navy Pay System (INPS).

So when I joined SWAN in April 1981, JJ Nash put me in the Pay seat. Pete Johnston was my LSWTR and Steve Flockton was the other AB. Later, Steve left and Bill Tannock joined us. Did some great trips in SWAN – had a ball – all before my 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. Actually, one of the funniest things to have happened to me was in 1982 while in Hawaii. Along with JJ Nash, and Jonno (I think Bill Tannock may have been there too), I was caught climbing the fence between Pearl Naval Base and Hickham Airforce Base. You see to go from one to the other is a rather long taxi ride, but if you just climb the fence, they're real close. Well, we had been shopping at the Hickham PX and then got caught literally 'mid-fence'. The MPs confiscated our ID cards and drove us back to our ship (saved a taxi fare I guess). The next day, our ID Cards were given to the QM in an envelope addressed 'Commanding Officer HMAS SWAN', and promptly delivered by the Bosuns Mate to the Ship's Office. Inside the envelope was a letter explaining how we had been bad boys, and our ID Cards. Of course JJ just opened up the envelope, read the letter, threw it in the bin and dealt out the ID cards. "It's nice being the Secretary" he said, and of course this had nothing to do with the Captain.

After SWAN, I headed north to COONAWARRA, where I met up again with Kipper (once again, he was in town somewhere – Naval Headquarters?) I worked for Rocky Rochford in Pay and Accounts, and I recall the first day in the office. I was looking out of the Pay Office windows admiring the gardens and just taking in my new surrounds. Referring to the tropically clad gardeners, with their casual attire and wide brim straw hats, I casually commented, "That's the life hey". Rocky, as quick as a flash, responded, "Well, we will see how you shape up – you might join them yet". Well, I didn't so I guess I met Rocky's standard. Also in Darwin I met and had some pretty good times with Rudi Suckow, Radar (Dave) Ryan, Ned Sparkes, Andy Beales, Daryl Branford, Steve Manley, Danny Colgan, Swampy (Shane) Marsh, Kathy Leonard and others. I was promoted to LS while at CONAWARRA and I also attended and passed an officer selection board. I left Darwin in August 1984 bound for life as a Midshipman at the Naval College. A couple of other fellow scribes were at the College also – Ken Gardiner, and Angie Klumpp. Angie and I were of about the same seniority, so with our Non Reduction Allowance, we were equal second highest paid MIDs at the College, and we used to make sure they all knew it ...haha

My career as an officer added another 16 years to my 6 years as a Writer. Obviously as a Supply Officer I came across many more Writers who looked after me as I progressed my career. How can I ever forget Wally Bowring? My Writer onboard FLINDERS – nearly lost Wally!! He was dripping wet in his overalls, been treading

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

water for about 8 hours. It had just gone sunset, and Wally says to me "I heard you have some typing for me to do Sir". What does one say to that? I just said "It's OK Wally, I'll do it, you can have the rest of the night off". Angie Hillis, and Wayne Swadling while I was at MORETON, Mark Worrall at DNSC helped me a lot, John Cadman at MNLS, Dawn Kearn and Petra Fry at DSUP-N, Tony Palmer and Brad Golder were absolute professionals while onboard HOBART, and were a pleasure to work with. All of these people assisted me and were very supportive. I also came across many ex Writers like Les Roberts, Paddy O'Brien, Dave Speight, Brian Eagles, Phil Griffiths, Paul Breen, Kev Drinkwater, Ted Brown, Ian Kelly, Ken Wanklyn, and Kel Turner, who had either retired from the Navy or transferred to officer. Many of them also assisted me in one way or another. I officially retired in 2001 as a LCDR GLSU Q+, although I actually walked out the door in 1999. My final posting was as Supply Officer HMAS HOBART, and my retirement present was the Supply Department winning, not only the coveted Silver Platter Award for culinary excellence, but also the Supply Excellence Award, for overall Supply proficiency. I believe it was the very first time in history, that a ship had received both awards in the same year. It was a nice way to leave the Service.

### Smith, Lewis 'Lew



R94121. Joined in July 1963 at Leeuwin. Saw service in Sydney in 1964 as an ORDWTR, Moresby in 1967 as an ABWTR, Brisbane in 1970 as a LSWTR, Stalwart in 1971 as a LSWTR, Vampire in 1979 as a POWTR and in Vendetta in 1979 as a CPOWTR. I was also part of her decommissioning crew. Like many other Victorians, I saw most of my shore service in Cerberus and Lonsdale. (At Cerberus in particular, on the volley

ball court at lunch times, I was affectionately known as "Leaping Lew Smith"). In 1980, after Vendetta, I was posted to Harman (NO) in S&S Postings. I was posted to Recruiting in Melbourne in 1982 and paid off as a CPOWTR in 1983 after 20 years service. I continued in the Navy Reserve as an Active and Inactive member until I was retired in 2005.

### Smith, Margaret (Nee Fulston)



Joined 11/1/1945. WR 2493. Served at Lonsdale. Discharged 20th July 1946.

## Smith, Ross Charles Eastlake

R28697. Joined 6th December 1945 and discharged 5th December 1955. His shore postings were Cerberus, Kuttabul, Penguin, Melville and Albatross. His sea service was Manoora 10/46 to 3/47, Sydney 12/55 to 1/57 as PO and also 3/57 to 11/57.

## Smith, William Douglas Alison 'Doug'

Passed away 01/07/2001. Joined 16th January, 1980. O/N 6347. Service on Tingira as Boy 2, Boy 1. As AB joined Geranium 1922, Melbourne 1923, Sydney 1926, Canberra 1929 – 30. Promotion LS 1924, PO 1926, CPO 1930. Discharged Free.

## Smyth, Arthur William 'Bill'



Passed away 9/11/2002 at the age of 49 years. Ex WTR. Joined the Navy as a Junior Recruit at Leeuwin at the age of 16 in 1969. During his service, he served in HMAS Sydney, Queenborough, Cerberus, Watson and Anzac, prior to posting to PBF Cairns. He joined Waterhen in January, 1974, then transferred to Ibis, before his discharge from the Navy in August, 1975.

## Smythe, Stephen Arthur

Passed away 20/11/1992. R62698. Joined 24/11/1963 for 9 years. Sea service Vendetta 1964-1964, Supply 1966 - /1968. Albatross, Kuttabul, Nirimba, Penguin. Discharged PUNS 30/1/1968.

## Snape, Cecil Raymond

Passed away 7th October 2011. S5653. Joined 19th June 1941 and was demobbed 12th March 1946. Served at Rushcutter, Penguin and Platypus.

## Snowdon, Barbara (nee Lyon)



Joined in September 1960 and served to September 1964. Her first posting was Cerberus for about 14 months, working in the Captain's Office (Service Certificates) with Chief Writer Ian McConnochie and Leading Writer 'Jerry' Lewis. She was then drafted to Navy Office, Canberra and was the Director of WRANS Writer (Chief Officer Joan Streeter was Director). After about 18 months, she was drafted to Recruiting at Moreton, where she was the only uniformed female. She was discharged

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

DEE as an Acting Petty Officer and then married a few days later.

### Sorensen, Carl J

I joined up in May 1964, training in Rankin Division at Recruit School, before leaving Cerberus and joining Sydney in July, whilst she was still in dry-dock. A few months later, we went to sea and I remember there were quite a lot of sailors that were sea sick.

I ended up in 2A Mess, where the ship's anchor cable went through. (What an unbearable noise that was when we dropped anchor). I was originally an Ordinary Seaman (Cook) and started work in the Officers' Galley, however I requested to change category to Writer and as that was granted, I had to stay extra time, starting work in the Pay Office. All of my original intake had posted back to Cerberus to learn their various trades. My Chief Writer in Sydney at the time was Jack Medaris. (He ended up living in the same suburb as me and he only passed away in about 1999). On board also were Ian Benfield and Charlie Sugden, who I met again at Kuttabul as a LSWTR after our first trip to Vietnam. (I ran into him again in 1987 at the Welcome Home Parade in Sydney, only by then he was a 'two ringer'). Altogether, I spent 15 months in Sydney, then went back to Cerberus to do my Writers course. 'Blackie' and Robin Dix were there and it was Robin who used to give me a lift each night to Nunawading on his 'Bucatti' and then I hitch-hiked back each morning.



I was posted to Kuttabul after my Writers course and was stationed at the 'old Kuttabul', a lovely old building, with CMDR Peachy as the CO. At the time, the CO's office was just a large room. The current Kuttabul was still being built. We were billeted over at Penguin, so it was bus trips to and from each base. Penguin was a great place. A couple of us, on returning back on board, ended up often raiding the galley. We almost got caught going out through the window a couple of times. (It's amazing what one would get up to with a belly-full of beer). I remember moving over to Kuttabul on its completion; fantastic meals and all new furniture. In the Captain's Office, I worked with LWTR 'Macca', a great guy, and also 'Bomber' Brown. In the Pay Office, were CPOWTR Markham, Johnny Halpin, 'Bungy' Williams, Terry Standen and a few others whose names escape me.

Not long after moving into this brand new establishment, CPOWTR Frank Shugg joined as the Captain's Secretary and a short time later, became SBLT Shugg. Frank was a great chap, always happy and full of jokes. We also had a civilian typist, called Margot I think. (I remember she always had her hair in ringlets, and was engaged so long (some 15 years) that her fiancé ended up dying). She was a lovely person, and loved to frequent the famous night spot, 'Surf City', up at the Cross.

I was then posted to Kuttabul (FOICEA), the Admiral's office just down on the bend opposite the Wardroom; a very old building with all the big brass. This was a very nice place to work. Being at the Admiral's Office I had to travel to many other bases to check all the S.C.s. A lot of the drivers and writers would go up to the Chevron

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

Hotel every lunchtime for a liquid lunch. (I don't know how I didn't ever get into trouble, as not being a big drinker, I was always tired and nearly asleep every afternoon.) I spent 16 months at Kuttabul. I guess that was my best posting and I thoroughly enjoyed each day.

Another fellow there who came up through the ranks was 'Tug' Wilson; a real down-to-earth guy who also loved a beer. Ian Lee-Conway was also there as a subbie. (I noted when I was down at Cerberus many years later, that he was on an 'honor board' as a Commander).

After four and a half years, my mother became seriously ill, so I applied for three months LWOP. As I was an only child and had no father, I ended up being granted a 'Compassionate' discharge so I could look after her. My navy years were a great start to my life and it doesn't feel that it was so long ago. I joined with Terry Gavan and he was my best mate for all the time I spent in the Navy. (He used to take care of me, being a cheap drunk.) He now lives over in South Australia.

I was employed in the Textile Industry and worked night shift so-as to be able to transport my mother to the hospital each day. I married in 1970 and have two sons, one in the Dairy industry as National Manager for Dairy Farmers, and my youngest has been in the Navy for 11 years. He is a Lieutenant (Aerospace Engineer) at Albatross and in 2007 was posted from Albatross to RAAF Base Laverton, to re write some manuals for the RAAF and RAN.

I retired at the end of July, 2007, as I turned 60 the previous January. At that time, I had been married for 37 years. My wife had had some very serious illness over the previous ten years, including cancer and a heart attack. We have two beautiful grandchildren a grandson, Will, and a granddaughter, Sienna. I am a 'Justice of the Peace', also Life member of the RSL, Secretary of the Boronia RSL (for the past 11 years) and Treasurer of the HMAS Sydney VLSVA.

I joined the RAN just after Marty Grogan, all those years back, and still appreciate his friendship after 43 years. (But really, who doesn't know WO Marty Grogan OAM?)

## Sparkes, Ned



Ex WOWTR and LEUT. Ned joined the Navy in October, 1975, as a JR; not to get a job, but to do a job. He undertook the Writers Course 8/76, and his first posting was to Navy Office, DSP, in 1977. After 23 years in the PNF, he had the time of his life, including getting married and having three lovely children, Krystie, Nigel and Whitney. Unfortunately, he spent most of his time playing soccer and not enough being a Writer. Along the way, he has worked for such astute bosses as 'Rocky' Rochford and Jeannie Roberts.

Ned achieved the dizzy heights of WOWTR, and whilst working at DSCM (Postings), elected to take a redundancy in 1998. The next nine years were spent

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

working in Defence as a public servant, at RMC, ADFA and HMAS Harman. He continued to do Navy Reserve time along the way. In 2006, he spent Reserve days at Creswell, being a Divisional Senior Sailor for NEOCs. Batteries recharged, and mind freshly stimulated from his time at Creswell, he then decided to apply for a commission and re-enter the PNF. Now, many years later in 2007, he finds himself in his current posting at PB HQ as Staff Officer Safety & Certification.

### Speight, David 'Dave'



Joined the RAN as a General Entry sailor in 1976 and then trained as a Scribe in early 1977. My first posting was to HMAS Waterhen where I spent two years, spread across Registry, Personnel, Pay and Accounts (and advanced training in the art of drinking, led by 'Fred' Bassett, Rick Bray, Ray Sexton and Pat Scully). Next, I went to sea in Perth and after a year, swapped drafts to the carrier Melbourne in 1980 in time for the RIMPAC exercise that year.

I was posted to Creswell and worked in the Accounts Office and was then promoted to LSWTR, followed by a move to COMAUSNAVSUP as the LSWTR to the Command Supply Officer (took over from 'Bluey' Walters on his promotion to PO). The CSYOs were CMDR Reg Heffernan, CMDR Haron, LCDR Jim Smail, then CMDR Ray Bragge. Headed back to sea in Brisbane after four years at FONSC and was promoted to PO after a year I/C Ship's Office and as Captain's Sec. I was posted for a 3-year stint in Recruiting as a Field Recruiter' in Central Western NSW and was promoted to CPOWTR whilst serving there.

I joined Kuttabul as the PERSO, then proceeded to Creswell again, this time as a trainee. After a short stint in Campbell Park (DLS-N), I was posted to Cerberus for the Basic Supply Officer's course and was trained once again by good old Barrie Howe (now ex LCDR, ex POWTR).

On completion, I went to Harman as Navy Office Pay and Accounts Officer (NOPO), then went to sea again, this time in Hobart as the DSO. I spent the last few months onboard as the SO, then was posted as DSO at Penguin. I was promoted to LCDR SDSU then slid into the SO's position for a year. I resigned in 1998, and worked overseas in London and then Edinburgh as Project Manager for a Software Development Company, followed by work as a Consultant for another company. With the shortages of SU Officers, I was contacted by DNOP and asked to consider coming back. I hated the UK weather anyway and missed the RAN, so came back in late 1999 as ASEC in Maritime Headquarters.

Picture right Andy Siegman and Dave Speight during thew 1989 RIMPAC.

I resigned again, then worked part time as a Rocky for the Maritime Commander and his trusty Secretary, Brian Eagles, coordinating Commissionings and Decommissionings of HMA Ships. At the time of writing, I am working in my



## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

old job as the Pusser at Penguin (now civilianized and re-titled within the Defence Corporate Services and Infrastructure Group), mainly a contract management and general logistics role. I live in Balmain East, NSW. My career highlights were trips away in ships, social interaction within the Navy and working with dedicated professionals and absolutely top leaders such as Ray Bragge, Brian Eagles and many other good guys.

### Spender, Donald John



R66028. Served from 13/1/1967 to 12/1/1987. Initial postings were Cerberus, Melbourne (1967-1968), Penguin, Harman. Ex CPOWTR.

### Springhall, Margaret Jamieson (Nee Davis)

Passed away 2011. Margaret joined the RAN 8th December 1942 and served until 28th June 1946. Promoted LS 1st October 1943. Her main posting after entry training was at Penguin II at the Degaussing Range Recording Base.

### Springhall, Wayne



Joined the Navy as a JR in July, 1983. After nine months of basic training at Leeuwin, Fremantle, he fronted up with his fellow SMN Star Scribes to Cerberus for Writer training. Under the expert guidance of the POWTR instructor, Jeannie Brennan (Roberts), he was proud to leave Cerberus 'Jeannie' trained. After 20 years service, Wayne was discharged from the PNF on the 7/7/2003.

There were plenty of highlights during that time, but the one that stood out for him was his three year posting to Port Moresby, PNG. After his discharge, Wayne moved to the Sunshine Coast (Twin Waters) in Queensland, where he married, and his son, Benjamin, was born. After a couple of years in QLD, the family decided to head for the Northern Territory for a bit of a lifestyle change. Here they purchased a 50-acre property in Marrakai, not far from Kakadu, to dabble in the farming of redclaw crayfish. Realising that sitting around watching the redclaw was not going to make them grow any quicker, Wayne decided to seek some Reserve work at Coonawarra, where, as at 2007, he was still working two days a week at the PTAC-N Darwin organisation.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

“Navy News 6th June 1991 - In the ACT, Leading Seaman Wayne Springhall has been commended by the Commandant, Australian Defence Academy, Air Vice Marshall R J Bomball, for his outstanding professionalism and commitment to duty. During his two years at the Defence Academy, LS Springhall built his pay station into one of the most efficient and effective in the RAN. Apart from applying his skills to his job NCO I/C Navy Pay, he was also an integral member of the Academy basketball team and recently toured New Zealand with the 1991 Australian Services Team. LS Springhall was presented with his commendation by the Commandant in front of a large gathering of Academy staff of all ranks”

## Standen, Terry

Passed away Date NK. Marty Grogan remembers as stated in 2002: That dreaded trip up top on the MELBOURNE in 1981 for its paying off tour. Terry was my Chief Writer, Kim Beattie was Canteen Manager as a CPOWTR, the 2 PO'S were Trevor BARNES and John READING and 2 LSWTR'S of note were John Milton BLATCHFORD and Warwick BRAY (Bray doing Pay for the Squadrons). What a bunch of rascallions!!!!



Before we left Sydney, Pommie gave me advance warning that as this was probably going to be his last trip up top he was going to do it in style. I was the Personnel Officer and the RAN Relief Trust Fund Officer on board as that had been my previous Posting for the past 4 years in Victoria Barracks in Melbourne. I organised for approximately 10 Chiefs (Pommie included) and the entire WO'S Mess (14 in Number) to all get a RANRTF Furniture Loan for the purpose of purchasing cheap furniture up top - as you would.

Anyway we had 5 days in Manilla and 3 in Alongopo before Hong Kong and Pommie did such a job on himself that he was medivaced off by Chopper in a Coma direct to the British Military Hospital in Hong Kong. He was in a bad way for a while and wasn't even allowed visitors. The decision was made for him to remain in the BMH until the day of our departure for Singapore, and, if his health permitted, we would bring him back onboard rather than leave him in Hong Kong. We were in for 14 days and I used to ring to check on him daily and on about the 10th day I rang to be informed that he had signed himself out. I eventually tracked him down that night at the Senior Sailors Mess, HMS TERROR. Surprise, Surprise.

We then hit Singapore and it was on again. We returned to Australia via Darwin and Brisbane. The day he was in pleading for a Casual from the Pay Bob he left his friend sitting on a Bollard on the Wharf waiting for him. Friend was obviously of the opposite gender and colour and outweighed Pommie considerably. It was worth the wait, because he went back ashore cashed up and with a Cartoon of Duty Frees. Prior to this trip he wasn't in good health having half his stomach removed as a result of Cancer some years previously whilst a CPOWTR on the YARRA. Pommie was a man who loved life and was a very generous caring person. Our Branch is richer for having Legends such as this.

## Steele, Alan William



Passed away 7 September 2011. Born 19/2/1928. R35909. Joined the RAN 4/3/1948 and discharged 3rd March 1968 after 20 years service. Establishments served were Cerberus, Albatross, Lonsdale and Harman. Ships service Sydney as AB 21/8/1951 to 13/5/1952, as LS Anzac 26/9/1955 - 17/2/1957, as PO Quickmatch 14/6/1959 - 11/6/1960 and finally as CPO to Stuart 5/1/1965 - 25/1/1966.



## Stevens, Edward Charles 'Ned'

Passed away 15/10/2008. Ned was in the RANR. He was mobilised for service and reported for duty on 23 June 1941 as a writer with seniority 31 May 1941. He joined Rushcutter on entry until 1st December 1942 joining Penguin. On 1st January 1943 he was posted to Kuttabul, and then Platypus on 18th March 1943. Promoted LSWTR 1st June 1944. Further postings were Kuttabul 19 January 1945, Penguin 6 October 1945 and then Morton 10 October 1945. Joined Manoora 20 October 1945 until 25 June 1946 when he posted to Rushcutter for discharge on 10 July 1946. O/N S5620.

## Stewart, Grahame



I joined Leeuwin 6<sup>th</sup> January 1969, the 26<sup>th</sup> Intake of JR's In those days, we got \$10.00 fortnight "payment" and the rest was banked for us. I remember quite distinctly leaving Adelaide railway station, parents tearfully waving goodbye.

Having served my time in Leeuwin, when it came time to be categorized, the board said I was useless as an electrician, and even worse at mechanics, so they gave me my first request "Writer" second preference Survey Recorder...vast difference.

I joined Sydney in Garden Island, and learnt how to sling a hammock for the first time. As with a lot of ex JR's we went on a quick trip up north, then I was posted to Cerberus for Writer training.

From Cerberus, I was posted to the Pay Office Albatross. I remember a young Suby called Wally Walzac,. From Albatross, I joined Torrens (under punishment) on a Sunday night, and sailed for JB for two weeks, then on to Hawaii for Rimpac. From Torrens, I was posted to Lonsdale, and after a quick stint in the Pay Office was posted to Vic Barracks for the NHBS.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

I was promoted to LSWTR, and subsequently posted to Parramatta, in dry dock Williamstown, then after a work up we set sail up north. During this time I was promoted to P/POWTR and when my time was up, was posted to Cerberus, where I did my advanced WTR course. I was then transferred to the Old Supply School, whilst the new one was being built. I remember the day of commissioning the new school, we were told we had to attend. "Accompanied" and if we did not have a wife, one would be provided for us. Unfortunately my demise come rather quickly. I drank too much too often, and was discharged "Unsuitable by Temperament" in August 1979. Something I have regretted to this day.

### Stickler, Terry

Passed away on 1/8/1998 of cancer. Ex LSWTR and ASLT.

### Stokes. Edward George Cyril 'Eddy'

Passed away date NK. Joined 2nd April 1925. P/N 16457. Served on Tingira as Boy 1 1925, became Boy Writer 27 May, 1926. Shore service Morton, Penguin, platypus, Cerberus, Kuttabul, Albatross, Brisbane.

Sea service: Sydney 1926- 27, Brisbane 1928 - 1929, Stuart 1936 to 1938.

Promotion CPO 1936 and WO 1946. Supply Lieutenant 1957 and served at sea as WO Sydney June - 1955.

### Strachan, Lewis



Joined Navy 8th Intake of JRs January 1964. On completion of JR training was posted to sea on the 'grey ghost of the West Coast' - Diamantina until late 1965 when posted to Cerberus for Writer Category training. On successful completion then posted to Lonsdale then back to sea on ANZAC where I was promoted LSWTR.

From there posted to Harman (NO) for a couple of years then to Albatross, back to sea on Stuart. Promoted A/POWTR and posted to Sydney. Spent 3 years at sea on Sydney after being posted as the Canteen Manager until she was paid off and I was posted to Penguin for a short period before being posted to ANZUK SINGAPORE for about 18 months until that was disbanded.

Then to Cerberus for a short period before being banished to the 'Apple Isle' to serve at Huon in 1975 while the Tasman Bridge was down. From there back to Harman (NO) where I was promoted CPOWTR and posted over to the West at Leeuwin in charge of the Pay Office. From there to the 'Top End' as Captains Sec at Coonawarra.

From there back to sea on Supply as Captains Sec then to Kuttabul for a short time before heading South to Cerberus and a promotion to WOWTR before being posted to Lonsdale(NO) at the Navy Pay Accounting Centre to bring in the dreaded so

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

called computerised pay system where I eventually 'pulled the pin' on completion of 20 years service.

### Stuart, William Farcourt

PM 212. Joined 16/10/1939. Cerberus 6/10/1939 – 29/7/1941. Sydney 30/7/1941 – 20/11/1941

### Sturzaker, Geoffrey John

Passed away 2/11/1959. Joined 15th March 1954. R50049. Served at Cerberus, Lonsdale. Sea time Sydney 1957 – 58, Torrens 1958 – 59. Discharged dead to November 59. Died of Peripheral Vascular failure. LS 1958.

### Sugden, Charles Allen 'Charlie'



Passed away date not known. Joined 7/7/1960 as JR. R93048. Served at establishments Leeuwin, Cerberus, Albatross, Nirimba, Kuttapul, Penguin and Melville. His sea postings consisted of Warrego 62-62, Sydney 65 and Vendetta 65-67.

A story was going around that Charlie hang one on and decided to have a sleep in. The CO was after him so the Ship's Office Staff sent an ABWTR (Paul Langley) down to the Chiefs Mess.

Charlie told the AB that he was having a sleep in and the CO could go \*\*\*\* himself. When the AB got back to the Ship's Office the CO again rang and the AB told the CO what Charlie had said. Charlie was roused out of his sack by the Coxswain and marched to see the CO. The story is true and confirmed by Stew Merrilees who took the CO's call on the intercom.

### Sutherland, Kathleen McNeil

Joined 19th March 1951. R84002. Served Cerberus, Lonsdale. DEE 18th March 1957. LS 1954 and PO 1955.

### Sutton, Peter

I was educated on the NSW South Coast and lived at various locations up and down the coast before leaving school aged 14 and joining Pussers. I applied to join Nirimba as an apprentice but did not make the cut, so was offered a JR option of entry, which I accepted. I joined the RAN on 7/7/1963.

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames



My postings were Leeuwin, Supply in 1964 for Ords sea time, then Cerberus in 1965 for WTR Cse. My first Writer posting was Albatross in 1965, Supply in 1967 for Pay, Accounts and Captain's Office, where I was promoted LWTR and Kuttabul for Pay Office in 1968. Went to Navy Office in 1969 on DNMP Staff, following an exchange posting with Johnny Halpin. Posted to sea in Melbourne in 1971 to do Pay & Accounts and was promoted PA/POWTR, then went to Cerberus in 1973 for the POWTR Cse. Albatross was next in 1973 in the Billeting Office and Removals, then Tarangau in 1974 for Captain's Office, Navy Office in 1976, where I was promoted CPOWTR and worked in DSP and Manpower Planning Office, Stuart in 1978 as CO's Sec, Albatross again in 1979 in Captain's Office, Yarra in 1979 as CO's Sec, COMAUSNAVSUP in 1980 and Navy Office in 1980, working in Service Conditions. My final posting was Albatross in 1982, where I worked in the Pay Office until my discharge on 6/7/1983.

I was married on 13/12/1969 to Elaine June (Ellie Mae) and have two children, Bruce and Peta. Service 'highs' include trips 'up top', RIMPACs and the Yarra 1980 trip (Fiji, Hawaii, San Diego, Los Angeles, Esquimalt, Vancouver, San Francisco, Hawaii, Fiji, Western Samoa).

All the lifetime friendships established. Just knowing I received recognition for my work as a civvy and was nominated for an OA at Albatross LP Section, even if it was unsuccessful, (now I know how 'Harjie' Barber felt when he would trot out his old memorabilia). 'Lows' would have to be battling through an undiagnosed case of glandular fever and sleep apnoea (almost resulting in reversion). I'm quarter cast aboriginal on mum's side and grew up in an aboriginal fringe dwelling environment, so widespread bigotry was one of those things I learned to live with because I didn't think I could change it. And the 'biggy', working for Adrian Cummings when he was DNMP in 1976 to 78, (something I'll never forget).



After discharge, I was re-employed as a Defence civilian at Albatross in February 1984. I started as a pantry man in main galley scullery and graduated to cleaner, telephonist, then purchasing clerk in the Local Purchase Section. I outlasted all the opposition to eventually become Asst Finance Mgr/DEFMIS, Operations Mgr/ROMAN, Site Rep and Head of LP Section. When the job was 'contracted out' in 2001, I took all Long Service & Rec Leave at half pay to reach early retirement age of 55 and 'pulled the pin'.

## Swales, John David 'Jack'



Passed away on 9/5/2001. (Thanks to Mark Mobley for preparing this bio)

Enlisted in the Militia (14<sup>th</sup> Field Brigade) at Marrickville, NSW on 28 November 1938 as 436054 John David SWALES date of birth 5OCT20 and served 356 days before deciding the Navy was a better life. It is not known whether he bothered to tell the Army though.

On 29 November 1939 he enlisted in the RAN for 12 years as 23770 Probationary Writer Jack David Swales – date of birth 5OCT21. After training at Cerberus, he was posted to Swan and then to Warrego.

Jack was aboard Warrego in Darwin Harbour on 19 February 1942 when the Japanese

## Biographies - Sierra Surnames

struck. He was promoted Leading Writer in Warrego on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1942 and in September was posted to HMAS Magnetic. He was advanced to the rank of Petty Officer Writer on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1943

Jack was taken ill just after this and was sent south, first to Moreton and then to Penguin where he was hospitalised. When released he was drafted to HMAS Rushcutter where he ran the Service Certificate Office relieving POWTR (later Captain) F.B. (Frank) NOLAN. Jack remained at Rushcutter until discharged BNPS in September 1945.

After the war Jack found it difficult to settle down in civilian life and, after managing the family hotel for a while, bought a truck, loaded it with saleable goods and headed west. When he ran out of stock he turned around and, armed with orders for the next trip, headed east to replenish. This endeavour became so successful that he bought a second truck, enlisted the aid of a former shipmate, and started a second run. By the time Jack's enterprise was taken over by a bigger operator in the 1960's it had become Comet Overnight Transport.

Jack then built a house and settled in St Mary's, NSW where he bought a bottle shop. There he introduced the first drive through bottle shop in NSW in the late 1960's. He was active in the Labour Party; in local politics and in the local Volunteer Fire Brigade, an activity for which he was the very proud recipient of a Long Service Medal. He was a long time member of the Naval Association at Penrith and was a regular attendee at the Sydney Writers Luncheons.

In 'retirement' Jack became the only full time resident of Mariner's Court in Woolloomooloo and was a regular feature of daily life at Frisco's where, as a jovial raconteur, he regaled many young sailors with his stories of the wartime Navy. Eventually he was invited to become an honorary member of the Kuttabul Senior Sailors Mess, a gesture he cherished for the remainder of his life.

Jack crossed the bar on 19 May, 2001 – his instructions to his daughter Mona for his funeral were "Don't make it sad and have plenty of grog". Mourners entered the chapel to Louis Armstrong singing Hello Dolly and departed to the sounds of When the Saints go Marching In.

## Sweeney, Trevor



Joined 11 Jul 77 in the 60th intake at Leeuwin, Writer training in April 1979 with Dave Whelan as instructor on course with Andre Clay, Bruce Kelman and Simon Read. Went on to postings at Creswell, Jervis Bay, Leeuwin (LSWTR), Stuart, Leeuwin again, Cerberus, Harman (NOPO and Harman) POWTR, Stirling, Derwent (CPOWTR), NOCWA, UN in Cambodia, Joint Exercise Planning Staff/Commander Joint Forces Australia (the precursor

to the current Joint Operations Command at Bungendore, DSP/DSCM (WOWTR), Australian Embassy Rome to open the DA Southern Europe office and then Recruiting in Melbourne prior to paying off in 1998.

### Swift, Wayne



I joined the RAN on 9/1/1989 as a stoker, before seeing the light and eventually passing out of Supply School on 9/11/1993 (instructors POWTRs Chris Haskins, Wayne Lanham and Ann-Marie O'Dwyer). After my Writers course I posted to NSC, where I served with CPOWTR 'Bomber' Atkinson from 1993 to 1995. Then, after advice from Bomber, I joined Darwin (where he was COSEC 1986 to 1988) and served from 1995 to 1996. On promotion to LSWTR, I was posted to Platypus where I remained until it was decommissioned. In 1999 I was posted to MHQ until 2001, when I went to sea in Newcastle. In 2003, I was posted to MC's staff for 12 months and during this time I was promoted to POWTR. In April 2004, I went to Kuttabul as the A/Perso, serving under CMDR Brian Eagles. I joined Tobruk in March 2005 and left her in June 2007 as a CPOWTR, when I was posted to Russell Offices.

### Swindells, Donald John 'Don'

Passed away in 2001. Joined 18 July, 1955. R51163. Served in shore establishments Cerberus, Kuttabul, Albatross, Penguin. Posted ANRUK for two years in February 1964. Sea service Warramunga 1957-59, Yarra 1961-62, Melbourne 1962 - 1964, Sydney 1967 - 1968. Discharged BNPS 9th April 1970. Promotion LS 1959, PO 1962 and CPO 1966.

### Syme, Trevor

Joined the Navy in GE intake 3/83 in September 1983 from Melbourne. Postings include Cerberus, Harman (DSCM), Watson, Adelaide, Waterhen, ADFRU Melbourne, ADFA, CN's Office, Harman (DNLS), Adelaide, Stirling and Anzac. He spent the last nine years of his RAN service as a CPOWTR in various PERSO and COSEC roles, and very much enjoyed his 21 years.

He was discharged on 9/11/2004 in Western Australia, and is now a content resident of Safety Bay. Career highlights include participating in many sporting events and activities, meeting and working with many interesting people, varied deployments and visits overseas.