



E News No 45 - June 1st 2013



May 2013

-

*Jeannie
Roberts*

-

*In the
Far East*



The new badges for the Writer Category which changed to Maritime Logistics - Personnel from 1st January 2013.

My job is the Cashier at a busy defence air base which sees many Australian troops move through on deployment and well as staying here to support and sustain the operation. The operation is OP SLIPPER and is Australia's military contribution to the international campaign against terrorism, maritime security in the Middle East Area of Operations and countering piracy in the Gulf of Aden.

Although the majority of personnel located in the Australian section of the base are Army and RAAF, there is a small smattering of RAN officers and sailors who are in communication, logistics, operations and watch keeping roles. At the time of writing there are nine Writers of the over 400 personnel based here occupying administration, pay, contract and support positions. My small role keeps me busy seven days a week. We deal in three currencies – Dirham, Euro and US Dollars. The majority of payments I make are to Australian Defence Service personnel and Defence Civilians for travelling allowances and advances on their pay. Writers are no longer required to do this type of work in the RAN in Australia with most cash offices being closed. It was a step back in time to see the troops taking regular cash payments in advance of their pay on any day of the week. At least there is no Coxswain waiting with a clipboard to pick them up for a haircut.

Irish Vickers sent us the following:



Thanks for another great issue; it keeps me sane over this side of the world and enjoy talking about the contents with Chris Bales on a regular basis; I am actually going over to visit with him for a week or so end of this month. As you know he is disabled and when I am with him we visit different places around Cambridge and looking forward to spending a day looking around London. I really enjoyed the article on Alan Lancaster; I am very proud to say that I was instrumental in getting him his transfer of branch when I was PERSONNEL at ALBATROSS and he was one of my scribes; a really nice bloke who richly deserved his award. Keep 'em coming.

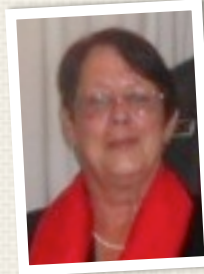
Jim Robson says
I am currently involved in a case with DVA which questions the keeping of personal records in 1965. At that time I was serving on the Parramatta and was drafted to Rushcutter for a ships divers course - this is shown in my official records. My instructor at Rushcutter is shown as being drafted to Watson so the argument is that we were not both in the same place; incidentally I was billeted at Watson for this course. This was all prior to the introduction of EDP. If there is anyone who can help me with the possible reason for the differing records I would greatly appreciate it.
regards... Jim Robson
ex-LEM(P)
Please advise Jim directly if you can provide any answers

jim.lee.robson@gmail.com

Judy McMullen

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

Posting to Cerberus Pay Office in 1976 with CPOWTR Brian J. Tucker; then to Recruiting Hobart, TAS with WOUW Owen Pontin; PSO Western Australia as a LWRWTR on HDA to PO for the full duration of the posting (had a cat that actually lived onboard with me); LWRWTR in the Accounts Office HMAS Albatross with CMDR Tim Van Wyck; WRWTR/LWWTR in the Penguin (twice) Pay Office with CPOWTR John Bignall and LWRWTR Jeannie



Roberts (formerly Brennan nee Grothe); a posting to PSO Northern Territory where I was medivaced south; CPSO Sydney; Accounts Office at HMAS Kuttabul with former POWTR Chris Bales; Discharged from the Navy in 1985 from Albatross after serving for 10 years.

Enjoyed my long service leave touring around Europe. Have done a few things in the way of employment since I discharged from the Navy but am now a TPI with DVA. Enjoying life at Caloundra with occasional visits from John Bignall & his lovely Canadian wife, Elli Bruce who is John Grantins former lady friend, Lynzey Lake and her dad Lindsay Lake.
Involved with the Caloundra RSL and the local chapter of the TPI's.

1958 Garden Island



Gold medalist Betty Cuthbert and Commander McDonald and the HMAS Sydney welfare committee after they had presented a cheque to her for 580 pounds to help send her to the Empire Games. Two other competitors in the picture in civilian clothes were Flannagan and Schweikert.
2nd from left Frank Gribble Writer.

1984 VAMPIRE WRITERS



ABWTR Gavin Locke, CPOWTR Ray Hamilton, ABWTR Mario Zubicic, POWTR Chris Bales, ABWTR Mick Yarred, LSWTR G r a h a m Campbell.

Thanks to Mario who sent us this colour photo. Forty years on and Mario has changed



Ron Given



Says "Walking out of Kings Cross Station today(16th May) I heard a familiar voice turned the corner and there was Max Wilson as large as life, looks a million dollars and lives only 50 metres from the station in Victoria Street. I gave him my card and asked him to contact me so I could forward his details. Just to let people know he is alive

Writer Course 011

The picture below is the latest Writer Course to complete on the 12 April 2013. The Student of Merit was AB Dalglish. Other members of the course were AB's Heron, Andrews, Gazzola, Haby, Trezise, Collins, Lee, Gonda, Duvall, Morgan and Manie.





John Kindness says he had just read Cliff Frenchs Bio and

remembers on Cliff's first draft after being rated Leading Writer when he was asked by his Chief "When do you get your badge back? (Referring to the GCB)

Froggy replied I don't have one yet, I have not done 4 years.

The Chief was horrified "A rating LWTR with no badges what is the Navy coming to!

FLASHBACK

(Navy News 1962)

On HMAS Wagga's last cruise a certain Writer acted as the only 'full time' (from 0600 to 2100) Officer's Steward, with two Sick Berth Attendants as 'part time' assistants - one of whom acted as the Captains Steward.

Perhaps the most unique feature is that there were 10 Officers on board a ship designed for only five.

We don't know who the Writer was at the time.



Jim Carroll: I was in TARANGAU for 18 months and about 2 months before departure I thought that I should get a drivers licence. I went over to the Cop Shop in Lorangau and approached the Police Inspector (a Tolai from Rabaul, New Britain) and advised that I needed a licence. He was a bit pxxxxx off because he had seen me driving around Manus and Los Negros for the previous 15 months and presumed that I was licenced. My test was to drive one of the police constables to one of the trade stores where he purchased something and returned to the police station where I was issued a PNG Drivers Licence. (Jim Carroll's picture as he was in the 70's)

Serving in Manilla 1962



Petty Officer Writer A E Goodieson, and his wife, examine a map of the Philippines where PO Goodieson is now stationed.

(Navy News 1962)



In 2012 ABWTR **Sacha Lauder** was serving on HMAS Newcastle.

Here she is shown as taking on the role of technical officers writer, updating system manuals.

VISIT CERBERUS MUSEUM

