

The Scribbler

November 2006 Issue 13
RAN Writers Association - PO Box 5020 Chisholm ACT 2905
Email: scribes@ranwriters.com
Our web site: www.ranwriters.com



G'DAY FROM WA

NAVY WRITERS REUNION - 2008 PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Friday 28th March to Sunday 30th March

(Note: we published the wrong dates last edition)

Tours will extend into the Monday subject to demand.

Proposals so far include:

- A trip to HMAS Stirling, which will (subject to availability and operational requirements), include tours onboard an Anzac Class Ship and a Collins Class Submarine;
- A bus trip to Leeuwin Barracks (formerly HMAS LEEUWIN) for those ex-JR's who wish to take a trip down memory lane and take a walk down the old parade ground;
- Meet and Greet at Anzac House in St Georges Terrace for Friday;
- Dinner/dance Saturday night.
- Golf at the Burswood golf course.
- Day tour to Rottnest Island
- Wine tour Monday.
- Barbecue Sunday.
- Ascot race day for the gamblers

*Register for the reunion now -
registration details next page*



Our Mascot, LSWTR Navy Bear.

NAVY WRITERS REUNION PERTH 2008 REGISTRATION REQUEST

Fri 28 March to Sun 30 March 2008

NAMES

First name		Aka		Surname	
First Name		Aka		Surname	
Street			City		
State			Post Code		
Telephone			Email		

Registrations must be accompanied by a non – refundable deposit of \$25.00 per attendee. This deposit of \$25 per attendee is required in the first instance to offset administration cos Ints but will be part of the final payment.

How to pay “Navy Writers Reunion”:

Method	How to Pay:	Please indicate method below
Cheque/Money order	Cheque/Money Order	
BSB: 802 397 Account No: 398002 Account name Navy Writers Reunion Perth 2008 Reference: Your “last name and Initials”	Direct deposit	
	Date Deposited:	
	Reference details:	

Please forward Applications of Registration to
Navy Writers Reunion Perth 2008
PO Box 133
Esperance WA 6450

Or email (If you are doing direct deposit) this completed page to:
Reunionperth08@ranwriters.com

(You can find a Word version on our site to complete)



By Lew Horsfield President RAN Writers Association

Greetings Fellow Scribes:

The Association, on your behalf, sent our Patron Commodore Boyd Robinson a message of congratulations for his forthcoming promotion to Rear Admiral

We have now completed our Inaugural Annual General Meeting, and although the Committee was disappointed in the turn out, especially from Members in the Canberra area, we did enjoy the liquid refreshments after the event.

A question that arose out of the Meeting was one in relation to the production of the Scribbler. It was proposed from the floor that we should look to the future in the event that we get to the position of having to actually pay for the printing and mailing of the newsletter. IF in the event this occurs we will have to restrict the distribution to MEMBERS ONLY. So to avoid this happening we urge you to complete a Membership form and send it to us now. We can also save money if you advise us of your email address if you have one. Believe me the Newsletter looks much better when you download and print it off in colour. – And this is not taking anything away from the people who print it for us.

On my travels I have caught up with many Scribes. Quite often I get told that they have read that we have a certain person on the missing list. They then inform me they know where that person is, but up until today they still have not come forth with the details. I would like to see a big reduction in the missing list's size, and to that end I need your help. If you know the whereabouts of a person on the missing list, or see we do not have someone's name on the list please get the details to us. We will then contact them by mail to ensure your privacy and their privacy is maintained. As I have urged you many times – Lets reduce the missing list! (A list of all scribes we know of and the missing list can be found on our web site)

TRAVELLING TO THE WEST FOR 08?

I have been thinking it would be a great start to the 08 Reunion, if those travelling from the East, by motor vehicle, "Form a convoy to cross the Nullarbor." To those with caravans who are thinking of driving: Would you like to be part of the Convey for a leisurely dash across the Nullarbor, stopping for Cocktails etc. each evening? Assembly point would be Port Augusta or somewhere in that area.

Those just travelling by car would lead the way stopping in Cabins etc, or what ever is available. We would, of course, try and make sure all the night stop bookings are made in advance. If you are interested then please contact Lew, at scribes@ranwriters.com or 041 200 1636 with your details and or preferred means of travel, and what is your average S.O.A. [Speed of Advance] on these trips. Lew

New Book to be Published on Writer Branch Call for Scribes' Biographies

Coinciding with the 2008 Writers' Reunion in Perth, it is planned to publish a book on the Branch. The greater portion will consist of scribes' biographies. The book will be enhanced, however, with other interesting information about how the branch has evolved over the years.

Many ex writers have already passed details of their service to the Association for display on the website and much of this will be used as a basis for the book. If you are one of those, but would like to update it, or alternatively 're-jig' it, in view of the bio now becoming a more permanent record, we now invite you to do so and resubmit it. On the other hand, if we do not have a biography on you yet, now is the time we would love you to produce one for us. This especially applies if you are intending to register for the Perth Reunion of the branch in 2008. (You won't want to roll up and find you're not included in the publication.) The book will partly be a short summary of your service that will, along with those of a host of other scribes, be around for ever.

The exercise does not require a major effort. In fact we would prefer you keep it down to between 150 – 300 words. This will ensure some sort of uniformity with those of your other shipmates. As a guide, we make the following suggestions regarding information we would like you to include:

Your rank on paying off.

Your Official Number.

Maiden names for married Wrans.

The date you joined and from where.

Where you served.

Any other interesting information about your service, which could include career highlights or unusual situations.

Try to exclude personal 'in jokes' that are just relevant to you and a couple of mates.

Include very short humorous anecdotes, but if you have a longer story that you think will be of great interest to the other readers, then keep it separate as there will be a section for these, provided we receive a good number.

Tell us when you paid off and where you are now.

There will be a limited opportunity to include photos of scribes. If you have a good one, we would like to include it, but cannot guarantee the publication of them all, due to cost constraints.

The book will be edited by ex PO scribe, Dave Rickard, who has already published several books on the sea, including two on the navy. Your bios can be sent to scribes@ranwriters.com by post to PO Box 5020, Chisholm ACT 2905.

Go to it NOW – we want you included!

The Origin & Development of the Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund by Lois Edward (Kermonde)WR1114

An article appeared in the August 2006 issue of the "Scribbler", which has prompted me to write my experiences with "The Origin & Development of the Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund" later known as the RAN Relief Fund. Back in 1943 on first joining the WRANS (WR1114) at Port Melbourne, I was chosen together with another raw recruit, Jean Brodie, to work at the newly opened office in Collins St., Melbourne to work at a fund raising effort for the RAN Relief Fund.



Left: WRAN L Kermonde and Lieut A A Joel hon. organiser on 25th June 1943. Counting of buttons and badges to be sold for Navy Day appeal.

although we had many volunteers and a Committee of ladies chaired by the Lady Mayoress.

It was a great experience for an 18 year old in May 1943 to report to duty to Lieut Asher Joel RANVR in charge together with Sub Lieut Price RANVR, two Able seamen, Arnold Jocusen & Len Nancarrow. That was the whole staff

It involved a lot of PR and the First Naval Member, Admiral Sir Guy Royle RN was a frequent visitor. We had many photos in the newspapers for publicity, and we made many visits to the Melbourne Town Hall in uniform to accompany various VIP's including the Admiral's Wife, Lady Royle.

Our duties were mainly clerical & typing - no computers in those days to churn out many copies of letters. They were all individually typed by either Jean or myself, helped by volunteers who came after work at night. A huge march of Navy Personnel was held & badges sold in the street in the shape of a little blue anchor. It was called "Jack's Day" & I understand a similar march was held in Sydney. From memory we raised 45,000 pounds which was a good sum in those days.

At this time May 1943 many of our RAN ships had been sunk, including HMAS Sydney, Perth, Armidale, Canberra, Yarra and many small ships. There were many widows & children who were in need of assistance at that time-perhaps to tide them over until pensions arrived. From your article it appears that money which had been invested became the Services Canteen Trust Fund & was combined with other Services.

This posting lasted three months when I was later sent to Recruiting at the Olderfleet Building, then to HMAS "Moreton" for one year and then to HMAS "Kuttabal" at Garden Island, discharged in February 1946 back at Port Melbourne, HMAS Lonsdale" sadly now an enormous block of flats called 'hmas'.

Written by LSWTR Martina Hughes.

HMAS ANZAC'S NORTHERN TRIDENT 05 DEPLOYMENT -2005

The Northern Trident 05 (NT 05) Deployment has been a very successful



one for the Writers. Apart from the normal day to day work of processing peoples pay, paying the bills, receiving and dispatching mail and filing away correspondence, ABWTR Danielle Collins (sitting) and LSWTR Martina Hughes have also had to take CPOWTR Wes Intihar for remedial coaching.

As unusual as this may sound to you all, if you consider one of the main goals of NT 05, this may not seem so unusual. Some people may consider Public Relations and promoting the RAN to other countries one of the highest priorities for NT 05, however the Writers have it sorted. Getting 'rabbits' at least half the price that others are paying for it, is the main goal.

NT 05 started on a fantastic note in Albany, home of the world famous Dog Rock. Goa is home of the body of Saint Francis Xavier which you could see if you stood on your toes and squinted your eyes. Goa is also home to the Anjuna Markets (world famous we are told) which are on Anjuna Beach which is very beautiful. A visit to Egypt would not be complete without a trip to the Pyramids and the Sphinx. We went to Egyptian Museum in Cairo to view Tutankahmens famous gold mask and the Sound and Light show at dusk at the Pyramids and Sphinx. Whilst in Alexandria, Pompeys' Pillar, the Roman Amphitheatre, Graeco/Roman museum and the Kom El-Shuqafa Catacombs were highlights.

Next stop was Crete which had fantastic views, beautiful harbour and very nice but expensive shops. Ceremonial commitments were high on the ships agenda. Wes was lucky enough to be on an official function that took him out to the monastery at Preveli that had a piece of the cross that Jesus died upon attached to a cross. Martina was lucky to go on an official function to Sfakia which was held right across the other side of the island and had a wonderful selection of cheese, biscuits and coffee. Danielle was also lucky and stayed onboard to ensure people were able to use the photocopier as required.

Istanbul was absolutely fantastic for both the sightseeing and the shopping. All three Writers went on a full day tour to Gallipoli, which included Lone Pine, Shrapnel Valley, and of course, Anzac Cove. On arrival the tour guide mumbled something about not being able to get down to Anzac Cove as the bus wasn't allowed down there, however the Commanding Officer replied with 'our ancestors walked these hills 90 years ago, so we can do it today'

which set the matter straight in every ANZAC sailors mind! The tour guide and security guards had forgotten to mention that the tour was to stay together and not to go wandering. Needless to say they definitely earned their money that day and will not be accepting any Aussies on tours in a hurry! Additional sights seen in Istanbul were the Blue Mosque, Saint Sofia, The Basilica Cistern, Topkapi Palace and shopping heaven, The Grand Bazaar. As the buddy system was enforced in Istanbul, Wes was fortunate to acquire a solid brass Turkish tea/coffee set for the bargain price of 40 Lira with the assistance of Martina. This purchase has now been deemed his best bargain of the deployment.



Picture above – at Suez Canal

Danielle, Martina and Wes were all lucky enough to get ashore on Anzac Day in Anzac Cove, an experience none will forget. It was a very long day, leaving HMAS ANZAC at 2300 on the 24th of April and not returning until 1730 on the 25th of April. The boat trip to the shore of Cannakale was very cold and noisy, the boat was so old that it was suspected to have been one of the boats used in the landing 90 years ago. It may have been

quicker to have got the oars out and rowed, and people would not have suffered smoke inhalation due to the engines pumping out enough exhaust gases to deplete the rest of the ozone layer! Then it was a bus trip to Anzac Cove in which a quick nap was taken by all. The crew arrived at Anzac Cove around 0200 and weaved the way through the crowds to the stand reserved for HMAS ANZAC. Many people stopped sailors to shake their hands and many clapped and cheered as the uniforms were recognised. 90-odd sailors forming a chain and stepping over sleeping people is a bit hard to miss!

As HMAS ANZAC steamed into Anzac Cove many of the civilians made the connection that we were sailors with a ship and cheered as the ship came around the corner. As ANZAC performed its on light show the cheers grew louder and louder. It was a very proud moment to be standing at in uniform at Anzac Cove on Anzac Day and as a member of HMAS ANZAC and have so many people cheering and supporting our ship and ourselves.

The prelude and the Dawn service were both very moving and a wonderful experience. The Dawn Service was followed by the service at Lone Pine, which again was very moving, and a privilege to attend. After Lone Pine it was off to a wonderful lunch with the Prime Minister John Howard and a couple of other dignitaries and then back to the bus and to the smoky boat and returning onboard HMAS ANZAC around 1730. Anzac Day was an experience that is very difficult to put into words. Anyone needing validation

of the RAN as a career choice should experience the pride associated with being part of a ship in Anzac Cove on Anzac Day.



Malta was not very good for shopping as the Aussie dollar doesn't do so well there. Wes and Martina went on a tour to Hagar Qim (prehistoric megalithic temples) and the city of Medina, which used to be Malta's capital city. The entire city is surrounded by high

impenetrable walls and on a clear day you can see all the way across the water to Sicily.

Wes caught the train and went to Cannes and Danielle went to Nice for the day. Wes joined the growing list of personnel to lose/have stolen their digital cameras which was a bit disappointing. So from Spain we set sail to Hamburg. Hamburg was projected to be a busy port with lots of commitments, which all the Writers attended. In between Alster River Cruises, Senate Luncheons, Cocktail Parties and Open Days, there was still shopping to be done and screenings of Star Wars Episode 3 to be seen.

We all went to Edinburgh and had the tour through Edinburgh Castle, which was fantastic. Glasgow was quite good for shopping though not many bargains as we were now dealing with the Great British Pound, an exchange rate not friendly to our budgets at all. The period of JMC (Joint Maritime Course) which took the best part of 2 weeks after departing Glasgow was a time for day to day maintenance for the Writers. DSOTS were done on the television and DVD player on a daily basis with e-mails checked hourly. It was so full on, there was even time to go to the gym, it was just crazy!! After a gruelling 2 weeks it was time for a one night stop over in Greenock, Scotland, before heading back to sea for a day heading for Cork, Ireland.

Wes was lucky enough to have his wife, Ann-Maree come to meet him in Ireland and as soon as the lines were across we didn't see him for dust! With Wes away on leave, the day between Cork and Portsmouth was flat out for Martina and Danielle (honest!!!). We arrived in Portsmouth and thought we had pulled into the wrong place, it was so hot! Martina had a few days leave and stayed with friends while Danielle stayed to man the Ships Office. Ceremonial commitments were high on the ships agenda, however we all got to go to London and soak in the sights as well as do some souvenir shopping. Martina went to Oxford and saw the Dining Hall and moving staircases from the Harry Potter movies, while Wes went to Platform 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$ at Kings Cross Station. Danielle (who thinks Harry Potter is a longhaired freak) is still trying hard to hide her disappointment at missing these

important sights. The Trafalgar 200 celebrations went off well and all the practice of Cheering Ship paid off. The Queen was the little blue dot off in the distance, we all saw her very clearly!!



Gibraltar was yet another exciting yet expensive port to visit. The Rock of Gibraltar turned out to be just that, a very big rock. It was Martina's birthday whilst alongside (21 again!) which was celebrated with dinner and a few drinks with fellow crew members. Perfume and duty free alcohol were very cheap with a few perfumes being

purchased (at prices like that you were saving money by buying up big!!). Simonstown and Capetown were excellent ports to visit. The African Safari was also attended with numerous photos of animals and lion cubs being patted. The Able Seaman Just Nuisance statue (statue of a dog who was the mascot of the Royal Navy in WW2) was paid a visit and is now competing for first place in the list of best sights seen this deployment. For a Great Dane, his statue was not as large as expected!!

As I'm sure you can all imagine, it hasn't all been beer and skittles for the Writers though! Amid fitting in all the shopping and sightseeing they regularly fought off questions such as:

'are we receiving mail here?';

'I haven't received my care package from home yet';

'are you sure we got all the mail because I didn't get anything';

'we are not getting enough Inport Allowance';

'my Inport Allowance is going to my spouse!';

'is there going to be a reverse money change';

'will they change Indian Rupee';

'did you just seal up the last outgoing mail bag?' and every Writers favourite

'my pay didn't go into my account'.

On a serious note, all three of us are very proud and know how lucky we are to be a part of this deployment and to be experiencing what many may never get the chance to do. Highlights were most definitely Anzac Day at Anzac Cove, the pyramids of Egypt and of course the hardest one to beat..... Dog Rock!

Note: LSWTR Martina Hughes has moved on to DSCM (promoted to T/POWTR from Jan 06) ABWTR Danielle Collins has moved on to HMAS STIRLING. Those that have recently joined are LSWTR Ross Blunsdon from HMAS CERBERUS, and ABWTR Tanya Wood from HMAS STIRLING. Wes departed for HMAS CERBERUS on 3 Jul 06. His replacement was CPOWTR Mark Ferrell.

ACCREDITED SCRIBE DVA PENSIONS OFFICERS

Ex Scribe Jeff WAKE, RFD

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TIP qualified Advocate Level 3
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By Aaron Smith currently serving

I was happy to see the article written by Alan Hooley in the recent "Scribbler" as it jogged some good memories for me. I first met Alan 'Tim' Hooley back in 2001 when posted to HMAS MELBOURNE. It was in November 2001, and we had just returned from operational service in the Solomon Islands

on Operation TREK. As part of our De-ammunitioning run we pulled into Station Pier - Melbourne for some respite. I was on duty and heard the pipe over main broadcast 1MC 'SMNWTR Smith - Gangway, visitor' and I wondered to myself who it could be as I had never been to Melbourne before and knew no-one from that area. When I arrived at the Gangway, I was greeted with the smiling face of who would later be known to me as Tim. Tim was an ex-scribe himself and had heard the ship was in town. He requested to have a look around, and more so have a look at the ship's office and how we run things on board. Happy to show an ex-scribe around, obviously I obliged. Once down in the ship's office, we sat down and I showed Alan a brief over view of ADFPAY, how we run the registry and also file movements.

I was amazed to hear some of his history as a scribe, the way things used to be run, and thought how different all the processes are that we employ these days. Of particular interest to me was his employment at the degaussing range at Shark Island, and his involvement in the WESTRALIA foundation. I got a lot out of our short time together, as only being a fairly junior writer at the time myself, I had reasonably limited knowledge.

We exchanged our e-mail addresses and we have kept in contact over the ensuing years from posting to posting and promotion to promotion, and it is always great to hear from him and hear what he has been up to.

How good are you?

There are over a hundred questions in the Ordinary Seaman Writers 1964 handbook. If you served in 1960's or before you should be able to answer some of the following questions. (Answers Page 18)

Does a Chief Petty Officer wear Good Conduct Badges?

Name three of the efficiency assessments

Name three of the Character assessments

What are forms AS 507A ?

When are Forms AS 507A rendered?

What is a Form DO 10?

What class of travel are you entitled to when travelling by rail on leave?

Would you be entitled to a sleeper if you traveled on duty by rail?

List the Home Ports

What is the maximum amount of compassionate leave which may be granted in one leave year?

When are Captain's Requestman and Defaulters held?

Who is the Administrative Authority for HMAS MELBOURNE?

Who is the Administrative Authority for HMAS PENGUIN?

In which book of reference would you find rates of pay?

What are the following abbreviations -

MA - SA - HDA

Who is present at the paying table at general Payment?

How is a day's mulct calculated?

How much notice is required by DNA for declaration of allotments?

Would Travelling Allowance be paid to a rating travelling interstate on long leave?

We need your input!

The Scribbler relies on you to provide input to this newsletter so put pen to paper and either email us the documents or send it to our post box. Send in your bio, photos, anecdotes, anything relevant to the Writer Branch. Our email address and Postal address on last page.

CLIVE "POLLY" PERKINS - R54160 - L.WTR sent us his details of



service: Enlisted in the PNF in March, 1958 and discharged March, 1967 after 9 years service. Served in HMAS ANZAC (D59) Joined October, 1958. - June, 1961 as a Seaman FC Gunnery rate. Transferred to HMAS QUICKMATCH as a Gunnery Officers Writer and served from 1961-62 and then HMAS YARRA as a Gunnery Officers Writer and served from 1962-63. Undertook the Writers Course at HMAS CERBERUS in 1964 then posted to HMAS TARANGAU on Manus Island for a period of 18 months.

Passed his Leading Writers Course in late 1965 and in June, 1966 was chosen for the secretariat staff in Canberra for this SEATO Conference. Ships/depots served in were CERBERUS, MELBOURNE, ANZAC, KUTTABUL, QUICKMATCH, YARRA, TARANGAU. He served for 8 years in the RANER from 1967 - 1974 (8) years. And in that time served in CERBERUS, QUEENSBOROUGH, and LONSDALE and SWAN.

REUNION PERTH 2008

If you are thinking of travelling by rail then you can book the railway journey now for 2008.

For instance the Sydney – Perth fares are shown below (or vice versa) Fares valid for travel from the 1st April 2007 to March 31st 2008. All fares inclusive of fuel price surcharge.

One Way	Gold Kangaroo Service	Red Kangaroo Service	
		Sleeper Cabin	Daynighter Seat
Adult	1790	1320	680
Child/Pensioner	1293	859	322
CSHC	1293	859	323

Notes:

- To receive concessional travel fares, Great Southern Railway is required to confirm your eligibility for the concession electronically with Centrelink. If you do not want this to happen you will need to contact Centrelink or the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) to obtain a Pension Concession Letter as proof of your eligibility for the concession and provide this directly to Great Southern Railway before the concession can be given.
- CSHC = Commonwealth Senior Health Card Holder
- Sorry no 'Seniors' card discount.
- Of course if you want to take your car you will need to get more details of cost from the railways.

And if you wish to travel by air to the reunion from March 2007 you can book to fly in March 2008 spread the costs book your travel early next year



Writers Tie

Many of us may not wear a tie all the time but this Writer tie can be used for any special occasion like Anzac Day, reunions, weddings.

The tie (Navy blue with gold badge) is available to be purchased. The cost is: \$40 Inc postage.

You can purchase the tie by sending us a cheque/money order or by direct deposit into RAN Writers Association bank: Australian Defence Credit Union. BSB: 802-397 Account Number: 675334. Please let us know if you transfer funds to us.

NSW Annual Luncheon – August 2006

Chas and Teddy Bardwell, Ray Bragge, Jim Carroll, Kev Cummins, Kerry Small, John Wilson, Terry Young, Roy Sly, Ken Roberts, Terry and Carol McHarry, Grace McDonald, Judy McAullife, John Kent, Kev Cummins, Keith Hook, John Grantins, Mark Mobley and Ron Giveen attended the Annual NSW Writers Luncheon at the City of Sydney RSL on Long Tan Day, Friday August

Apologies were received from Ron Osbourn, Marc Henderson, Norm Cann, Ian McConnochie, Googa Gent, Bob Andrews, Keith Gardiner, Taf Fauchon, Lew Horsfield, Liz Budek and Kiwi Writer Geoff Watson.

The pre lunch drinks scene hasn't changed much. The laughter and stories were still there about the characters of yesteryear and about the good times. Of course all Writers being honest, there wasn't an exaggeration all afternoon.

Mark Mobley addressed the luncheon by welcoming all, listing the apologies and calling for a minutes silence for the passing of William James Howard Trott III. He acknowledged a concern expressed by some on dwindling numbers at the luncheon and suggested we will investigate having the luncheon at a different venue next year. It was acknowledged the timing is important and more notice has to be given. Since then he has spoken to XO KUTTABUL about having the lunch at the KUTTABUL Senior Sailors Mess or somewhere else convenient in KUTTABUL. There has been some further feedback on this issue since from Kev Cummins. Ken Roberts, John Kent and Chas Bardwell have also been in contact with Mark and indicated they enjoyed themselves and took onboard what was said.

Mark has had a call from Frank Glover. Frank has been unwell (he managed to twist his new hip and hip-joint out of alignment) but he is coming good and itching to get back to work - not bad for a bloke who turned 90 last month.

We hope to see a lot more people at next year's luncheon.



Pauline Rickard (nee Haydon) sends her bio: "Ex LWRWTR W115128. Joined RAN from Adelaide 21/5/1973. Served at HMAS *Cerberus*, *Kuttabul* (Recruiting), *Harman* (Navy Office) and *Encounter*. In February '74, was posted for recruiting duties in Sydney Recruiting Office, then in February '76 joined the staff of DWRANS, serving under the Director at the time, the well respected Captain Barbara McLeod. Completed service in the Adelaide Recruiting Office and married ex POWTR Dave Rickard in 1977. Settled in Adelaide with hubby and they have a daughter, a teacher and a son, a police officer."

Brian WEDLOCK ex CPOWTR Joined 20/6/58 at urging of Charley Bardwell and Mike Cass, both serving scribes. Shore postings KUTTABUL, MORETON, MELVILLE, ALBATROSS, CRESWELL, LEEUWIN, some of them a couple of times. Ships were GASCOYNE, VENDETTA (twice) DUCHESS, STUART. Paid off 30/9/78.

Met some great characters, Blue Guild, Googa Gent, Bulkhead, Beachball, the Wog, Haji Barber to name a few. Highlights undoubtedly the FESR trips and bicentennial trip to the US in 1976 on STUART.



Dick Gottschalk (left) remembers John 'Marlene' Dietrich "POWTR John was duty Chief in Tarangau when myself and a few others were sprung behind the JRs bar after closing by a Sergeant in the PNG police force. We got reported to the NOIC NG (CMDR Stacey) and ended up at Captains, and of course the duty Chief was called (we had to hand the keys to the bar in on closing - which we did of course, i.e. one set anyway) CMDR Stacey asked John D " what time does the JRS Mess close " to which John replied " I don't know, Sir I'm never up that late

Report by LSWTR Sean LABOUCHARDIERE, Course Instructor for Initial Writers Class 234. We had 11 trainees in total, 2 privates from the army, 3 from other branches and the rest from Recruit School. Student of merit went to SMNWTR Scott Hoare, for his valuable contribution to the class. SMN Janet Parry was a change over from the Hydrographic Branch and spent a while at HMAS PENGUIN before changing over to a Writer. She has been posted to HMAS STIRLING. SMNWTR PARRY is the daughter of ex CPOWTR Graeme PARRY

Woggie Watson – More Stories

Besides promotion /reversion /promotion /disrating /promotion etc, he also had CW papers raised on him at least twice, which was a reflection of his leadership abilities. The first time they were cancelled was when he was an ABWTR in (the old, and real) MELBOURNE in Singapore. After a long and lubricated run ashore he and one of his mates commandeered a water buffalo from one of the little farms near Sembawang village (who can still remember Singapore as it was then'), jumped on its back and with one trying to steer by using the animal's ears and the other trying to propel it by twisting its tail, sent it bellowing along the main drag, scattering diners and coffee stalls as it went. More importantly it was pursued by the Malay owners and a bevy of Sikh police. How the two sailors were returned to the ship and under what circumstances remains clouded in mystery, but the CW papers went the same way as the previous night's Tiger.



The next time the CW papers were cancelled was when he was a LSWTR in YARRA doing pay and accounts. The Supply Officer and he had had a rocky relationship in a previous posting, and during a confrontation one morning over pay cards, Woggie told the SO in vigorous terms what he could do with them; before the SO could oblige, Woggie opened the ship's office scuttle and flung the pay cards he was holding into the South China Sea that was racing past at about 12 knots. The CW papers and the hook followed the pay cards and within forty 'eight hours Woggie had a jackstay transfer to MELBOURNE as an AB.

Despite a certain wildness, it couldn't be said that Woggie wasn't religious ' although not in the way most of us might think. When he was on an unaccompanied posting to PENGUIN in the late 60's, the fervently devout CO decreed that all sailors living on board should attend church on Sundays. Woggie immediately converted to Islam, at least that's what his SC said, bought a fez, and pleaded religious incompatibility with Christian worship. The CO was enraged but knew he was outwitted, and to rub salt into the wound, Woggie took all the Islamic holidays. Of course the establishment was always closed on the Christian holidays so Woggie won both ways. When challenged on his consumption of alcohol, officially forbidden to Muslims, Woggie claimed adherence to the teachings of the Aga Khan who allegedly permitted it.

In a less inquiring time, this dubious religious position was never seriously contested and when the time was right the spurious conversion was quietly dropped, except at parties!



Lewis Smith (Lew) R94121 says “ I joined the RAN in July 1963 at LEEUWIN. Saw service in HMAS SYDNEY in 1964 as (ORDWTR), Moresby 1967 (ABWTR), Brisbane 1970 (LSWTR), Stalwart 1971 (LSWTR), Vampire 1979 (POWTR), Vendetta 1979 (CPOWTR) and Decommissioning crew. Like many other Victorians saw most of my shore service in HMAS Cerberus and Lonsdale. At Cerberus in particular on the volley ball court at lunch times Lew

was affectionately known as "Leaping Lew Smith".

In 1980 after Vendetta Denis Benfield caught up with me and I was posted to Navy Office in S&S Postings. I was posted from Navy Office to Recruiting 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. I am currently working with the Australian Federal Police at Gold Coast Airport in a Counter Terrorism Role. I anticipate retirement in December, 2007 when I reach 60 and Jo and I are going to travel extensively.”

Mike Fogarty ex-SLSU says “ Delighted to visit your site again and note recent developments. Sadly though, we have lost some of our number. Visiting the ADFA Library today, researching stuff, I did some reading of related naval journals. Great to see Les Dwyer is presiding over the NAA. Some fine leadership that was ever apparent on first meeting him too many years ago. Speaking of leaders. I had the honour to serve again with Lew Horsfield. Lew had many postings in foreign service and I met him on several assignments. I travelled to wherever I was sent. I worked the nights - it was my job. Lew met and farewelled me in Jakarta and Moscow at different times. I solicitous host, we did the Red Square and other tourist venues. I still recall a meal we had together. Lew created something wonderful out of a packet. The bottle of Chianti with it only added to its lustre. It was 1987, a Soviet summer, as I have a photo taken on his high-storey balcony facing urban Slavic woods. We talked of the Navy and our mutual friends.

By that stage, I had ceased my years of international travel. Many will remember ex-CPOFC Tom Cowan who was the FA airport representative at KSA Sydney. He paid off in 1970 from either Kuttabul or Penguin and I recall meeting him once then on duty at the international airport. I had been sent out on an errand from FHQ to despatch some urgently needed material to one of our HMA ships "up top". As expected, Tom could easily relate to the significance and efficiently helped out his old naval service. I did not know that I would leave the Navy several years later and join the same department and meet up again in a related capacity. Tom died in 1988 at 61. He was loyal to both services. Keep up the good work.

Update from *HMAS PERTH* – September 2006 – By POWTR Michael Davis



Shortly after marching onboard HMAS PERTH III for the first time as part of the Commissioning Crew we, the proud Writer team of (from right to left) POWTR 'Davo' Davis, LSWTR Kylie Faulks, and ABWTR Bec Dobson, were able to reflect on our achievements in front of the Commissioning print.

Contributing towards taking PERTH from the ground up, to a 'home' and workplace of which we are proud, has spanned over the previous 12 months, and many hours of preparation of documents and refinement of procedures. Through my guidance, the professional intuition of Kylie, and the enthusiasm of Bec, we have always aimed to provide a high level of service to the Command of PERTH in the formative stages, and ensured a smooth transition of Administrative and Financial services onboard PERTH when the Ship was delivered from the Tenix Dockyard in June of this year.

Many challenges lie ahead, both within our 'bin', and with Whole Ship duties on this minimum manned vessel but the sense of community associated with the PERTH is part of our motivation to continue the proud name of PERTH Scribes who have gone before us. We have been reminded of many deeds of our predecessors already by PERTH 1 and PERTH II veterans - from dedication to duties, to watching out for their mates ashore (one particular incident of a late night rescue of a shipmate from a jail cell was recounted to me with great gusto at the Lord Mayor's Reception in Perth)

Already we have had a staff member move on - Kylie is thanked for her wonderful efforts in assisting us to get where we are today, and our best wishes follow her to her new job and the rest of her Naval career.

We look forward very much to the reunion in 2008 and trust that, if not us, then our replacements would gladly host the ANZAC Class ship tour - as planned amongst the many festivities for the reunion. Regards, and best wishes Davo

New scribes biography book. As foreshadowed on page 4, we intend to produce a scribe's biography book; the cost will be between \$15 and \$20. If you are interested in purchasing the book in 2008. Please e-mail us, and say you're interested. Our e-mail address is: scribes@ranwriters.com or telephone Lew on (02) 6255-8473 or British on (02) 629 18527. This will assist in gauging production numbers.

The answers to the questions on page 11 from the Ordinary Seaman Writers Handbook 1964:

No

Any three of – Superior, Satisfactory, Moderate and Inferior

Any three of VG, VG*, Good, Fair, Indifferent, Bad

Performance Evaluation Forms

Half yearly (Yearly for Chiefs)

The Navy Office authority for advancement

Second

No

Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Brisbane, Adelaide and Fremantle

7 days

Weekly

FOCAF

FOICEA

ABR 5020

Marriage Allowance - Separation Allowance- Higher Duties Allowance

Witnessing officer, Paying Officer, Writer

One days active pay less pence

14 Days

No

R.A.N. WRITERS ASSOCIATION - MEMBERSHIP

Please join. Your membership will assist in maintaining the RAN Writers Association. We produce a regular three monthly newsletter, for all scribes to read and maintain a website which contains hundreds of pages of reading and photos.

We receive numerous requests from scribes trying to find mates, or how to apply for a medal, and we are compiling a list of scribe DVA reps which you can also approach.

The cost is of \$10 a year (or \$100 for life) which is a small amount of money to become a member. An application form is on the next page. You can find a Word version of this form to fill in on the web site.



R.A.N. WRITERS ASSOCIATION Inc MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please print clearly, complete and send this form and membership fee by post to:

R.A.N. Writers Association Incorporated
PO Box 5020 Chisholm ACT 2905 Australia

(Enquiries – Email: scribes@ranwriters.com Web: www.ranwriters.com)

(NB: if paying by direct deposit to the R.A.N. Writers Bank Account this form can be emailed)

I wish to apply for membership of RAN Writers Association incorporated. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

Personal details are:

Full Name (person signing)	
Postal Address	
Post/Zipcode	Country
Phone (work)	Phone (home)
Phone (mobile)	Email:
Period of Service	Rank
The Scribbler Newsletter	If you have email, all correspondence will be emailed to you including 'The Scribbler' newsletter. However, as a member you can elect to receive a posted copy by indicating here.
	YES / NO I wish to receive a posted copy of the Scribbler.

Membership: Yearly Subscription (To 30Jun 2007) \$10 or Member for Life: \$100

Please indicate method of payment here	
CHEQUE	
MONEY ORDER	
DIRECT DEPOSIT: BSB: 802 397; Account number: 675334; Ref: [LAST NAME ONLY] Account name: R.A.N. Writers Association	

Signature	Date
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OFFICE USE ONLY

<input type="checkbox"/> Application & fee received – Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Notified & d/base entry – Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee acceptance – Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Member No (new/conf):
<input type="checkbox"/> Receipt No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Card sent – Date:

R.A.N. Writers Association is incorporated in the ACT Australia under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991*.
The constitution is the ACT Government's Model Rules for incorporated associations.



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