



# THE SCRIBBLER

## Hobart Reunion 2011



**130 DAYS TO GO - HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?  
REGISTRATION FORM NEXT PAGE**

### EVENTS:

**Friday 11 March 1800 - Meet and Greet - Wrest Point Casino.**

Small eats will be provided at 7pm.

**Saturday 12 March 1830 for 1900 Dinner / Dance - Wrest Point Casino**

Dress: Coat and tie or mess undress.

**Sunday 13 March 1200-1500 BBQ - Wrest Point Casino**

**Monday 14 March Port Arthur Bus Tour Leave 0830 return 1700**

Note: Buy your own lunch on the day.

**Polo shirts are also available to be purchased - the order must be in by early January for ordering purposes.**

Accommodation can be had at the following places but there are many motels, hotels in Hobart **Wrest Point Casino**

Limited rooms are available at the Wrest Point Casino. So if you wish to stay there book now! For enquiries, please phone Group Reservations on 1800 139 760 or email: [groups@federalgroup.com.au](mailto:groups@federalgroup.com.au)

**Motel 429** Has 33 Units - 1 minute walk to the Casino. Standard Double room \$130. Twin room (1 Queen size bed + 1 single) \$135. Deluxe double \$155. Self contained double \$160 Deluxe double with water views \$170

Their contact details are 429 Sandy bay Road, telephone 03 6225 2511 email [sales@motel429.com.au](mailto:sales@motel429.com.au)

**Hobart Macquarie** (Quote Writers reunion) Double and/or twin rooms for \$150.00 per room (2 people) up to 60 rooms. A cooked breakfast each morning would be \$20 p/person. 167 Macquarie Street Hobart

[www.leisureinnhotels.com](http://www.leisureinnhotels.com). Tel: +61 3 6220 7100 Direct: Ext: 2284

### **Gattonside**

51-53 Sandy Bay Road 1800 223 410 . Heritage style \$180-\$200 room inc. breakfast.

**Lenna Hobart** Situated Battery Point 03 62323900 \$188 Quote Writers

**NAVY WRITERS REUNION HOBART 2011 - REGISTRATION REQUEST****Friday 11 March to Monday 14 March 2011**

## NAMES

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

How to pay "Navy Writers Reunion":

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

Drinks are not included in price. These are the final costs.

Item	Description	Cost	No people attending	Total Cost
Meet and Greet	1800 - 2330 Friday 11 March	\$15		
Dinner / Dance	1830 - 2330 Saturday 12 March	\$85		
BBQ	1300 Sunday 13 March	\$35		
Port Arthur Bus Tour	Leave 0830 return 1700 Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	\$65		
Polo Shirt	Hobart reunion polo shirt	\$40		
<b>Please circle size</b>	Men : S - M - L - XL - 2XL-3XL-4XL-5XL-6XL-7XL-9XL			<b>Total Cost</b>
	Ladies: 10 - 12 - 14 - 16 - 18 - 22			<b>Less deposit if you paid this</b>
				<b>Total Payable</b>
Please advise below if you have any special dietary needs:				

**Please forward Applications of Registration to the Treasurer (Frank Brown)**

Treasurer Frank Brown

Navy Writers Reunion Hobart 2011

'Victory Place'

116 Preston Road,

Gawler, Tas, 7315

Or email (If you are doing direct deposit) this completed page to:

[fbr41228@bigpond.net.au](mailto:fbr41228@bigpond.net.au)



## TOP END SOCIAL FUNCTION

A Writers social function was held Friday 22 October 2010 at Skycity casino in Darwin. The occasion was to welcome new serving Writers to the area and to farewell the CPOWTR, Sharon Waterston, who had been the Personnel Officer at HMAS COONAWARRA since 2008. It also gave an opportunity for ex serving Writers to meet up with current members.

During the farewell speech to Sharon, long term Darwin Writer, CPOWTR Joy Newman, spoke of her admiration for Sharon and congratulated her on doing an excellent job in her role as Pers O. Sharon was given an engraved gift box with "Best Wishes from the Top End Writers" filled with all sorts of goodies including Red Skin lollies to match her flaming red hair.



Group shot L-R: Jeannie Roberts, Rocky Rochford, Sharon's Dad Warrick, Sharon's Mum Robyn, JD Byrne, Joy Newman, Sharon Waterston, Cheryl Young (hidden), Gabby Foote, Daniel Martini, Samantha Eldridge, Griz Adams, Rachael McCrae, Monica Jack & Kathryn Morris.



**The Writers Annual General Meeting** was conducted on the 22nd October 2010 - Presidents report:

The year has been a busy time for the members of the National Executive Committee. All core functions of the association have been attended to for the benefit of the members.

•The Annual Sydney Luncheon was once again a success.

- The Scribes in Darwin have continued to hold Luncheons as organised by Jeannie Roberts.
- The Adelaide Scribes continue, with success and suffering, their "Pie Floater" Lunches.
- The Victorian Chapter has had to curtail events, due to the promotion of the organiser. This will be rectified in the 2010/2011 year.
- The Canberra Scribes had a successful Christmas Lunch.
- The Brisbane Chapter are organising their get to- gethers under the Blind Eyes of Laurie Mitchell and Greg Morrison.
- The WA Chapter is reorganising their area and will be organising events in the near future.
- Arrangements for the 2011 Reunion, to be held in Hobart are well in hand as organised by Frank Brown and Dick Gottschalk.
- The National Committee conducted 5 electronic meetings, during the reporting period.

In November 2009, I along with the Secretary and our wives attended the final Graduation of Initial Writer Course for 2009 and I had the honour to present the Associations Student of Merit award to Smn Wtr Chalk This was a memorial event for me as it was 50 years since I graduated from the Supply School. Presentations were also made to the Students of Merit for the other Initial Writer Classes held in the reporting period. We congratulate the winners of the awards. Arrangements are being put in place to initiate some new awards, with a Leading Writer promotion course called the Intermediate Course being made into a Residential Course and the Professional Development Course, being renamed the Advanced Writer Course being converted to a Residential Course

During my time playing Grey Nomad, I have managed to visit, or make contact with 10 Scribes who, so to speak, live off the beaten track.

The Committee has been pleased with the increase in membership of the association, with Membership for Life being the most popular. The association requires the support of all Writers, both serving and retired to contribute to our



growth and stability. The set up of Sub Committees in various states and areas, where sufficient numbers exist, continues to be well appreciated by the members in that area.

Our Secretary Geoffrey Hardwick and Treasurer Leonard White – who cannot attend today's AGM, because of work, continue to fulfilled their duties in a truly professional manner. Our Vice President, Martin Grogan represents us well at the Supply School, presenting awards and speaking at Morning Teas'. On behalf of all of you I extend your thanks for their work to them all

The Editor of the Scribbler and Web Master, Geoffrey Hardwick has again excelled in his duties. The Newsletter continues to receive high praise for its content. I believe this medium is our most valuable tool in which we are able to disseminate information to all members in a timely manner. I would also like to encourage all members to help this continue through the submission of articles for the Newsletter. I would also like to thank our sponsor, National Mailing and Marketing Pty Ltd. for their invaluable continued support.

We have lost a lot of good friends throughout the year, some were expected, some were very un-expected. Some more members who were listed as Missing have now been confirmed as Crossing the Bar

#### LEST WE FORGET.

As you see from the Treasurer's report the Association is in a sound financial position. This is through the excellent management skills of the treasurer. We are always open to offers from any Member who is in business, and think they can obtain a business gain from advertising in our Newsletter. The distribution of the Scribbler reaches out to over 2000 members four times a year, and is available via the website all year.

**Treasurers report:** The Association completed the third financial year in a good position with an operating surplus of \$23,485.12. The full financial report can be found on the web site.

#### **Election of committee:**

For President: Lew Horsfield

For Vice President: Martin Grogan

For Secretary: Geoffrey Hardwick

For Treasurer: Leonard White

For three Committee Member positions:

Denis Benfield, Frank Carville, Alan Axford

As these were the only nominations, each person was duly elected.



We asked in Issue 5 who started off the *Cerberus* journal and perhaps it was **Harold Alexander Hodkinson**. Graham Cleverly confirmed that it was more likely this gentleman and his nickname was 'Hoddy'. We thought that we should publish his service.

Arthur's official number was 6910. He was officially enlisted on the 26th February 1922, however his service really commenced 24th September 1918 as a Boy II at *Tingara*. He subsequently posted to *Cerberus* 1/3/1920 until he joined *Geranium* 13/9/1921 (He was an AB at this stage) Back to *Cerberus* 27/1/1923 and he was promoted to LS six months later. He joined *Swordsman* 5/8/1926 and *Sydney* 5/8/1927, *Melbourne* 14/10/1927 and four months later promoted to PO. On 2nd May 1928 he joined *Australia* until 5/11/1928. Back to *Cerberus* where he was promoted to CPO 26/2/1932. On the 1st January 1936 he was promoted to Warrant Officer and spent most of his time besides training at *Cerberus* and on 1st October 1940 he became a commissioned officer in the RAN.



After his promotion he became a Paymaster Lieutenant 1/10/1943, (From 1945 - 1951 he was posted to London Depot - part of at Victory) LCDR 1/10/1951, CMDR 31/12/1954 and transferred to retired list in 1964. He passed away 2nd November 1973 at the age of 69 years. It is noted he was awarded the British War Medal 26th October 1921 and shortly after that his official entry date was amended back to 24th September 1918. The picture above was taken in 1945. We wish to thank Penny Conway for sending us her Grandfathers photo. A second photo can be found in his biography on the web site.

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**Heard from:**

**Kerry Johnson (Nee Jardine)**. Ex LWRWTR

Joined October 1978 - Served *Cerberus*, Harman (NO), Moreton and back to Harman (NO) Paid off October 1985. Worked for RAAF and NOCQLD

before finally disconnecting with the service and moving to ATO. Now lives in Brisbane (where she signed up from) with hubby and two challenging teenage university student.

**Rosemary Ganly**

I joined up 1965, got to be LWRAN WTR, married (discharged) 1968. The family ended up in Canberra, after time in Hawaii, Nowra (several times), and twice to RAAF Sale. I finished University at the ANU and started working for Department of Defence as an APS officer, which I continued to do until 2007 when I finally retired. I started in Defence working with DPUBS, but after graduation I won a job with the DFRT, then moved to the Inspector Generals, had a posting to New Zealand Defence HQ in Wellington, then on to FDA, to Strategy and Capability, CFO and finally ending up in HQADF, which was becoming the Office of Sec and CDF as I left.

When I was divorced in 1990 I reverted to the name on my birth certificate and have now lived in Canberra for close on 27 years. Amongst other things I am the Vice President (Membership) for the United Services Institute of ACT, so I have kept a close link with Defence. I still have a Defence e-mail address as I work as a volunteer in the USI Campbell Park Office a few hours a week! That makes my Defence connection some 45 years long.

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**Lorraine Harris (Nee Wright)**

I served from March '62 or was it '63 (it was so long ago) until June of 1964 when I was married (married ladies weren't allowed to serve after they were married - in my time.) My service number was W85641.

I worked three jobs at *Cerberus* (Pay Office, Junior Recruit School (when it was located there) and at Supply School with Chief Petty Office Shugg and Sub-Lt Denton.

Over the last 10 years I have managed the office at the Southern Peninsula Veterans Centre in Rosebud Victoria and we have just opened an office one day a week at HMAS *Cerberus*.....it's like going home again after all these years. We assist our serving members, peacekeepers and older veterans with their pensions, military compensation and all things welfare and liaise with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

I have already booked into the Hobart Casino for the Hobart Reunion.

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HMAS *Creswell* Accounts Office  
in 1980.

Left to right:

SMNWTR Bill Tannock,

ABWTR Dave Speight,

LSWTR Geoff Hunter



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We heard from Lindsay Lake who after doing some research on the National Archives site found a CPOWTR who is his first cousin twice removed.

**CPOWTR Alexander Edgar KUHN** P/N 12872 joined up from the Darling Downs area, QLD. Served from 19th February 1921 until 3rd January 1946. The ships he served in were:

*Melbourne 1st* - LSWTR 4 Feb 1927 to 14 Sep 1927,

*Sydney 1st* - LSWTR 18 Apr 1928 to 8 May 1928

*Brisbane 1st* - LSWTR 28 June 1928 to 22 Jan 1929

*Westralia 1st* - POWTR 8 Nov 1939 to 19 Dec 1939

*Manoora 1st* - POWTR 12 Dec 1939 to 30 Apr 1941

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### Looking for Stories on Joyce Warren (Nee Horn)

Glenys Warren is researching her family military history and is searching for anyone who may have known WRAN Writer Joyce Warren (Nee Horn) during WW2. I am interested in personal stories about her and whether anyone out there has any photos of her during her time in the WRANS. She was posted to HMAS Moreton, and married Charles Warren. She discharged at Moreton.. They lived at Enoggera in Brisbane and had 3 sons.

If you can help Glenys her email address is: [glenysw\\_55@hotmail.com](mailto:glenysw_55@hotmail.com)

We have been able to find the following information about Joyce:

Service Number 1182. Enlisted 12 April 1943 as a Wran Group III Writer and advanced to Writer 12 July 1943. Served at HMAS Moreton and became a leading writer 1 Nov 1945. Married Charles WARREN. Discharged 26 Feb 1946.

**LEST WE FORGET****George Bottriell**

We were advised by his wife Dulcie Bottriell that George passed away 10th June 2010.

Ex Writer R7902. Joined *Cerberus* as P/WTR in January 1945. Made Writer in March and posted to *Madang* from April 1945 to December 1945, Lonsdale January 1946 to May and LST 3017, *Tarakan* June 1946 to February 1947. Demobbed at *Lonsdale* in March 1947. George was one of the first members of the Association with badge number 0030.

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**Paul Breen** passed away 27th August 2010.

Paul was serving in the Royal Australian Navy as the ADF Indigenous Community Engagement Officer in Cairns at the time. He was on 2 years leave without pay from the Federal Police. Paul served in Iraq last year and was awarded the US Meritorious Service Medal



**Terence Allan 'Tammie' Moonie** passed away at the Southern Cross Catholic Home, Caloundra on Tuesday 21st September 2010.



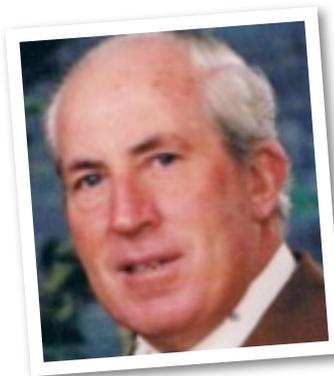
Tammie joined the RAN 16th May 1955. R51032. Promoted WTR 16th March 1957, LDG 7th November 1958, PO 5th May 1961, CPO 19th August 1966. Terrence was one of the 1st eight Writers promoted to Warrant officer 16th May 1972 with a seniority date of 17th December 1971.

Postings after training Penguin 7/2/1956, Watson 29/8/1956, Melbourne 30/3/1957, Tobruk 19/6/1957, Penguin 23/8/1959, Melbourne 11/7/1960, Penguin 28/12/1961, Harman 7/9/1962, Watson 6/10/1965, Parramatta 30/1/1967, Harman (NO) 10/2/1969 - 1972 Not known after this point.

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## LEST WE FORGET



Allan Desmond Lawson passed away on the 27th September 2010. His wife Melva advised us he had lung cancer. His story: "I was born Allan Desmond Lawson at Maryborough, Vic August 26th 1928. Joined in Melbourne at Rialto House 10th February 1947 and went straight to Cerberus as was the custom. Did my prelims and was posted Lonsdale then to Navy Office (known as bullshit castle) in St Kilda Road. Several scribes there, Lou Pinsach, Charlie Wilcox, Denis Collison, CPO Tom Davis and ? Kaye. Wanted sea service so applied for Tarangau at Dreg Harbor, New Guinea and was posted Condamine in transit. LT Commander John Dawson was the Captain, liked a beer (or two). Right Des in 1940.

Disembarked at Port Moresby and flew across to Finchhaven (one of the many ways it was spelt). The big boss there was FOIC (NG), Captain Claude Brecks, a great bloke. The Exec was Commander Arnold Green, an absolute shocker, with his Stupid dog 'Bomber'. Divisional branch Officers were LT Commander Watson (Supply) and NCO Warrant Officer Hyal beck (or Brock), both the sort of blokes that made navy life hell. Had 12 months or so there, and then flew down to Penguin to get 'lost' in the system. No gear – no pay – just a naval nomad. Finally went by train to Melbourne, arrived in about 1 degree old measure, wet and cold, dressed in anti malarial gear, no hammock, no money – god help me! Anyhow, got a bed, a feed and some folding stuff and settled into Lonsdale until demob in 1949. My service number was L34130. I have the Australian Service medal, 1945/75 Papua NG, Australian Defence medal, 60th anniversary medal WWII for service"



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We also wish to advise that **Peter Charlton's** wife Vicki recently passed away and also **Bob Creighton** advised that his wife Sheila also passed away after 62+ years marriage. We send our condolences to both ex scribes.

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Sad to hear last week another Writer falls **Peter George Waudby** who joined 16th January 1965. R64049. After Cerberus training, he joined Melbourne 22/6/1965 until 18/2/1966. Cerberus until he joined Harman 9/7/1967. Albatross 8/1/1968. Melbourne 25/11/1968 until his discharge 8/12/1969. Discharged UFTRO. A colourful character who went absent twice (1967, 1969) in his career. The first offence saw him awarded 28 days detention.,

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We were recently advised **John (Jack) Francis Sherwood** 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 6th June 1946 and his first posting was Lonsdale on 7th January 1947, Rushcutter 23/4/1947 and then Penguin 1/10/1947 where he was promoted to LS 1/7/1948. His first sea posting was Bataan 5/1/1949 until 13/12/1949 when he returned to Penguin and was promoted to PO 1/1/1951.

He spent some time at Platypus 3/11/1952 until he joined Sydney 7th March 1953 until 22/8/1954.

His next posting was Platypus until 1/3/1956 (Promoted CPO 1/10/1955) when he joined Leeuwin until 8/1/1958 when he spent 6 months at Watson until 1/8/1958 when he joined Tobruk. On 20th February 1960 he was back in Penguin until 1/8/1961 when he joined Creswell for 2 years. On 5th August 1963 he was back at Penguin until 17/11/1964 when he joined Melbourne. He stayed on this ship until his discharge 4th October 1966. 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)

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Another World War II vet passed away 26th October 2010. **Raymond Sanders Watson** Official Number S6986, born 22 December 1922. Joined the RAN on 30th July 1942 at Rushcutter as a Writer Probationary, and promoted to Writer 29th October 1942. He was posted to *Cerberus* for some time before joining *Australia* 26th August 1944 (*Australia* became the first Allied ship to be dived on by kamikaze pilots) and posted to *Kuttabul* 13th October 1945. Demobbed 8th July 1946.

In later life Raymond became a Justice of the Family Court. Some of you may remember the 'Drury' shooting in June 1984. Justice Ray Watson, was injured in a bombing that killed his wife, Pearl, when she opened the door of the couple's Greenwich unit a month after the Drury shooting.

Raymond became a "Member of the Order of Australia" on 13th June 1993. For "Service to Law, particularly in the fields of family law and criminal law reform"

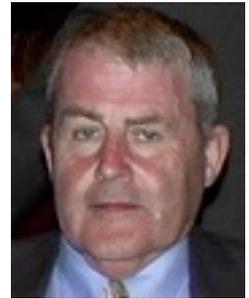
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In the May-June Reville. Bomber Atkinson (Deceased) was mentioned in respect of the book he published in 1986. Here is the full transcript of the article:

### **Honours and Awards**

In 1986 the late James Atkinson published a book titled 'Honours and Awards to the RAN'. As this was 24 years ago, a small group of enthusiasts have decided to spend time bringing this excellent publication up to date. As well, there is a need to expand on citation wording. For example, take the bland statement that Able Seaman Raymond Reginald Collins, S6112, had been awarded the DSM for gallantry in the face of the enemy in the Forward Areas of New Guinea. In fact Mick Collins won his award for leading a patrol of native infantry during a successful, if hairy, ambush of Japanese positions near Jacquinet Bay. The background to the citation needs to be told. Similarly Petty Officer Stoker William Frederick McCarthy Coles was awarded the BEM for 'Distinguished service during the war in HMAS SHROPSHIRE'. What was it that PO Coles did that made his service distinguished? It would be good to know.



If you are an award recipient, or if you know one, it would be great help to the research team to have access to the full citation wording, together with all and any related correspondence. The research team can be contacted at Bravo Zulu, PO Box 139, Salamander Bay, NSW 2317. (George Stevens, Huskisson sub-branch)

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### **Nominations for RAN Writers Association Certificate of Recognition.**

This award recognises those who have shown a willingness to lend a helping hand, who knows the importance of strong Association values and a keen sense that they have made a valuable contribution.

Some people may not members of the Writers Branch may nevertheless have contributed greatly to the Association through their efforts. Therefore, a Certificate of Recognition can be awarded to such person or organisation in recognition of their contribution.

Should you wish to nominate a person/organisation please forward an email to the Secretary ([geoffreyhardwick@me.com](mailto:geoffreyhardwick@me.com)) with the name of the person/organisation and why they have made a valuable contribution.

This award is made every 3 years at the reunion event.

**Part 2 of the Bob McGrath story:**

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

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

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



the QM's face as he waved us through. Fully clothed, we returned to the gangway and picked up our short leave cards.

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

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

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



In June 2010 **Chris Bales and Tony Irish Vickers** ex Writers living in UK made a visit to Ypres and Flanders Fields War cemeteries, the purpose being for Chris to visit the WWI grave of his grandfather. Irish wrote such an interesting article we have published this on our web site. Ten pages of their trip with great pictures. See 'Visit to Ypres and Flanders War Cemeteries' on the front page.

**Looking for Korean, Malayan or Vietnam vets:** Thirroul R S L Sub Branch Committee is currently compiling an Honour Roll for placement at Thirroul Memorial Park. They are searching for the names of those who served in the Korean, Malayan or Vietnam wars (either enlisted or conscripted - Navy, Army, RAAF, civilian) and were actually residing in Thirroul at the time of enlistment or conscription. Please contact John Bond Phone: 0417.298.545 or send an email to: [johnbond2@bigpond.com](mailto:johnbond2@bigpond.com)

### **Call for Nominations**

Life Membership is bestowed at each National Reunion event, held every three years. (*ie. 2008, 2011, 2014*) in special circumstances life memberships can be bestowed outside these three years. *More details and application form can be found our web site under 'About Us'*

### **Fortnightly update of our web site**

*If you like to receive a fortnightly news letter of news and additions to the web site - subscribe on our home page to receive it.*

### **Recent additions to our web site:**

We have added biographies for Ken Purdie, John Trevithick, Graham Jacobs and John JD Jeffreys. All joined in the 50's. A 1950 photo of the class of 91 includes writers and other recruits. The latest writer courses conducted at Cerberus are shown under the course page 2010-12

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