



THE SCRIBBLER



By The Editor



It is with regret that we advise of another four ex writers that have passed away since our last newsletter, Lindsay Webb, Ian McLaughlin, Ted Golding and Jean Munro. In addition Dave Langford's wife Lorraine also passed away.

The next reunion is at the Gold Coast 5-7 April 2013 at Twin Towns Service Club. The Anzac Room has been booked and there is a limit of 200 guests for the dinner Saturday night. The registration list is open, and registrations will be taken on the form in this newsletter with a registration deposit, however, registrations are open to members only of the association and of course their partners until 1st March 2012. Registration deposits will be refunded if you have to cancel. So get your name(s) in if you wish to attend.

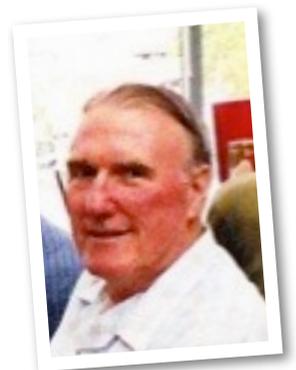
We are pleased that our fortnightly E-Newsletter is being subscribed to. In just 3 months we are sending this out to over 75 subscribers. You can subscribe to this on our web site.

Lest We Forget



Dorothy Jean (Otter) MUNRO, Ex PO Writer WR1174 passed away 14th April 2011. Jean served at Rushcutter from 1942 to 1946. She married 1948. Jean was 89 years.

Lindsey, John Webb (Right) Passed away 29th May 2011. Born 2nd May 1929, Lindsay joined the RAN on the 29th May 1946 and was discharged 1st May 1969 as CPO. The funeral was attended by Ex Writers, Denis Lyons, Ray Walters, Jerry Lewis, Alex Goodieson, Jack Cummins, Geoffrey Hardwick





Edwin 'Ted' Golding. Passed away 29th October 2010 at the age of 89. Ted joined on the 6th December 1939 and discharged 5th December 1951 as a CPO . Ted was a member of the ships company of HMAS Commonwealth (HMAS Commonwealth was a former Royal Australian Navy administered shore base located in Kure, Japan) until 1950, when the base was transferred to Japanese control.



Ian Richard McLaughlin (left), Ex CPOWTR passed away 11th May 2011. Ian was born 6th November 1931 at Williamstown Victoria. He joined the RAN 5th June 1949 and served until 5th November 1971.



Lorraine Langford,(left) wife of Dave Langford passed away suddenly in Canberra 29th May 2011.

The funeral was attended by Ex Writers Denis Lyons and Geoffrey Hardwick.

National WTR Reunion Gold Coast 5-7 April 2013

Registration Form

Registration is limited to Members of the Association and their partners until 1/3/2012

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

Registration fee \$25 per head.

Total fees payable: \$

There are two options available, choose the most convenient and follow the instructions below.

Option 1: Funds Transfer to the Australian Defence Credit Union :
BSB - 802 397 Account No - 100 113 636 Account Name - Navy Writers Reunion

In the reference field please provide your Last Name

Then fill in the form on the web site to advise that you have deposited money. The form can be found under the icon '2013'

Option 2: Payment by cheque made out to "Navy Writers Reunion" and send your completed registration form posted to :

WTR's Reunion 2013 PO Box 5020
Chisholm ACT 2905.

Your registration fee will be refunded if your circumstances change and you cannot attend.



Writers Serving Overseas

Fellow Scribes, past and present. G'Day. My name is Michael Davis, most commonly known throughout the fleet as Davo. I have served for over 24 years now in many roles afloat and ashore. One of the most rewarding of my roles involved my time in the Middle East....

Peace of mind is an intangible personal benefit. Assisting in providing that peace of mind is an enormous responsibility for which the Logistic Staff of the Force Support Unit (FSU) staff in the Middle Eastern Area of Operations (MEAO) undertake with pride. They have always been there to support. The name of the Unit may have changed over time, but the role and responsibility has not. Junior and Senior Sailor Writers have been part of this Logistic team from the beginning – in Administrative, Pay, and Financial positions – assisting in providing the peace of mind to all Officers, sailors, soldiers and airmen.



At the beginning of 2009, my application to volunteer for service in the MEAO was accepted and my training began in Darwin and shortly after I took up the role of the FSU-1 Chief Clerk in Kuwait. During my 6½ month deployment I visited my Clerical team in Afghanistan for a few days in both Kandahar and Tarin Kot, for situational awareness and future development of the locations. As I wandered around in battle armour, STEYR constantly by my side, I observed the distinct differences of the multi national forces in operation. It was also insightful to see the conditions under which my clerical

team was operating. The vision, atmosphere, and climatic conditions experienced there will be imprinted on my memory for the rest of my life.

Up until late 2009 however, no Writer has served for any length of time in Afghanistan. This changed when LSWTR Tanya Wood was 'rotated' from her intended billet in Kuwait (the Australian 'Gateway to the MEAO') to Kandahar Air Field where she spent the majority of her nine month deployment. Her role there was to support those moving forward as part of Australia's commitment. Her admin and pay support was instrumental in ensuring all non formed body personnel in Afghanistan received the correct pay entitlements, medals due to



them, and movements requests were initiated for leave, internal moves, and then for departure out of the MEAO.

True to Navy signature behaviours, Tanya found efficiencies and improvements to processes that could be made. She raised these with Command and was able, eventually in some cases, to be able to implement these efficiencies and some new processes. Tanya has



also been called upon since her return to Australia to elaborate her thoughts further. Tanya's efforts, both in country, and on her return, are highly likely to have been part of the reason for having the positions upgraded to Senior NCO level.

Unexpectedly, I returned to the Middle East in 2010 for another tour as the Chief Clerk, for FSU-3 this time, based at Al Minhad Air Base in the United Arab Emirates. An opportunity arose due to some staffing commitments for me to spend the second half of my tour in Kandahar as the Senior Clerk. Our Afghan commitment had grown considerably since my first tour. Having senior clerical staff to lead the Admin previously covered by Corporals certainly allowed for a little extra 'clout' when making recommendations to the different Commands we are involved with there.

So on the eve of Writers being posted to billets in Afghanistan, rather than rotating into them, or providing relief support, I send a hearty warm wish to those going in to the Financial, Postal, and Administrative support roles. I trust you will get as much out of the experience as I did and be honoured to support



As a foot note to Davo's article - the Navy News of 9th June 2011 had the following item: FAR AFIELD: CPO Stuart O'Brien is deployed as the chief clerk with the Force Support Unit at Al Minhad Air Base, United Arab Emirates.

Photo: SGT William Guthrie



Two Writer wives reunion in Queensland, March 2011.

As a result of Chris Moy (son of the late ex C.P.O. Writer John Moy) contacting "British" Hardwick to obtain the assistance of past shipmates to help in compiling his dads bio, "British" gave Chris my husbands email address. Contact was made between Chris and my husband, ex C.P.O. Writer Bob Bryce and Chris's mother, Valerie, who now lives in Launceston. Letters and phone calls were exchanged with her since last year. Valerie and I had not met since approx. 1957, Bob and I were Best man and Matron of Honour at their wedding in Sydney in September, 1953. John and Bob had served together in H.M.A.S. CERBERUS, 1949, PENGUIN, 1949-1952, and SYDNEY, 1953, and did not serve together again for the rest of their time in the R.A.N.



Valerie came up to Redcliffe, Queensland end of March with her daughter and grandson, we stayed in the same block of Apartments, our friendship has stood the test of time as we took up from our last meeting over 50 years ago. Bob and I live on the Gold Coast so it was a great opportunity for us to see each other.

I would like to thank "Scribbler" network for making our meeting again possible after so many years. We plan to visit Valerie in Tasmania later this year. I have enclosed a photograph of Valerie Moy and myself taken during our reunion end of March. Marjorie Bryce is on left of photograph and Valerie on right.

Hoping this is of interest to your members. Marjorie.



Alan (Jack) Cove met up with an old Data Operator mate, **Barney Barnard**, during the Writers re-union in Hobart recently, Barney is the one on the left.

On another note, we were advised that LCDR Harry Watson passed away 21st June 2011. Many ex Data Operators would have known Harry.

**We heard from.....****Andy 'Boots' Brittain**

"Sorry I missed the Hobart Reunion though at the time I was in hospital undergoing the removal of my gall bladder. I was visiting the Philippines at the time I became ill and went to hospital in Cebu. They kept me there for about 2 weeks and stabilised my condition to allow me to return to Australia for the gall bladder removal. It was an expensive stay for me costing around \$8500 and to my dismay I found out on my return that I was not covered by my Gold Card. This should serve as a timely reminder to others travelling overseas to be sure to take out Travel Insurance. On my return I was admitted to Royal Perth Hospital where they whipped out the gall bladder and discharged me about 5 days later.



I got married in August, 2009 to a lovely Philipino lady of 40 years. Many of my old mates may be surprised to learn of this but I am very happily married and my wife does an excellent job in looking after me. Not an easy task as many of you could attest. Any of you crusty old bachelors looking for a wife could do worse than considering a

Philipina.. I would like to pass on my fondest regards to my many old mates in the Writer branch. I am pleased to see that you have shortened the term between reunions to two years and providing I haven't fallen off the perch by 2013, I will do my best to attend the Gold Coast reunion. Congratulations Geoff on being recognised for your service to the association and also to young Lew who was one of my sons back in Watson.

I enclose a recent photo of my wife, Mariefe, and myself at the Pinnacles Desert which is about 100ks north of Perth.



Tim Slater, aged 49 with the big 50 happening in December, and I live in Esperance, WA, with my wife Sharon and two children Rebecca (13) and Harrison (10).

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.

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 filling 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.

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 AUST-FASO in Seattle.

I posted out of *Stirling* in October 1984 and headed stateside where I 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*.

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 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 and moved back to start a new life in Perth. I have worked as journalist since 1995 after completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1994 and joined the navy reserve as a public relations officer in 2002. But my time in the reserves only lasted three years after my daughter



was diagnosed with type-1 diabetes and I needed to support my family. I have since considered re-joining the reserves but this has not occurred.

I enjoyed my time in the Navy and made some good friendships along the way. I have lost contact with most of my former colleagues, with none of them that I know still serving, and only one that I have seen in recent times being Ray Chilton after he paid off as a POWTR in 2003.

The Service by Ex Robynne Cross Now Lou Mc Waters

Once I moved from the bush to a coastal town I loved being in, on or near the ocean. How that progressed to wanting to join the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service I am not sure but I knew I wanted to from 1976. I applied 2 months after turning 17, 2 years later.

I joined with a couple of other young ladies from Bundaberg and a group from Queensland and northern NSW. I remember staying at the Peoples Palace in Brisbane and meeting the girls, all our interviews etc and our swearing in. I became W124835 in the flesh!



We flew TAA south on Melbourne Cup Day 1978. The Australian Cricket team were on the plane from Brisbane to Melbourne. I had the largest brown fake leather "port" and it was difficult to drag it about without wheels. It became one well travelled "port"!

Intake 183 was at HMAS Cerberus by dinner time that night. I was given a bunk in the far left corner in the first room, ground floor closest to the reg Office – and the telephone. My room mates were Jenny Green (WTR), Lynda King (ROS previous intake) and Trisha Porter

(ROS). Picture above - Sue Lowry a Medic, Robynne, Jenny Green and Trisha Porter



Below POWTR John Chant and Robynne at Writers course dinner.



.At a time when cheesecloth and machine knitted bikinis were all the rage it was hard to wear skirts and stockings in the Victorian summer heat. I thought I looked **so** old in clothes I wouldn't normally wear.

I didn't have to wear a uniform for a few weeks as my head was only a 51 and they ran out of lids. I felt like a dog walking along the footpaths to SCRAN etc and felt everyone looked at me and wondered why I wasn't in uniform like the rest of the Recruits. There are enough eyes on you when a new group first enters the SCRAN hall. All those Navy Recruits checking out the new girls.

I was one of half a dozen young ladies who wasn't 18 years old and couldn't even go to the Wets when Recruits was over. I injured my collar bone at a PT session. I told the PTI I couldn't do somersaults but he did insist. Ouch. As I couldn't write I did verbal exams with Colvin Instructor, PO Dell Ponterollo. How much pressure was that? !!

Learning to make beds, spit on shoes, walk through a chamber filled with smoke, recognise a Commander from a Commodore, line up and salute to receive the great pay packet - all before being allowed to return home for Christmas.

Things I remember from those several weeks also included:

- eating Tosca chocolate bars – remember them anyone?;
- wondering how those who couldn't swim, and had to attend backward swimmers, joined the Navy? ;
- being astounded that WRANS were receiving calls from male recruits a few days after arriving;
- giggling, giggling and more giggling!

First weekend "ashore" it was hard to escape seeing sailors everywhere, but great to explore Melbourne and over the coming months attend concerts, the Tattoo, shopping, lots of birthday weekends, disco dancing (when hearing songs from that time I am immediately transported back in time) and more shopping. I learned I could drink Tequila, not get drunk and not get a hangover. How sad is that for a now much older woman to profess?



After spending the Christmas break in Tropical Far North Queensland and going through a cyclone it was back down south to begin my Writers Course in the Supply School (now the Museum). I didn't move over to Mitchell block until more than half way through the Writers course. Another end room. Did I snore and everyone was keeping this from me? I think we were also the last group marching to class each day from way up near Millys/SCRAN hall (also not in the same location).

Petty Officer John Chant was the Instructor. I first drank coffee during this course. Jenny, who drank hot water not coffee, would make us all frothy coffees. I loved payroll the most and was almost disappointed that I didn't get a pay office spot on completion.

I recall having to go behind the Recruit block to polish a tap prior to Admirals Rounds. God it was cold!!!! April 1979 I was standing on the platform at Cerberus on my way to HMAS HARMAN to live and a Navy Office Russell Offices D block Record of Training and Employment Office posting. The big wide Service was now very real!

Ex Robynne Cross Now Lou Mc Waters.

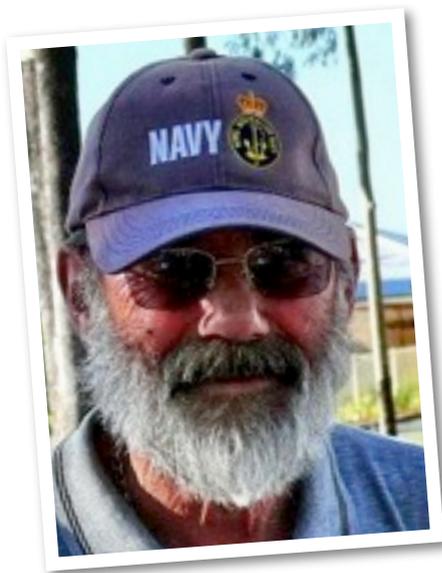


Picture Bunratty Castle writers - DWRANS junior sailors Kaye (the blond in the front) and Kerry Jardine Johnson, some DSP sailors and we 2 RTEO gals went out one night.



CPOLIN Rob Dix R62737 says President Lew kindly sent me several back copies of "The Scribbler" which I avidly consumed. I was transported back to the 1960s looking at photographs and names of scribes I knew well during my three years and three months as a scribe. It is important that I provide a brief resume of my years from 1960 to 1963 so that you: the reader; can appreciate what influenced me to join the RAN in January 1964 (Waller Division).

I went to Europe for my further education in early 1960 majoring in linguistics graduating in Italian in 1961. As a qualified ESL (English as a second language) teacher I was employed by an adjunct of Milan university in that role as well as studying and qualifying in Spanish and Portuguese. I had



intended to continue teaching on my return to Australia in 1963 but I saw a Navy recruiting article in "The Advertiser" which offered free advanced training in Asian languages.

I was just around the corner from the Adelaide recruiting office so in I went. I introduced myself to the Chief Stoker and provided copies of my qualifications. He was delighted and spun me a dit which sounded too good to be true. I was told that after three months basic training I would be given a one year language course which would probably be

Chinese. I signed up for 20 years. Towards the end of recruit training we were all given a form to fill in - three choices of branches. In (a) I wrote linguist, in (b) linguist, in (c) linguist. Lt (later Admiral) R.C. Walls called me in, said I was a trouble maker. He had no idea what a linguist was so I patiently explained to him what linguists do and that I had been one in my past life. He just brushed me off and told me I would be posted to the Comms school for R0(S) training after sea training in HMAS Sydney.

The truth turned out to be far different to that which the Chief Stoker had told me!

Prior to applying for a language course one had to be qualified in Part 1 for PO and Part 2 was the year long language course. I completed my R0(S) course and calculated it would take years in the Comms world to reach that level so requested COB (change of branch) to writer as qualifying courses were much shorter. COB was approved. Did some sea time and then posted to NO



Canberra as LWTR under CPOWTR Webb and Lt Tug Wilson - both true gentlemen. During this time I did a Malay language course through DNES in 1965. More sea time. Qualified Part 1 for PO, applied for RAAF School of Languages, changed to LLIN on 11 December 1967 and commenced language training January 1968 and promoted POLIN on 6 December 1968 exactly one month before getting my first GCB. I had been nominated for the Chinese language course but at the last minute because of 'operational requirements' I was to do Indonesian. I made no mention of my previous Malay language studies which were not even recorded on my SC. As you may well know dear readers Malay and Indonesian are 'sister languages' so very little study was required.

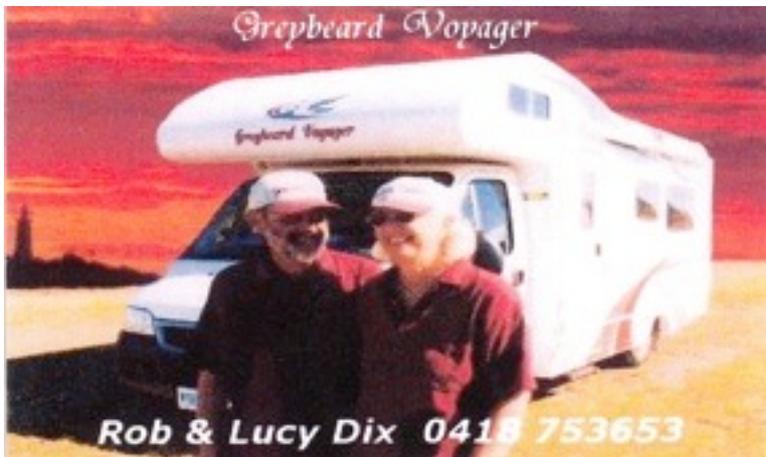
As an aside, when I joined Point Cook School of Languages I observed a PO birdie attached to the flying school whose only role in life seemed to be to ride a yellow pushbike and carry a clipboard. He only ever wore No: 8 uniform with RAAF insignia all over his foul weather jacket. Daily orders would state dress of the day for RAAF and army and under RAN it said "equivalent" so I decided 8's and foully would do me for the whole year. But - I really should have worn No: 6 uniform on graduation. How was I to know that when I walked to the dais to be presented with my diploma, NOCVIC would be seated in the front row resplendent in whites and medals! Yes, we talked afterwards! Actually, I said very little.

My career included numerous postings to DSD (Defence Signals Directorate) Melbourne, *Coonawarra*, four years with 7 Signals Regiment ANZUK Force Singapore, several postings to *Harman*, Attache Support Officer at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta 1980-1983. In 1980 I also had to study the Ambonese language in addition to my long working hours.

Retired 5th January 1984 - messy divorce 1985 - Left with nothing. 44 years old and just my pussers pension. Well, better think about getting a job. Started teaching languages and somehow the intelligence community; a very close knit family with their fingers on the pulse; approached me. Suddenly I had brilliant job offers from ASIO, ASIS and DSD all in one week. I chose DSD doing the same job for a lot more money. A wonderful 14 years followed during which time I bought properties in Melbourne and Queanbeyan, was sent on detachments to Shoal Bay in Darwin and JDFPG (Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap) and in 1996 once more got sent to the RAAF school of languages for the Pidgin language course. I was then



55 and DSD started handing out redundancy packages, so I put my hand up and accepted one and bought some more property.



Three weeks later DSD called me back. Now classified as a language consultant the pay and conditions were excellent.

In 2002 I sold up my property on the mainland and bought a farm in Northern Tasmania. I had started collecting motorhomes a few years before. Met

a like minded motorhome lady in 2003, sold the farm, built a new home and married in 2004. We now live on our third property at Sheffield and are on our seventh motorhome with number eight on order.

I am now a financial de-facto member of the association and, as such, would make you welcome when you visit this little bit of paradise. We have two dedicated powered sites and our own dump point on our property at the foot of Mount Roland.

Telephone first as we do spend a lot of time on the road. Rob and Lucy Dix, 8 Annie Place, Sheffield, Tas 7306. Telephone 0418 753 653. Yours Aye Rob.

1958 Navy News article.



To Join Britannia

Nine Royal Australian Navy sailors have been selected for duty In Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia during the Royal Tour next year: They are— Leading Seaman. J Egan (HMAS Melville); Able Seaman I. R. Duffner (HMAS Anzac); Able Seaman K. J P. Barry (HMAS Derwent); Able Seaman N. L. Bayley (HMAS Supply); Able Seaman L. Bayley (HMAS Nirimba); Leading Tactical Operator C. J Walker (IHMAS Cerberus); Acting Leading Engineering

Mechanic G. J. Bowan (HMAS Vampire); Engineering Mechanic R. L. R. Davis (HMAS Creswell); **Leading Writer A. E. Curtin (HMAS Cerberus)**

The sailors will join Britannia in Auckland, New Zealand on March 30 and disembark in Britain in mid June.

If they wish they will be allowed to take their mid-winter leave in Britain after disembarking.

**Expression of Interest- WRANS - RAN Reunion 2012**

At the May meeting of the EX-WRANS ASSOCIATION of Victoria it was proposed that Victoria hold the next WRANS-RAN reunion - for all females who have at one time served, or are currently serving within the RAN.

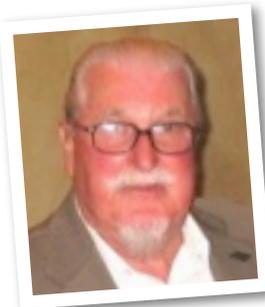
The proposal is that the reunion be held over the weekend of March 30/31 and April 1st (being HMAS Cerberus' birthday) and April being the month of the anniversary of the commencement of the WRANS.

For this to go ahead we would need to have at least 200 Expressions of Interest received prior to July 31 – with a decision being made within the first week of August. Formal registrations and registration fee (\$50) would then be required before the end of September.

Expressions of Interest forms can be obtained by emailing:

wrans.reunion2012@yahoo.com.au

or mail to: Jan Gallagher, 57 Emanuel Drive Seaford, Vic 3198.



Gordo Gent writes:

During a recent visit to Melbourne earlier this year, I visited HMAS Cerberus and it's Naval Museum — (which occupies the site of the old Supply School). I had the extreme good fortune to enjoy a personally conducted tour of the Museum by the current Curator — WOWTR Marty Grogan (Picture right) . I feel that

Marty's considerable part in establishing and maintaining the operation of the Museum has been nothing short of splendid and reflects great credit upon himself and our branch. His flair for detail and organisation is at the highest level.



The purpose of my letter is to bring these matters to your attention with the view of having them noted on our website and a possible paragraph or two in the next issue of the "Scribbler".

(Gordo Gent)
ex CPO Writer.



For those that have retired, promotion to CPO now requires you to undertake a course at Creswell. For those that are still serving and are aspiring to CPO you need to do the course. Read on.

What is the CPOPC and who needs to know?

If you are a Petty Officer (PO) intent on reaching the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO), or you are currently a Chief Petty Officer whom is intent on achieving the pinnacle rank for sailors of Warrant Officer, then you need to know all about the Chief Petty Officers' Promotion Course (CPOPC).

The inaugural CPOPC commenced on 05 October. In terms of feedback from the course participants, Petty Officer Stuart Hammond said 'Overall, its challenging and I have found the Leadership and Ethics aspect of the course to be outstanding.'

TA-ITLM, CAPT Jaimie Hatcher said when opening the course 'I want you to ask yourself what is your understanding of good leadership? Why is it important that we get it right? What is it about you that will allow you to empower and lead others?' He then stated that the CPOPC should be regarded as one step in a leadership and professional development journey: for without first understanding the answers to these questions and gaining the vision, inspiration, and confidence yourselves, your ability to lead others may be significantly affected.

The CPOPC provides an opportunity for Senior Sailors to interact in an adult learning environment, where students bring to the course as much as they hope to take away. It provides an excellent opportunity for our experienced sailors to discuss contemporary leadership and management issues, in a networking environment; sharing ideas and thoughts on issues facing our Navy and its personnel.

Additionally, the CPOPC is a high profile avenue for the Senior Leadership Group to have face to face interactions with members of the Senior Sailor ranks; essentially it provides an opportunity for SLG members to have open discussions with those at the critical Senior Sailor management level. RADM T. Jones, Head of Navy People and Reputation, took time away from the recent Chief of Navy's Senior Leadership Group retreat, at HMAS Creswell, to address the first CPOPC. CPOPC participants said 'that they found the opportunity to discuss coal-face issues with HNPAR to be invaluable'. Additionally, course participants stated 'that the discussion was inspirational; and reinforced the commitment of the SLG towards shaping our future Navy'.

This is an intensive four week residential course conducted at Creswell. The CPOPC is open to the rank of PO and CPO; however, POs will have priority as the course has recently become a prerequisite for promotion to CPO. Eligible POs will be posted to the CPOPC by Navy People Career Management Agency in conjunction with a promotion offer. All CPOs who have not completed Chiefs' Leadership Development Program or Senior Sailors Staff Skills Course Phase 2 will be required to complete the



CPOPC, prior to the Warrant Officer Promotion Course in order to be eligible for consideration for promotion to WO.

If you are a CPO wishing to nominate for the CPOPC you should contact NPCMA via email to either POATV Corey Smith or POSTD Felicity Carman. As limited positions exist for CPOs on the CPOPC, nominations will be short-listed by NPCMA as required.

For more information e-mail Warrant Officer Peter Jones, OAM at Peter.Jones12@defence.gov.au or call (02) 4429 7501.



The first CPOPC to graduate from HMAS Creswell
The first Writer on the course was POWTR Celeste Di Liberto, second row right hand side



THE SCRIBBLER

Sydney Luncheon

- The next luncheon in Sydney will be held mid October 2011.

Further information will be published on our web site when confirmed.

HMAS MELBOURNE Scribes 1977 going to the UK for QEII Silver Jubilee Naval Review.

Back Row Left to Right: ABWTR Bruce KLIMECK, LSWTR ROBSON, LS Brendan ROCHFORD, ABWTR Lance LINK, ABWTR Col HANLEY, ABWTR Peter SPALDING, LSWTR James CARROLL, ABWTR Ian PAYNE.

Middle Row: LSWTR Greg MORRISON, ABWTR Steve MURRAY, ABWTR Pete MILLAR, ABWTR S.P. SMITH (later O'REILLY) LSWTR Steve RUSSELL, ABWTR Garry HOUGHTON.

Front Row: POWTR E.G WILSON, CPOWTR John BIGNELL, WOWTR Fred CURBISHLEY, CMDR J.C. DRINKWATER, LEUT Peter JACOBSON, WOWTR Les BERESFORD, POWTR Terry WIGNEY,

