



THE SCRIBBLER



Patron: Commodore Andrew John Marcus Smith, RAN

Membership of the Association



The Committee has approved the issue of a life membership lapel badge.

The badges have been issued to all 'members for life'

Join the association for life and you will receive one of these badges. Membership form is in this issue.

We heard

Jeff Wake suffered a heart attack 28th January, however he has now recovered and back at home. A stent was put in an artery near his heart. The blockage was in the order of 98% so he is very lucky. He was reading the Sunday Times when it all happened.



Alison McCarthy - I am looking for Lisa Nicholls. I did some reserve time with her at HMAS CRESWELL around the year 2000. If you have information on Lisa please email us.

Cindy Gallahar advises the next ex **WRANS/RAN Servicewomen Reunion is in Hobart 28-30 March 2014.** Expression of Interest can be downloaded from www.wransvic.org.au or queries can be addressed to wrans.reunion2014@yahoo.com.au

Frank Gribble (right in his navy days) looking for 1951/58's Writers

Frank Gribble says "Would there be many of my vintage 1951/1958 that are members? Any information would be appreciated. I can be contacted at frank.gribble@hotmail.com or at P.O. Box 1084 Darlinghurst 1300."



We do need your input so please send us any stories, biographies.

and.... please use the 'Change of Details Form' if you wish to update your details with the Association.

And don't forget to tell us your birthday - only the date and month required.



*A Writer will be known from 1st January 2013 as
'Maritime Logistics Personnel Operations' or 'Personnel'*

By the editor

This is a short version of proposed changes to the Writer Category

Background - Project Demeter: Project Demeter is one of a number step strategic initiatives being conducted to shape the Royal Australian Navy for the challenges of the future. The aims are to consolidate the impact of this work on the modern supply community.

Community titles no longer accurately reflect the employment of its constituents. Therefore CN has approved the renaming of the Supply Community to Maritime Logistics Community.

The Writer will become Maritime Logistics - Personnel Operations or Personnel. Other Supply Branches have been also been renamed.

Why Personnel Operations?

Other Services and Navies use the following titles for service were employed in similar roles:

Army -Admin Clerk. RAAF - Clerk. RN - Personnel Logistician. New Zealand: Operational Administrator. Canadian Navy: Resource Management Support clerks. USN: Yeoman Secretariat and Clerical.

The RAN is unique: we expect different skills and capabilities from our Personal Operations sailors and so terms like Clerk were deemed insufficient to describe the actual job role. Personal Operations sits neatly with Australian Defence Doctrine Publication definitions of "personal management, personal administration and personal services".

Uniform Changes

With new names comes requirement for new badges. This will take up to 2 years to achieve so Writers will continue to wear the old badge.



By the editor. From the black and white version in the report, the badges as shown here will probably reflect the new Writer Category Badge.

So don't throw your old Writer badges away - keep them for posterity.





NAVY BEREAVEMENT PIN



The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) has commissioned a Bereavement Pin to recognize the valued contribution of all Navy personnel who lost their lives while in the service of the RAN, and the nation.

The Navy Bereavement Pin (NBP) is a distinctive 20mm gold lapel pin which has the crest of the Royal Australian Navy encompassed by wreath 'supporters'.



The NBP has been developed to meet an expressed wish by many families, who have lost a close family member while they served in the Navy, to have a tangible yet discrete memento of the service of their loved one. The NBP is a symbol that can assist family members to commemorate the life and service of a relative who was lost while serving in the Navy.

To date, over two thousand NBP have been provided to descendants and family members of Navy personnel. Of note, Navy Bereavement Pins have been issued to family members of some of the earliest RAN wartime casualties which occurred during World War One, as well as to the families of Navy personnel who have died in service more recently.

It is the Chief of Navy's wish that, by prominently wearing the NBP, or having it as a special keepsake, the Pin will assist relative to remember proudly a family member who lost their life while serving in the RAN.

Eligibility

Criteria for a family member to receive the NBP are:

- a) the passing of the Sailor or Officer occurred while they were a member of the Royal Australian Navy,
- b) the applicant, and any other persons included in the nomination, is/are related to that Sailor or Officer.

All family members of Royal Australian Navy personnel who died while serving in the Navy, since Federation, during war or peace, on active service, or even off-duty, are eligible to receive the NBP. Eligibility extends beyond immediate family and may include members of an extended family.

Nominations

If you are related to a person who passed away while serving in the RAN and wish to apply for the Navy Bereavement Pin, the application form and other information is included on the Royal Australian Navy website at:

<http://www.navy.gov.au/about/our-people/navy-berereavement-pin>

Please allow up to five to six weeks for your nomination to be processed. Your NBP will be mailed to you. Relatives without internet access should call the Navy Bereavement Pin Information Line, (02) 6265 3383, for an application form.

**Lest we Forget****Malcolm McGregor - 28th November 2012**

Ex LSWTR and Naval Policeman. Mal was having surgery at the time and died on the operating table. Mal joined the RAN in 1973 as an Aviation sailor, transferring to Writer in 1975. He completed Writer training in course 2/75 from February to May. Mal re-entered the Naval Police in 1979 - 80 and left the Navy in 1991.

**Linton James Kirk**

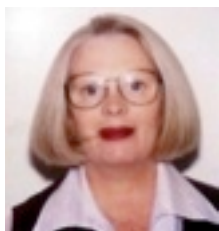
Ex WTR RANR PM4809. James joined the AMF (V56057) on 9/1/1941 and transferred whilst in the Army to the RANR as a Writer in July 1942. He served in HMAS *Lonsdale*, *Nizam*, *Geraltan*, Lanka, RANAO Colombo and Trincomalae and RTO Melbourne. A long standing member of the Association.

**Reginald Gordon Matthews 'Blue'**

Reg passed away 22nd December 2012. Joined 16/5/1920 for 12 years. O/N 23198. Served in establishments Cerberus, Leeuwin and Melville and at sea Yarra 1940 -41.

Christine Elizabeth Barbour.

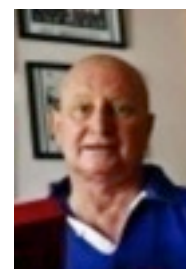
12th January 2013 . Served 1964-68 Passed away unexpectedly at home in Canberra.

**Terri-Ann Winchester (nee Mahoney)**

14th January 2013 . Passed away suddenly after a short battle with thyroid cancer. By Christopher Legg. Terri who has worked with me at Toll for the last year providing (what were) writer functions of relocations. Terri has never been far away from her passion and love of the forces and the Writer world having also been at DHA for 10 years previous. Terri passed away suddenly after a short battle with thyroid cancer diagnosed on her 50th birthday.

**Keith Harris-Walker**

7th February 2013. Served 1964-68 Passed away in West Australia after a battle with cancer. Keith was a Life Member of Touch Football Western Australia who had had a long involvement in the sport over many years. His achievements include representing Australia at a number of international events as well as being an assistant coach at an Australian Men's Open level in the 1990's. In recent times Keith had been a coach for South Africa in the 2003 and 2007 World Cups





We heard from:

Alan Perkins

Ex CPOWTR R114176. Joined the RAN on 9/10/72 as a Junior Recruit and was a member of Howden Division *Leeuwin* Oct 72 to Sep73 with CPOWTR Al Hardie. I was originally categorised as a Steward and undertook training at *Cerberus* reaching the dizzy heights of Steward Second Class on 3/12/72.

First posting after training was *Albatross* for one month. On a Friday afternoon my Divisional Officer asked me “would I like to go to sea”. I said yes, and he said “pack your bags the ship leaves for South East Asia on Monday”. Joined *Vendetta* the following Monday and spent the next very memorable 6 months Up Top.

I came to the realisation very early that Stewarding wasn't for me, so I requested a change to Writer and subsequently commenced my Writer course in Jan 1975 with Graham Rankin, Ian Hatton, Pete Spalding, Dave Sutherland, Col Hanley and Pete McQuire. POWTR Lew Smith was my instructor, and apologies to Lew for my disruptive behaviour. On completion of Writer training I spent a few months in the pay office at *Cerberus*.

Later that year I was posted to *Platypus* and worked in the Personnel Office with POWTR Ian Millard. In Jul 1976 I spent a few months on *Melbourne* doing mess-deck work before going to *Hobart* in Nov 1976 returning to the Pay Office at *Cerberus* in Dec 1977. I enjoyed my time in the *Cerberus* Pay Office. Played plenty of Volleyball and I recall CPOWTR Sid Nolan and POWTR Al Curtin as legends of the Branch, and volleyball court.

From Jan 1979 to Jun 1981 I was posted to *Stirling* and *NOCWA*. Worked in the Personnel Office with WOWTR Carruthers and ABWTR Bruce Whitaker (R.I.P), then later in Pay and Accounts with POWTR Rod Laycock and LSWTR Ollie Twist. Great group of Writers and really enjoyed my time in the West. Promoted to POWTR in Apr 1981

Between Jul 1981 and Jan 1983 I spent time at *CPSO* in *Melbourne* and *Frankston*, before being posted to *Perth* as COSEC and then returned to *Cerberus* as a Supply School Instructor at the end of 1984. I spent three years at the Supply School training young scribes and enjoyed the opportunity to pass on knowledge and work with a great bunch of people – LEUT Phil Griffiths (R.I.P), CPOWTR's Al Hardie, Jim Tester and Steve Salmon, POWTR's Shane Tatnell (R.I.P), Jeannie Brennan, Andy





Thomas, Hilary Rushton, Al Curtin and Phil Meiklejohn. It was also good to read the Bio's of some of my trainees who have done well in their Navy careers.

Instructing and Recruiting were my two favourite postings. In Mar 1988 I was posted to Navy Recruiting in Perth and initially worked in the Field Recruiting Team and then later in

Administration and Officer Recruiting. WOWTR John Southon (very funny man) was the boss and also had the opportunity to work with LSWTR Bob Raymount. I paid off after 20 years in Oct 1992.

After leaving the RAN I stayed in Perth and went into business – Grinners Catering Perth. We sold the business after 14 years in Jun 2007 and went caravanning around Australia for a while. I currently work full time for Grinners Catering, and I am happily married to my wife of 36 years – Dell.

Navy News Article 8th December 1961

This is an article about Reg Gilbert - who has now passed away - but the article is interesting reading for all.

NAVY SPORTSMAN



Chief Petty Officer Writer Reg Gilbert, has some sound advice for 'up and coming' Navy sportsmen. He says: "Learn the rules and enjoy the game." His view is backed up by experience in many fields of sport.

Now in England, CPO Gilbert says: "All types of sport including the many codes of football provide entertainment for me. I am inclined to think that biased opinions heard in the service regarding sport, particularly the different football codes, is generally caused through a lack of knowledge of the rules of that particular game by the individual".

Born at Goodiwindi Queensland in 1927 Reg found his early interest boxing and he became schoolboy boxing champion of Southwest Queensland being undefeated in 22 amateur contests. He turned professional at the age of 16 years and won 16 successive bouts at the Brisbane Stadium before suffering first defeat of the hands of Mickey Hill in a 10 round contest. This was in March 1945.

Reg join the Navy as a Stoker in April 1946 and represented Navy in Victoria Rugby union competition. He also continued boxing and was undefeated in six service boxing bouts during 1946. While 'Up North' he represented both *Shropshire* and *Australian* at Rugby Union against the Australian and New Zealand occupation forces in Japan and against the Royal Navy in Hong Kong.



In February 1948 he won the lightweight division of the boxing competition between RAN and the US Task Force 48 at Sydney Stadium. He visited Hobart for the regatta and then the goodwill tour to New Zealand in Australia before being discharged April 1948. Reg missed the comradeship of service life and re-entered in the Writer branch in February 1949.

A Knee injury forced early retirement from competitive football. He boxed three times at Melbourne Stadium during 1949 losing narrowly on points to highly rated feather-weight Wally Driver and winning the other two. While Secretary of the Seaford Australian Rules club he saw the club win three premierships in five years in the Mornington Peninsula league.

Reg continued his boxing at Manus Island fought a stirring draw with the middleweight Champion of New Guinea, after giving away one half stone in weight. This proved to be his final boxing bout and finished with the impressive record of 51 wins, three losses and three draws and an undefeated record in the services.

After two years with Manning Department Navy Office, Melbourne, he was drafted to *Sydney* in November 1955 and visited SEATO exercises during September October November 1956.

Reg was drafted to the RAN Air station Nowra early 1957, and the family liked the district so much that they build their home there. He is a vice president of the Sydney-Navy Rules club, and as a talent scout for that team has signed many stars including Col Mason, Bernie Jeffrey, Nobby Clarke and Bill Snell.

During two years at *Albatross* he was for a time trainer to leading Navy Boxer Brian Smith and on Lieut Ray Lemon being appointed to FND, relieved him as referee in the charity promoted boxing bills at the Air Station. Whilst at *Albatross* he was coach of the Navy tug-o-war team and Chief second to the Navy boxing team inter-service sports.

He served in the cadet training frigate *Swan* during 1959 early in 1960 was drafted to the staff of RANLO London.

Writing to 'Navy News' he names these Navy men as top sportsmen he has known during his 15 year service:

Best All rounder: PTI Laurie Johnson: Rugby union CPO Ray 'Snow' Walker; Tennis PO John Fletcher: Cricket Stoker Clem Hill: Golf SPOS PB 'Wingy' O'Shea and Tel Norm Brown; Swimming AB Ron Hogan; Soccer Stoker PO Blue Hollis; Australian Rules LWTR Ron Battams, NA Ralph Turner and Painter Bert Dickson.



We wish to thank Tara Bolton (nee McNab) daughter of Donald McNab for researching her fathers service in the RAN.

DONALD WILLIAM McNAB F2729/20 WRITER
RAN. HMAS PERTH 1

Ex writer, known as ‘Sandy’ McNab.

Born 11 July 1920 – Passed away 17 March 2000.

My Father was born in Cotteslow Western Australia on July 11th 1920 the youngest of four children, he spend much of his time as a young boy on his own yacht sailing the Swan River.

Dad joined the RAN in Fremantle, WA as a writer on 2nd September 1942 and served on several ships, the last being HMAS PERTH 1, a 6” class cruiser. He joined HMAS PERTH 1 on November 28th 1941 and served in that ship during the Battle of the Java Sea and the ship’s final action in the Sunda Straits, where she was sunk when hit by four torpedoes by an unexpectedly, overwhelming Japanese force in the early hours of March 1st 1942.

Dad was one of approximately 320 to survive the sinking of the ship from the ship’s company of 681 Officers and sailors, of which only 215 returned to Australia 3 ½ years later, having suffered as prisoner of war at the hands of the Japanese. Dad spent his years of captivity at Bicycle Camp, in Bundung on the island of Java.

It is interesting to note that whilst in captivity, Dad and fellow POW’s were forced by the Japanese to appear in the Japanese propaganda movie “Calling Australia”, in which it was portrayed that the allied prisoners were living in a resort type surrounds and conditions. Needless to say, their existence was the total opposite, suffering years of starvation, deprivation and sub human conditions.

On another interesting note, 10 survivors who salvaged a lifeboat and tried to sail to Australia before being captured by the Japanese where able to hide their canvas sail in Bicycle Camp, and Dad was the descriptive writer, printing the names of survivors in ranks, those who died and those who were injured. Today this canvas is displayed at Garden Island in Sydney.

Dad’s posting at discharge was HMAS LEEUWIN on 4 January 1946.

Dad was a loyal member of the Adelaide Naval Club as both Vice President and President of the HMAS PERTH Association in South Australia. Dad was always proud of his association with HMAS PERTH.



Dad passed away in South Australia on 17th March 2000 and the following year his ashes were transported by HMAS DARWIN to the Sunda Straits, where at sunrise on 10 March 2001 the ships company had a ceremony with a guard of honor as his ashes were scattered above the wreck of the HMAS PERTH 1.

Don McNab joined his beloved ship and crew members who were entombed on that fateful night in 1942 in the Sunda Straits, Java.

I am so very proud of my Father for the years of suffering he endured whilst a prisoner of war and the mental and physical battle he fought throughout his life, not once did he ever complain, he would just say “I fought for my country, for the freedom of our wonderful nation, Australia”.

Written by Tara Bolton (nee McNab) daughter of Donald McNab



We heard this one which goes back many years:

About Charlie Sugden

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

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

John David 'Jack' SWALES - His Bio by Mark Mobley

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

On 29 November 1939 he enlisted in the RAN for 12 years as 23770 Probationary Writer Jack David SWALES – date of birth 5OCT21. After training at CERBERUS, he was posted to SWAN and then to WARREGO. Jack was aboard WARREGO in Darwin Harbour on 19 February 1942 when the Japanese struck. He was promoted Leading Writer in WARREGO on 1st April 1942 and in September was posted to



HMAS MAGNETIC. He was advanced to the rank of Petty Officer Writer on 1st January 1943

Jack was taken ill just after this and was sent south, first to MORETON and then to PENGUIN where he was hospitalised. When released he was drafted to HMAS RUSHCUTTER where he ran the Service Certificate Office relieving POWTR (later Captain) F.B. (Frank) NO-LAN. Jack remained at RUSHCUTTER until discharged BNPS in September 1945.



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

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

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

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

Marcus Bowra - Biography



In 1973 I joined the RAN from Bundaberg, QLD. At 15 years, 9 months, I was sworn in at the office in Brisbane, then by transported by rail to Sydney and across to Perth WA on the Indian Pacific and joined the 42nd intake at HMAS LEEUWIN as a Junior Recruit in Morrow Division.

Following a year of Naval oriented schooling and route marching I



undertook Initial Writer Category Course at Cerberus (Writer 2/74 25Mar74-21Jun74) I had a huge crush on Shirley Makin and narrowly missed Marion Twisse with a stapler (sorry Marion). Nevertheless, I was promoted to SMN WTR on 21 Jun1974.

By July 1974 I was at HMAS ALBATROSS in the Registry. Six months later, in early December 1974, I was posted to the fleet oiler HMAS SUPPLY starting off my sea life as a tough tenacious tankerman. Mid-way through December I went on leave back to Bundy. I was only there for a few days when a burly policeman knocked on the door bearing a travel warrant and telling me I had to return to my ship in Sydney. I returned to find the SUPPLY in the middle of storing ship. We stored ship day and night for another few days and then sailed in company with HMAS MELBOURNE (flat top) for Darwin to provide assistance in the aftermath of Cyclone Tracy.



There were no wharves available in Darwin so, each day, we went in teams by workboat from the SUPPLY to the MELBOURNE and then went by HELO to the Darwin sports oval where we then were given areas to clean. Extremely hard work and heartbreaking. I saw Christmas trees and tinsel caught up within the rubble of houses and I saw where straw

from a straw broom had penetrated into the woodwork surrounding a doorway. In August 1975, I was posted to HMAS MELBOURNE (the first time) working the Captains mail and updating manuals. (I could never understand why page 274 was “Intentionally Blank”). I was only there for a month before being promoted to ABWTR (September 1975) and being posted to what was then called FOCEA (Flag officer Commanding East Australian Area)

This meant working on the 22nd floor of the Remington building in Sydney for the Command Technical Officer. It was there that I met CPOWTR Peter Charlton and immediately developed a lot of respect for someone who knew just about everything about the RAN. I was promoted to LSWTR (the first time) in July 1978. I remained at KUTTABUL pay for only a month before being crash posted to HMAS SWAN (April 79) as the LWTR in Accounts.

I thought I worked well on the Fluffy Duck however I had a personality clash with the CPOWTR. The rest of the WTR Crew were great, Jack Onaca, “Tax” Mattocks (?), and a pommy guy whose name escapes me for the moment. (Left Killick WTR Bowra and



SEACAT launcher.) We had some interesting times on the

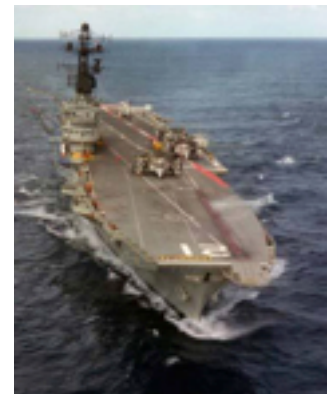
SWAN. Once, when coming into Manus, the CO fired a depth charge and exploded it fairly close to the surface. Lots of fish were brought to the surface by the use of this “expanding bait”. Many small boats then came out to meet us and





salvaged all the fish. We were treated like royalty after we docked. I passed out for Petty officer on the SWAN but always seemed to butt heads with CPOWTR Atkinson. At the time, I thought he was a weird man obsessed with medals and ingrown toenails. I am much more mellow these days and even had a beer at Rockers with him some years later. Nevertheless, I was reverted to ABWTR and was the only ABWTR passed out for PO that I knew of.

For my sins I was posted back to the MELBOURNE in Feb 1980. Turned out better than expected. CPOWTR Charlton was now on board as a WO, and I made great friends with the Scribe staff including WTR Speight. (I was to have a long association with Dave as we seemed to follow each other's steps through the RAN). We took on the CAG (Carrier Air Group) writers who were full of knowledge about mysterious birdie allowances and refunding of life insurance policies and slipped from Sydney to pick up aircraft off Nowra. I was amazed to see Tracker aircraft and Skyhawks landing on the deck and being packed away in their hangers as we set off for RIMPAC 80.



RIMPAC 80 turned out to be a great run. I was only in trouble once and that was due to my shirt being found on the flight deck. It was normal practice to climb from the S&S Mess at 4 November Starboard Outer up through the centrecastle and emerge on the "goofers" deck (where people who were not on watch would sometimes be found goofing off) to view the events below on the flight deck. This particular day I left my eight's shirt on the goofers deck which somehow blew over the edge and landed on the flight deck. I was then at the mercy of WO Tim Collins, the most feared WO COXN in seven navies. My ears were ringing for days afterward. I was working in the Ship's Office with signals, files and correspondence and rotated through the pay office. These were the heady days of cash, and just before deployment on RIMPAC 80 the armoured vehicles would arrive and we would have to count out around \$1 Million.

I was promoted to LSWTR (the second time) in May 1981. This was followed by a posting back to ALBATROSS as the LSWTR in charge of pay. I remember doing all of the discharges. They were sometimes tricky and took the longest. Heaps of writers at the 'tross and a pretty good "wets". Dave McIver, Maggie Varga, Shakey Bennett, Spider Tattnell et al.

In Jan 1982, I was posted to HMAS HARMAN. For a few months I was at HARMAN managing the registry with ABWTR Tindale-Biscoe (Tin-o-biscuits). I was then sent to HARMAN (Navy Office) in Accounts. During my time at NOPO we were still required to keep duties at HARMAN. Doing rounds one night I inadvertently locked the XO inside the Admin building. As soon as he got up from his desk, the alarms went off and I led duty Watch to the Admin building to see the fuming expression on



the XO's face. After some deliberation I unlocked the door and let him out. I was on Credential Guard duty for the next three months.

I stayed at NOPO in charge of Accounts until August 1986 when I was posted to HMAS PERTH as Capt. Sec./ Pers O. We did a few good overseas runs but the fun was over before too long. I was onboard the PERTH when the CO misjudged the approach to the wharf in Hobart. We were still doing around 6 knots when we hit the wharf and did a lot of damage to it, the ship and a vehicle which was parked on



the wharf. I would have liked to have read that insurance claim. The next day, people were selling "Wharf Buster" badges and tee-shirts.

In April 1987 the PERTH went into refit and I was posted to HMAS SYDNEY (FFG) as Capt Sec. After a few 'show the flag' runs. We had to change course for Suva as Col. Rabuka had just staged a coup in Fiji. This was an interesting time as Col. Rabuka used the presence of HMAS SYDNEY to give credence to his coup by showing that he was supported by Aust. (obviously not the case). The expats had to be evacuated and it was a tense time all round. Flights to and from Fiji were cancelled and we waited for the TOBRUK to show up to ferry expats off Fiji. I was good mates with the PO SBA onboard as he had mixed up some araldite to put into a hole in my tooth so I could finally get some sleep. The CO sent him and me ashore to put down all of the pets as they could not return with their expat owners due to quarantine. A really hard day. After some time we decided to leave Fiji. All PO's and above were issued with sidearms and the QMGs set up the .50 cal on the port side. We left without further incident.

I was promoted to SBLT SDSU in JUL 1988 and posted to CERBERUS to undertake the Supply Officer's and Administration course. I was then posted back to Canberra to DNOP (Directorate of Naval Officers Postings). The director was CMDR Brian (Clockwork) Gorringer who was also an ex-WTR. I was promoted to



LEUT SDSU in JUL 1990. After DNOP I was posted to the Australian Defence Force Academy to complete degree studies. I went to the General List (LEUT GLSU) in March 1992.

My last (ahem) sea posting was in June 1996 as the Deputy Supply Officer on board HMAS KANIMBLA. The KANIMBLA was moved (under tow) from Garden Island to the FourJacks shipyard in Newcastle where it was to undergo extensive refitting.



In August 1996 I was posted to HMAS KUTTABUL - Headquarters Australian Theatre as Staff officer 3 Co-Ordination providing IT support for administration and communications.

I posted to shore, after completing 25 years full time service, in Jan 1998. Marcus Bowra now works as an IT Team Leader in the Department of Human Services, CBD, Brisbane.



Cerberus Museum - Feb 2013

4 Legends of the Writer Branch in the Pay Office at the Museum.

All serving WOWTR'S. l-r Marty Grogan, Jo Jordan, Jeannie Roberts and Jim Hart.

Launch Of Defence Magazine APP A free Defence magazine app is now available on smart phones and tablet devices, meaning each edition can be downloaded at any time, anywhere. The iPhone/iPad app can be downloaded from the Apple App Store by searching for 'Defence magazine'. Likewise, Android users can search for 'Defence magazine' in the Android Play Store. People who no longer receive hard copies but still wish to read the magazine can download the app or visit the magazine's redeveloped website at

<http://www.defence.gov.au/defencemagazine>.

Sydney Collision with Yarra 1984 - Brian O'Neil, Advocate/Pensions Officer would like you to contact him if you served on Yarra in about 1984, or more importantly, if they were on board when Sydney collided with her on 20 August 1984. Contact details: RSL Brunswick Heads/Billinudgel
0428118388 BrunsRSL@bigpond.net.au .

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**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 or online Mastercard/Visa - 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:

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Individual membership: One Year (To 30Jun 2014) \$12 or \$27 with book

Member for Life: \$110 or \$125 with book

Method	Indicate	Instructions
CHEQUE/MO		Attached
Direct deposit		Pay into R.A.N. Writers Association Bank: ADCU BSB: 642-170 Account Number: 100086960
MasterCard / Visa online		You can pay online at our membership page or pay below:
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Date

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<input type="checkbox"/> Application & fee received – Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Notified & d/base entry – Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee acceptance – Date: Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> Member No
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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.

**About our Patron:****COMMODORE ANDREW JOHN MARCUS SMITH, RAN**

Commodore Andrew Smith joined the Royal Australian Naval College in 1980; his class of Junior Entry Cadet Midshipman was the last. In 1984 he graduated from the Naval College and from the University of NSW with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. After fleet training, Sub Lieutenant Smith specialised as a supply officer with early postings to Fleet Headquarters and HMA Ships PERTH and COOK. In 1988 he was member of the successful Australian Bicentennial Everest Expedition. Lieutenant Smith served in HMAS BRISBANE as Deputy Supply Officer from 1990-91 including service in the Gulf War.

During a three year posting to HMAS PENGUIN, and with a promotion, Lieutenant Commander Smith held numerous positions responsible for a wide range of Supply, Engineering and Information Technology functions. He was awarded CPA status in 1994. As Supply Officer of HMAS MELBOURNE from 1994-1996 he deployed to the Middle East for Maritime Interception Force operations in support of UN Sanctions against Iraq. From 1996 to 1998 he served as Assistant Fleet Supply Officer (Test and Evaluation) and Fleet Integrated Logistics Support Officer in Maritime Headquarters.

During a posting to the US Army Logistics Management College, Fort Lee, Virginia, he gained honours in the Logistics Executive Development Course and was awarded the prize for leading international officer. He completed a Masters Degree in Science/Logistics Management in July 1999, was awarded the Society of Logistic Engineers (SOLE) prize for best logistics research and Certified Practising Logistician (CPL) status in the same year. Following promotion he took up duties as Logistics Manager for the Mine Warfare & Clearance Diving Forces in December 1999. In 2002 he posted to Strategic Operations Division of Australian Defence Headquarters (ADHQ) as staff officer for Joint Logistics Plans, deployed to the Middle East in 2002/03 as J1/J4 for the Australian National Headquarters in support of Operation Slipper (Afghanistan) and J40 for Operation Bastille (Iraq deployment).

He was promoted to Captain in December 2003 and until December 2005 served in the Pentagon as the Australian Liaison Officer to the US Joint Staff J4, in Washington DC. On return to Australia he joined the Defence Materiel Organisation as Director, Logistics Management Group and Head of Function for Logistics in Maritime Systems Division and completed an MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management in 2007.

Promoted to Commodore in 2007 he served as Director General Materiel Information Systems in the Defence Materiel Organisation until November 2010 and joined Fleet Command as Commodore Support in January 2011. Commodore Smith assumed the role of Director General Logistics – Navy and Head of Supply Community in December 2012.

Commodore Smith pursues outdoors activities including cycling and kayaking when time allows. He is married to Jane and has three children: Hamish, Angela and Annabel.