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SLIPSTREAM



The Journal of H.M.A.S. "Albatross"

No. 4

AUGUST, 1957

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"SLIPSTREAM"

The Journal of H.M.A.S. "Albatross"

No. 4

AUGUST, 1957

Editor: LT. CDR. HARVEY.

Sub-Editor: SUB - LT. SHERIDAN.

A Farewell . . .

To LT. CDR. COMFORT who, although Editor of "SLIPSTREAM" for only a short period, has shown us how the Magazine can be developed. Thank you and good-luck in H.M.A.S. Melbourne.

An Appreciation . . .

To the contributors of Articles and Cartoons, who are helping this Magazine to remain afloat. Keep them coming — we now sell 650 copies.

A New Feature . . .

"Letters to the Editor" — the first of which you see in this Month's Issue. Let us have your opinions and if they are printable, we'll print them.

A Suggestion . . .

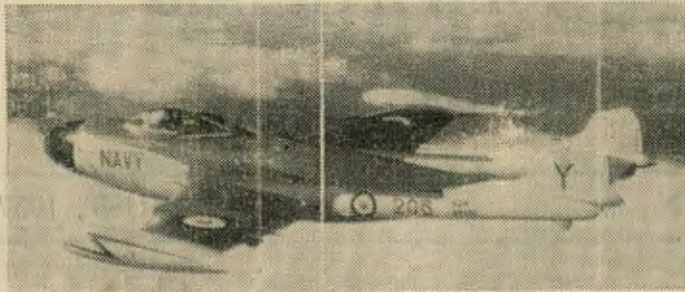
To those who have ideas for the improvement of "SLIPSTREAM" — Don't hesitate to submit them and if it's possible we'll incorporate them.

An Apology . . .

For the absence of article by Fr. Breslan, but Father was absent with No. 7 Moral Leadership Course when "SLIPSTREAM" went to press.

— EDITOR

808 SQUADRON BATTLE HONOURS



The 808 Squadron Crest, illustrated on this month's cover, was copied from the 808 Squadron Battle Honours. These Honours, inscribed, each with its own crest, were last year presented to the R.A.N. Front Line Squadrons. 808 Honours are a very brief Squadron history.

On 15th June, 1940, the Squadron formed at Worthy Down under the command of Lieutenant H. E. R. Torin, R.N., with 12 Fulmar aircraft. In October of that year, embarked in "ARK ROYAL", it sailed for the Western Mediterranean. About ten days later, during attacks on Sardinia, the first two "kills" were made. November saw two more enemy aircraft destroyed over the Italian Fleet, by the 808 Fulmars.

During 1941, the squadron carried out many operations in the Mediterranean theatre. The attacks on the Sardinian defences, bombardment of Genoa, air support of Malta convoys and the interception of the German battleship, "BISMARCK", added four more aircraft shot down to the score. Several more were damaged during mass raids. Over Malta 807 and 808 Squadrons shared the credit for a further fifteen "kills". On 13th November, "ARK ROYAL" was torpedoed and later sank. The Squadron disbanded a few weeks later.

New Year's Day, 1942, found a new 808 Squadron commissioning, again with Fulmars. These were replaced by Sea Fires in December. Gibraltar convoy protection aboard "BATTLER" during 1943, ended when the Sea Fires were called upon for air cover during the Allied landing at Salerno on 9th September. One more German aircraft was confirmed.

The Squadron role was slightly changed in 1944, the emphasis being placed on closed support. The reason became apparent when, attached to the Tactical Air Force, 808 flew continuous sorties during the Allied invasions of Normandy. Re-equipped with Heil Cats in

(Continued on Page Five)



Station Personality

No. 4

Electrical Sub. Lt. (A.L.)

T. W. VANCE, R.A.N.

Sleepy Hollow, as a place name, has entered our language for reasons other than being the birth-place of Sub. Lt. Vance.

From Sleepy Hollow, Sub Lt. Vance moved to the ranks of the 56th Infantry Battalion and joined the R.A.N. in 1942 — and this only after many months on the waiting list!

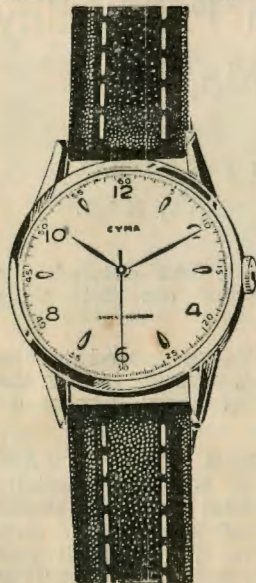
A well-remembered early sea draft was to H.M.A.S. "Yandra", a shallow drafted ship of 900 tons specially designed for South Australian coastal services. Under the White Ensign, she was converted to an Asdic ship and employed on convoy protection. A four inch gun mounted on the fo'c'sle did more to take the colour out of the cheeks of the Ship's Company than did the threat of enemy action.

Sub. Lt. Vance served on the "Australia" during the New Guinea and Phillipine campaigns and was on her when Kamikazes caused heavy damage necessitating her return to the U.K. for repairs. 1948 and the following year were spent on the instructional staff of The Torpedo (now Electrical) School at F.N.D. Sub. Lt. Vance was then selected to undergo a F.A.A. conversion course in England. Arriving back in 1950, he joined H.M.A.S. Sydney and served on her as Chief F.A. (Air) during the Korean cruise.

During these years he had played an active part in Service Sport and represented the Navy in Rugby in 1946-47 and in Athletics in 1948. In 1953 he was commissioned and by way of a farewell gesture to Inter Service Sport, was a member of the Navy tug-o-war team.

After further service with 805 and 850 Squadrons, Sub. Lt. Vance was appointed to "Albatross" in 1954. Recently elected a Navy Rugby selector, he is well known on the Station as coach of the Dempster Cup Team.

In his capacity as Cinema Officer, Sub. Lt. Vance vigorously championed the "Cause of the Wide Screen". It is largely due to his efforts (and the Welfare Committee's money) that "Albatross" boasts of Cinemascope.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SIR,

It is disturbing to observe the lack of attention paid to Albatross's public relations in the surrounding neighbourhood. We are constantly being publicised in the local newspapers, and it is very regrettable that the majority of this free publicity is unfavourable.

Surely something could be done to ensure that attention is drawn to our merits as well as our defects, and could offer some defence when we are unfairly attacked.

It could, for instance, inform those who accuse us of causing unemployment in the neighbourhood by doing odd jobs at reduced rates, that we represent one fifth of the local breadwinners, and that our fortnightly payroll is an important factor in the area's economy. It could, as another example, defend us against the charge of dangerous driving through Nowra on a Friday afternoon, by publicising the actual very low accident rate.

If these and other charges were answered, our standing in the area would be greatly improved.

— A LOCAL MATELOT.

SIR,

I would be very grateful if you could find space in your splendid publication to print my small complaint.

Why do some of our Navy boys (?) persist in having hair on their chins? Is it that they are poorly paid and unable to afford the required materials or is it that they are too lazy to get up early enough to shave. In any case, I think beards are loathsome, unhygienic, untidy, unbecoming and, in general, nauseating.

If there should be any reduction in the number to be seen in this area by writing to you, I shall consider that I have achieved something worthwhile in this life.

— SWANSDOWN.

808 SQUADRON BATTLE HONOURS

(Continued From Page Two)

1945 the Squadron attacked shipping off the coast of Malaya and Sumatra, and flew in operations in Burma. It was disbanded on 8th December, 1945.

As an R.A.N. Squadron of "SYDNEY" Air Group it flew in operations in Korea, in 1951 and 1952. The present All Weather Squadron, with Sea Venom aircraft, commissioned under Lieutenant Commander G. McJude, R.A.N., on 10th August, 1955.

It is worthy of note that the Station Air Engineer Officer, Lieutenant Commander Lovell, flew as a member of 808 Squadron in 1945, aboard H.M.S. "KHEDIVE".

AROUND THE STATION



N.A.M. (O) Greenup and P.O. A.F. (O) Lascelles disarming a Sea Venom of 808 Squadron.

Since the last "Slipstream", we have had the pleasure of being visited by Flag Officer Submarines, who is visiting all Royal Navy Submarine Flotillas based overseas. From Australia, he goes to America and Canada. Another distinguished visitor was Chief Officer Hill, W.R.A.N.S., who spent the day inspecting Albatross for possible future complementte.

Now that two new Stores Officers have joined, it is understood that the Supply Department will have some more weight to throw about

816 and 817 Squadrons are with us once again, and are forming with 808 to make up the Melbourne Air Group. They will be here until the middle of October and then off to sea for a Capital City cruise. Welcome back, we wish we were coming with you.

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AROUND THE STATION (Continued)

The School of Air Medicine has many exhibits dealing with survival in the ocean, Arctic and jungle which may be of interest to you. Visitors to the School are welcome to inspect these exhibits. Surgeon Cdr. Coplans will be pleased to receive any additions to the collection; so if you have any Spiders, Snakes or other amusing beasts that have lost their fascination for you, here's your chance to get rid of them.

Like our weather, a well known Chief of the Supply and Sec., changed partners twice at the Chief's Ball. Escorting No. 2 home afterwards, the Casanova, a little Ball weary, asked if she could drive. "No, not this car, but I can drive a tractor"! Probably wields a mighty left hock, as well.

Telegraphist Norm Brown has added another laurel to the Air Station achievements by winning the Nowra A Grade Golf Championship, on Sunday, 4th August. After Birdies had fallen like leaves in Autumn, Norm defeated Geoff. Williams, of Nowra, in a closely fought match. The result is all the more interesting, as Geoff. Williams has held the Title for the last eight years.

L/Air Beardsley is also to be congratulated on being the "runner-up" in the C Grade Championship.

Anybody seeing an ancient model Chev utility, laden down with an odd assortment of household effects, plus numerous bodies hanging on, would not be mistaken in thinking that Ma and Pa Kettle had arrived, but it was only N/Air Stephenson moving in to his new home in the Village.

Our Station Personality, at the last W.R. Mess Dinner, evidently exhausted by his efforts during the semi-final against H.M.A.S. Sydney, took 40 winks. How does it feel to be woken by the Captain, Sir?

Our congratulations go to —

Our new Station A.E.O., Cdr. Lovell, on his promotion.
Lt. Mike Astbury and his new bride.

S/Lt. McConchie on his matrimonial venture.

S/Lt. "Puddles" Poole on his nuptials.

N/Air Leech for a baby son on his first day of his leave. Nice timing.

L/Air Jackson for a bonny wee daughter. A welcome home present.

Lieutenant Wilce for a son, who deliberately waited until Pop was home.

OBS 1 Maby, a veteran in the family field, now well ahead in the "Marital Stakes," with his wife's newest arrival (a baby girl). This is John's seventh. Nice work if you can keep it up!

AROUND THE STATION (Continued)

There is a strong buzz around Naval Stores that the Supply and Secretariat decorations for to-night's Ship's Company Ball will have a racing theme, complete with totalisators, bookies, etc. Let's hope that Indiscretion isn't running this evening.

We all have the same trouble with our pay, it goes WEST! Not so NORTH, it's the garbage bin for his.

I hear the remainder of 816 Aircrew, on sighting the second attempt of Lt. John Dudley to grow a beard, immediately asked permission to shave.

Some like Mitchell Blue, others Sinatra Red, but not Checker Hughes. Just ask to see his creme-de-menthe green outfit. It suits the coat he sometimes wears.

THIS I have heard:—

That a C.A.F. (nicknamed Sam) from L.T.M.U., has bought a Pogo Stick to cut down his fares to Sydney.

That a wife in Canungra was surprised when a Leading Airman took home some washing — not his own.

That a Leading Scribe has changed his motto from "Try before you buy" to "Lock before you leap."

That a certain Holden runs better on Strawberry Milk than a Zephyr does on petrol.

That a L/Airman living in the Village has been approached by the R.S.P.C.A. reference animal breeding.

That when S.A. Binnie reported for work in his new set of eights, the Store Staff did a fast double take. 6/4 he'll have new shoes soon. Any takers?

R.A.N. GLIDING ASSOCIATION

Being a member of the R.A.N. Gliding Association has the following advantages:—

- (1) Entitles participation in the Australian Gliding Championships, held each summer.
- (2) Offers budding aviators a practical and solid background for future flying activities under the guidance of highly trained and skilled instructors.
- (3) Enables members to benefit from an educational and cultural pastime, with plenty of pleasure and fun.
- (4) A relatively inexpensive recreation with scope for big achievements. No other club in Australia charges as low a price as 2/6 per flight.

Petty Officer STRICKLAND is our present chairman and will be pleased to answer any queries.

CHLOE

By GORDON S. HOCKLEY

Deep lines of anxiety had been creasing his forehead for days row. Chloe was overdue for confinement, and as he gazed at her, he shed a silent, anxious tear. "Poor, dear Chloe," he said softly, as he tenderly stroked the slender lines of her neck.

"I hope it won't be too hard, my girl," he said. The depths of his emotions made speech difficult, and his words were punctuated with several sniffs, and a number of cautious glances to see if anyone was listening. The approach of motherhood had mellowed Chloe, and she was no longer the flirtatious care-free wench of days gone by. She had neglected her appearance of late, probably because Murgatroyd no longer paid any attention to her. She no longer cared, and her heart ached at the hurt Murgatroyd had inflicted on her. That hussy Dahlia had literally thrown herself at Murgatroyd and what hope did she have of winning him back, in her condition? Her mind brightened as she thought of the pattering of little feet which would soon echo through the emptiness of her life.

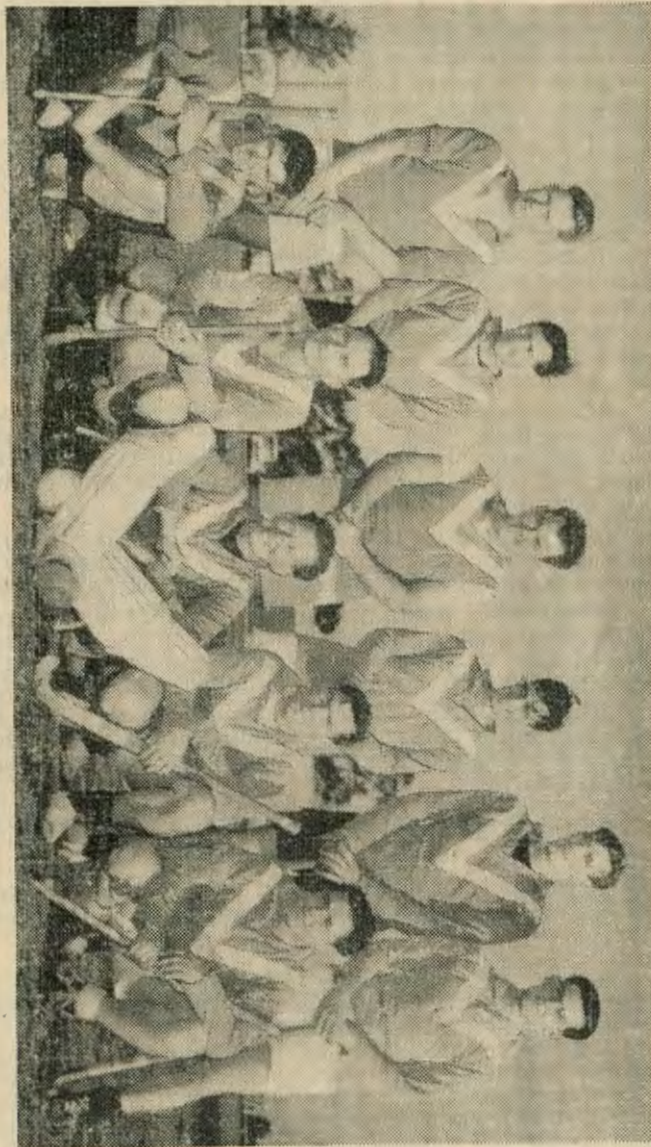
Chloe shuddered as she thought how cold and empty her existence would be without the tender care and affection lavished on her by that kindly soul who visited her so often and whispered words of encouragement; how would she ever manage without him? Alone in the world with possibly 10 or 12 hungry children to feed — forsaken by their father.

Chloe roused herself from this bitter reverie of sorrow and self-pity, and ignoring the lump in her throat which she thought was probably only a jam tin anyway, and responded to the caresses, and kind encouraging words with a sound which was a mixture of a sob and a grunt; she longed to be able to express in words the gratitude which she felt.

That night, Chloe became the proud mother of 6 sons and 5 daughters, and as dawn's early light rolled back the mantle of darkness, there seated on an upturned tin outside Chloe's apartment, was a pale, haggard figure, a pathetic symbol of devotion. Surrounded by a litter of charred matchsticks and tobacco ash, he sat huddled, anxiety written in every tense line of his face.

Chloe slept peacefully, no longer aware of the anxiety she had caused, unaware too, of the multitude of tiny squabbling forms each clamouring for its share.

The huddled figure on the tin outside Chloe's apartment, rose, and stretched his weary limbs, a sigh of relief and a proud smile were a signal that his lonely vigil was at an end. The Jimmy slowly made his way home to a well earned breakfast of bacon and egg.



AIR ENGINEERING "B" HOCKEY TEAM

AFTER 1630 ?

Somebody once said "Life is what you make it", or words to that effect. Life in an Air Station is very much what you make it after the day's work is done.

If you care to take stock of Station "After 1630" activities an interesting total results. Let's take a few samples. On the sporting side, in these winter months, there are four football codes at earnest training in a remarkably short time after Secure. Later in the day the Chaplain has his few minutes of Devotion timed for just before the well-attended Cinema commences. Then there is the canteen which has a fairly generous support.

If the week-end is considered, the Game Fishing Club and the Gliding Club are active and the Golfers are out on the Station Course.

Living in at an Air Station does leave quite a space of spare time. There are some who spend their non-working hours in a manner beneficial to themselves, some who spend it in leisure and others who — well lets face it — do nothing.

The purpose of this article (written before 1630) is to suggest that more could be done either collectively or individually, to occupy one's minds or hands, after 1630 !

Every one naturally pursues pastimes to his own liking, but these are times when nearly all of us have wished that we had some hobby or personal project to pass the time of day more profitably.

There are many collective pursuits which with a little effort could be organised within the Station. I admit they are mostly on the cultural side, but here are these suggestions:

- (A) Debating Club.
- (B) Dramatic Club.
- (C) Musical Group (Records).

These could be organised and run at little or no cost.

The Hobbies Shop is getting under way and so is the Amateur Radio Club.

I feel sure that only a very small number in the Station know of the existence of the R.A.N. Educational and Vocational Training Scheme. Through the E.V.T.S. there are some 1,000 or more subjects and courses which can be taken by Correspondence Courses from any Technical College, Business College or University which carry these courses. This would be classified as an Individual Project and of course you would have to pay for it. However, providing you completed the course the Naval Board will pay up to £7 of the cost.

Should you be interested, LT. CDR. LOUREY (Ext. 248) can give you further details.

There are some popular "catch-cries" bandied around these days "Working my way thru' College." "Do it yourself." And even "Roll on my Twevle."

Why not start a new one: "My after 1630 Project."

—NON FLYING FISH-HEAD

Station Personality No. 4a

— Gunnedah —

The Editor of Slipstream caused a mild stir in my corner of the hangar last week, when he suggested that I write my memoirs. Be concise and factual, he said. One hundred words is plenty.

To be concise, I was pressed into Naval Service as a young lad when, for a mere 5/-, a nasty youth hoisted me from my parental left and delivered my person to a Mr. Frank Payne, a resident of the town of Gunnedah.

This was done to fulfil a promise to a previous C.O. of 805 Sqdn. and as an appreciation of the Squadron's performance on Air Display week-ends. Any honour in being a token of the latter is debatable.

Last January I came aboard confined in a small wire object, which is always referred to as my travelling cage. It was cramped and draughty, but serves as a file for my Station Card. The Card states that my names are Gunnedah and Fair Go. I am Special Duties, a Galah 1st Class, and an Agnostic Bush Baptist.

As soon as I arrived, my higher education started in earnest, resulting to-day in various assorted whistlings, and an ability to say "Fair Go! Here Boy! Scratch Cocky! and Good-day Mate!" I have also perfected a noise which makes people think I'm trying to say something.

Soon after arrival I discovered that I could fly, like some of the noisy monsters which inhabit my residential area.

The first few attempts were quite successful, even though an operation had been done to prevent this. Alas! Success bred blind over-confidence, and I spun out of some telephone wires. This caused major structural damage to my port wing (technical term) and resulted in permanent grounding. If I want any supper now, I have to whistle for it. Such, then, is my fate, and as long as the bird seed keeps rolling in, all I have to worry about is that big grey cat, who is, reputedly, trained by Sylvester, and is always hanging around my flat!



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Prop. Happy Hawkins,
Ex - R.A.N.



Now summer's gone
One's courage quails
Before the lash
Of winter's gales.
One feels
One should be like the bear,
And hibernate
Within one's lair,
Avoiding fits of coughs,
And sneezes,
Remaining in bed
When the weather freezes.
Such indulgence
Would be good!
One only wishes that one could.

JF

Around the Village . . .

A Gardening Competition, open to all residents except the Commander and the 1st Lieutenant, will be held in the first week of November. Already, we have many making preparations. It's amazing what can be done with this barren spot by enthusiasts. Fortunately we all benefit by their labours. I understand that there are trees to be had on application to NUMBER ONE.

★ ★ ★ ★
The General Meeting of the Welfare Association was very well attended. All vacant offices for various Committees were filled. Office Bearers are:—

PRESIDENT: Chaplain Willson.
SECRETARY: N/A Radley.
TREASURER: Lt. Sommerville.
PLAY CENTRE & BABY HEALTH CLINIC: S/Lt. Lemon, Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Elliott.
SURGERY: Mrs. Willson and Mrs. Logan.
SOCIAL: L/Air. Murrell, Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Radley.
PARKS & GARDENS: P.O. Prendergast.
PARENTS & CITIZENS LIAISON: Lt. Cdr. Dal-
loway.

Your reporter understands that there are no absentees from the Play Centre these days; seriously, though, any suggestions, for consideration, are welcomed by the Welfare Association for discussion at their monthly meetings.

★ ★ ★ ★
Altho' not attended by the numbers expected (possibly owing to the wave of colds and 'flu'), the dance held at the School on the 12th July was very much enjoyed by those who did brave the elements. Supper provided by the Ladies was of excellent variety and taste, and our M.C., Reg. Gilbert did his usual efficient job.

★ ★ ★ ★
The opening of the Ladies' Hairdressing Salon was well supported. This much needed amenity is very welcome.

★ ★ ★ ★
It is observed that the number of Ladies using the Station Golf Course is increasing. As there are no divots to replace at the moments, and the number of hazards are few, the cost of renewing lost balls is practically nil, perhaps a few more will try.

★ ★ ★ ★
There is a move afoot to have the Baby Clinic Sister visiting every Friday. The younger population is increasing in leaps and bounds, and, no doubt, those expected daily will have arrived by the time this is printed.

Lieutenant Ralph has taken on the duties of Cub Master. Welcome Sir! It's the ambition of all the small fry to join your Pack. Brownies are in the very capable hands of Miss Beryl Jones. They have already been functioning for a couple of years.

★ ★ ★ ★
It has to be seen to be believed — A solitary T.V. Aerial in the Village. I hear reception is excellent! What price those leisurely suppers now?

★ ★ ★ ★
Parents are invited to join the P. & C. Association and to assist the Headmaster in all his aims for our School. Cost of Membership is only 2/6 per annum.

There is to be a Working Bee to plant trees in the Schoolground, and all help from gardening enthusiasts will be welcomed.

★ ★ ★ ★
Finally — Who was the infant, who when asked what R.A.N. stood for, answered; "Royal Albatross Navy, Sir!" How loyal can you BE?

A CHIEF'S LAMENT

I took a crash dive from the hot 805,
Across to the Station M.U.
I didn't much mind, sat on my behind,
There wasn't that much to do!

But oh! How I laughed when out came the draft,
I thought that it was a fix,
And I smiled with much glee, it was back to sea
With the Gannets of '816.

A big City Cruise, with tons of the Booze,
The future was very bright.
How was I to know of the very sad blow,
Developing overnight!

End of my jubilation, a draft to the Station!
And back to the Station M.U.
With no-one to boss, I'm at a real loss
Of exactly what I am to do!

Three Drafts in a year and I am still here,
This I'M beginning to hate!
I stutter and stammer, I don't get to Kiama.
In fact, not out through the gate!

The Drafting is strange and hard to arrange,
And may seem a little bit smelly.
But now it's more clear; it's come to my ear
That it's all being done by WALT KELLY!

— POGO.

Minutes of a General Mess Meeting

(Held in the Petty Officer's Mess, H.M.A.S. Albatrocity
— 9th February, 1952)

The meeting was due to start at 1230, but owing to the unexpectedly early arrival of the next week's beer ration, the President was unable to gain the member's attention until 1300.



The President then opened the meeting by calling on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting. Unfortunately, the Secretary, having mustered the wine stocks that morning was a little befuddled and started to read out a letter that he had received from a solicitor representing an aboriginal lady in Jasper's Brush. The President, however, stopped him before the interesting part was reached, and the Secretary then read out the minutes.

These were passed by the meeting, after some discussion on an alleged resolution at the last meeting that the Secretary's Honorarium had been increased by £2 a week. The Secretary stated that the proposer and second of this resolution had since been drafted to H.M.A.S. "Tarangua", so could not be called upon to offer confirmation. The Secretary then quickly passed to the financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of 16s. and 3d., being money due on empty bottles. There was some discussion on the legality of the entry — £560-19-6 for Postage Stamps! and Plumber Chisholm enquired whether the Mess should not have more than 16s. and 3d. in hand in view of the fact that the price of beer had been increased seven times in the last four months. The President promised to check up on this point when the Treasurer returned from leave. He was at present seven days overdue.

P.O. Tel. Maddalena then suggested that in view of the Mess's depleted finances, revenue be obtained by selling the billiard table as here.

Stores P.O. Parsons objected to this on the grounds that the billiard table was an item of Naval Stores, but the Mess voted in favour of the proposal. Shipwright Jordan volunteered to replace the green baize, which was at present being used as a curtain in the Heads, before the table was put up for sale.

Sick Berth P.O. Lawrence complained to the President regarding the number of dogs in the Mess. Yesterday he had noticed sixteen different breeds in the Dining Hall, and he asked on the grounds



of hygiene that they be given separate table from the P.Os. in future. After much discussion and barking it was decided that the dogs should continue to enjoy P.Os. privileges but would be liable to pay Mess Subscriptions. If the owners of the dogs failed to pay these subscriptions they would be shot. Rt. P.O. Morris who was confused on this decision, said he doubted whether Q.R. & A.I.'s gave the President power to shoot Petty Officers for such an offence.

P.O. Cook Boulden put forward a motion for additional Crown and Anchor boards to be purchased for the Mess, as the six held at present were insufficient on a pay night.

P.O.A.F. Cunliff, Secretary of the Entertainments Committee, said he would ask the Commander whether additional supplies could be obtained through the Sports Fund, but he was doubtful of the outcome.

Electrician Wright asked the President whether he would see that the water added to the beer in future was quite fresh as the last drink he had purchased tasted distinctly soapy. The President said he was sorry that water had to be added to the beer at all, but in view of the present scarcity of beer it was the only way to make sure that every-one got enough. However, the Mess had just secured a delivery of 50 dozen bottles of High Grade Port which would be sold at 2s.,3d. per bottle and would offset to some extent, the low gravity beer.



It was not possible to continue the meeting after this point, as the Quartermaster was piping continuously for various P.Os. to report to their place of duty.

The President therefore woke up the rest of the Committee and they adjourned to the bar to discuss further business. (With apologies to the present Chief's Mess).

"Although Australia is very big, however big it is, it still remains an island and as such must still depend upon the Navy".

Admiral of the Fleet — Earl Mountbatten.

By F. T. E. WHILLIER

Shorty could hardly believe his eyes. There on the radar screen was an object moving at a tremendous speed. As yet, it appeared but faintly, nevertheless its path could be tracked, and in relation to its size, proved beyond a doubt that it was travelling somewhere in the vicinity of 3,000 miles per hour — and, what's more, it was growing clearer on the screen with every passing second.

Old Harry, the two-ringer came in at that moment and cried excitedly: "There's quite a commotion outside, blokes! Seems they've sighted what appears to be a flying saucer!"

"Never did believe in those things, Sir," said Shorty, "but just come and look at the screen. You can't dismiss for bunk what you can see with your own eyes!"

Over in the Control Tower, everything was in a flap. Everybody was talking at once, trying to outdo each other with would-be efficiency, in coping with this unorthodox situation. But no one really knew quite what to do — this was something that wasn't laid down in any one of the official handbooks.

The "thing" had been coming nearer and nearer to the earth — to their personal bit of earth — and even now was hovering like some nightmarish bird over number 7 runway. "Bird" is hardly the correct word to use, for the object looked more like a misshapen rocket with wings. Now with the aid of binoculars could be seen the inscription, "Z 9", painted black and yellow on its hull. Some one remembered to press the Crash Alarm — and then the thing was settling slowly but surely on the tarmac.

The "Z 9" was surrounded by transport of all shapes and sizes — from Fire Tenders and Ambulances down to push bikes — everything and anything that the Air Station could muster.

A sinister figure stepped down to the strip pushing back the grotesque flying helmet from his head. Behind him, similarly clad in outlandish flying garb, appeared a second figure. Both had thin, evil-looking faces, with short horns protruding above the ears, and, instead of flying boots their legs terminated in hooves, cloven in the centre. The taller of the two, obviously the leader, stepped forward without hesitation, approached the collection of Senior Officers grouped together and much to their astonishment, saluted.

"Good morning, gentlemen," he said (and as he spoke there was a distinct smell of burning), "I'm sorry to drop in on you unexpectedly, but my staff have intercepted so many of your conversations here, referring to this Air Station as Heaven on Earth that I thought I'd come and see how you operate it."

"The VILLAGE SHOP"

Now have fresh packaged meat available, which you may purchase and leave in our Refrigerator until you require it. On Sundays and Public Holidays you may pick up your meat at 10 a.m., when we open and put it straight in the oven — at no extra cost.



Watch this space for future
announcements.

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain J. A. Willson

THE DIARY OF A PADRE WHO TELLS MORAL LEADERSHIP

Of the 45 Naval men attending this year's Moral Leadership Courses in this area, 31 were volunteers selected from "ALBATROSS". This is a fine effort on the part of the Air Station. The teams are:—

No. 7 COURSE — Instr. Cdr. Fennessy, Lt. R. J. Simmonds, Sub.-Lt. K. M. O'Donnell, P/O. Wtr. K. W. Hall, L/Air. F. J. Grainger, L/Air. N. T. Ryan, L/Air. R. J. Preston, N/A. D. Scott, Stwd. A. C. Harding, Whr. R. W. Tidey, L/Air. F. J. Donovan.

No. 8 COURSE — Lt. Cdr. A. B. Godfrey, L.A.M. H. K. Seers, L/R.E.M. T. H. Eastman, N/A. K. Foote, S.A.(S) F. C. Dawson, S.A.(S) A. Fenton, Stwd. R. N. Bass, Ck. W. S. Kake, L.E.M. R. W. Grocme, S.A.(V) H. B. Neve, N/A. G. Egeroff.

No. 9 COURSE — Sub. Lt. D. W. H. Old, P/O.(A) G. W. Lee, L.A.M. T. E. Howarth, L/DA. P. L. Jacobson, L/Air. T. Trinder, L/Air. G. B. Mewett, L/Air. C. H. Podd, N/A. F. A. Davis.

THE GEOPHYSICAL YEAR

The 18-month-long International Geophysical Year commenced early in July. It will be marked by many discoveries about our Earth on the part of the ten thousand scientists of all Nations, who have combined for the free exchange of knowledge and ideas to investigate the mysteries of the heavens, the Polar Ice-caps, the ocean depths, and the molten centre of the Planet.

Commenting over the A.B.C. on this mass search for knowledge, Professor A. C. Coulson, Professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Oxford, said, "When the history books of the future come to be written, they will say that this Twentieth Century is characterised more than anything else by the fact that men learned to control the world in which they lived." The Professor pointed out that we are continually gaining power over disease also, as a result of extended knowledge, and thus adding to the life-expectancy. We ought to be happy having been delivered from bondage to nature, and yet we are not happy, for we know that scientific power improperly used can ruin happiness, and men are afraid that this may happen. We shall find our fears disappearing as man learns that although he may be a Lord of Creation, he is a child of God. Children grow up, and as they grow, they learn to possess the same authority and knowledge and power as their parents. But if they are good and wise in their growth, they will use this knowledge and power in the same way that their parents did. Can we not say the same about the power which the children of God have learned?

WHITE ENSIGN CLUB

Arrangements are almost ready for the commencement of coaching of Members interested in Indoor Bowls. We could do with a few more names, on the list, of those willing to take part, and as soon as we have enough players, a competition will be organised.

It is intended to hold a Cabaret Dance, every pay-night from now on, free for Members with Membership Cards. Guest Cards for Ladies are obtainable from the Manager. Supper will be 2/- per head.

NOTE: Owing to the Ships' Company Ball being held on the 15th August, the Cabaret will not be held on this night.

The proposed Ladies' Lounge is taking shape and we hope to announce the opening date very shortly.

STOP PRESS: The first Indoor Bowls lesson took place on Tuesday, 6th August, under the instruction of the local Bowling Club. By the time this goes to print, we feel that Bowls will be well established in the Club.

FREE ADVERT: CHICKEN EVERY SATURDAY. YES! It's on every Saturday Night! Supper: Soup, Roast Chicken and Sweets. ALL FOR 6/-!

LADIES' AUXILIARY

The Ladies' Auxiliary were delighted with the result of their Jumble Sale held in June, when approximately £80 was raised. The Sunbeam Fry-master was won by Mr. King, of Berry.

The Directors of the Club have asked the Auxiliary to undertake the furnishing of the Ladies' Powder Room and in due course, the Ladies' Lounge. Plans for this are now under way. Any-one wishing to attend the next meeting on Wednesday, 21st August, at 2.30 p.m., would be most welcome and transport can be arranged by contacting Mrs. Smith at Ext. 202.

HUMIDICRIB APPEAL: Mrs. Smith wishes to thank all who contributed to make the Cake Stall in the Village such a success. Contributions were received from as far afield as Warri Beach, Huskisson, Nowra and Jervis Bay. £50 was raised at the Stall and this, together with a donation from the Ladies' Auxiliary of Huskisson R.S.L., has enabled us to present a cheque for £55 to the Fund — one third of the cost of the Humidicrib.

NEED FOR NAVY

"After the first nuclear exchange, nothing of any size or quality will move on land in the area in which these weapons have exploded or are exploding. Perhaps at sea alone may surface movement on any scale be possible. Hence the importance of sea power".

Field Marshall Lord Montgomery.

No Idle Boast

A certain sailor wagered
That he could skin and dress a sheep,
And implied his skill was such
That he could do it in his sleep.

And claimed that a performance
Of his skill at this said feat,
He could and would produce
If some - one else supplied the meat.

Now a local civvy butcher
Got to hear of this proud claim,
And having a live sheep, decided
To provide the same.



So the sheep was brought on board one night,
The well known claim to test,
And presented to the sailor
Who prepared to do his best.

Eventually the job was done,
Official time was read,
The judges quite amazed, confirmed it
At six minutes dead.

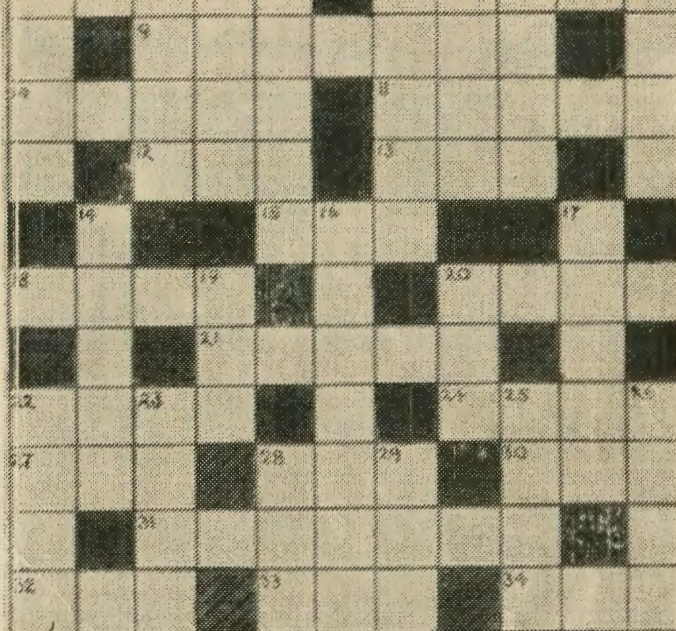
This sailor's demonstration,
Though I shall not tell his name,
Achieved for him a certain
Notoriety and fame.

For in turning one live sheep
Into a fine potential roast,
He proved beyond the slightest doubt,
His was no idle boast.

— By J. E.

IMPORTANCE OF SEA POWER

"He that commandeth the sea, is at great liberty
and may take as much or as little of the war as he will".
Bacon (16th Century).



ACROSS

- 1 Grins crookedly.
- 5 If you step on it, you'll catch it!
- 9 Japanese tradesman, maybe.
- 10 Be more docile to work with lions.
- 11 Start of the Oaks.
- 12 All-seeing.
- 13 Tear off the end — It's a kidney.
- 15 A backward saying did exist.
- 18 Musical circle.
- 20 This excursion will fall over.
- 21 Smouldering day?
- 22 Main bearing.
- 24 Doesn't sound like mine, it's past.
- 27 Rae gets confused in history.
- 28 By the leaving the fruit, I make a mistake.
- 30 He's insane, but in a coma dear.
- 31 A law against mixing tee with sculpture.
- 32 Little person adds up.

33 Forced walk, perhaps.

34 Unstable vote.

DOWN

- 1 Rodents from a heavenly body.
- 2 So be it! Confusing title.
- 3 Mount Pallid.
- 4 Ah! It's in the Wild West
- 5 S.S. Rat (ANAG).
- 6 One acre contest.
- 7 The Canon lost his head.
- 8 This with a pin, is a pushover.
- 14 I'd run around to the lowest point.
- 16 Canadian Prince, eh?
- 17 Sounds like a Maori headband.
- 19 In the end, I studied.
- 20 Pa's left, Ma's cooking, it appears.
- 22 A-bounding backwards to the Hunt.
- 23 Oriental direction.
- 25 Nobody, it seems, can predict the future.
- 26 Little Edward's in a whirl
- 28 Ardent listener.
- 29 A strange drink.

SPORTING NOTES

INTER DIVISIONAL SPORT

The purpose of interpart competition is a three-fold one; (a) To foster pride of his Division in a member representing it; (b) To create interest in the Division as a whole, by wholesome activities outside of normal working hours; (c) To enable the mediocre player to indulge in healthy and enjoyable physical exercise which is essential to a Serviceman's career and the Service.

The current Interpart Winter Games Competition, due to very fortunate weather conditions, has been progressed most satisfactorily. This is a very extensive competition, entailing 39 games of Union, 58 games each of Soccer and Hockey, and 48 games of Australian Rules — a total of over 200 games in the season. More than 400 personnel take part in 12 games of all codes, every week.

The strongest teams in the Union at this date are indicated by the points scored by four divisions, Air Engineering "B", Supply, Electrical and Executive. The Chief Petty Officers Mess is giving Air Engineering "B", Electrical and Engineering plenty to think about in the Soccer too. Although Supply, Air Division and Air Engineering "A" are very close up in the Hockey, the Chiefies will also take a bit of knocking out of the leading four. Four teams in the Aussie Rules are unbeaten so far. They are Executive, Electrical, Air Division and the Petty Officers Mess. Petty Officer Bertram has been heard to mention that he has plenty of folding money to bet on his boys getting to the Final. Yep! Plenty of sparks are going to fly from now on!

RUGBY UNION

Since last issue our Dempster Cup team has had varied fortunes in the trophy competition. Due mainly to the very hard conditions of the Sydney playing fields and the equally hard local League matches an exceptionally high number of injured players has set the selectors a difficult task to keep fielding top-line teams.

However, Albatross' string of victories in the first round has enabled the Station team to reach the Semi Finals — which will have already been played by the time "Slipstream" is published. The Final is dated for 27th of this month and the Grand Final for the 30th. It is noted that Leading Airman Coupland who broke his shoulder playing for "Sydney" against "Albatross" at Trumper Park is fit again and included in the Station team to play in the semi-final.

A few weeks back the McCabe Cup Union series were played off. This is the annual Inter Services Union meet and resulted in the Army defeating the R.A.A.F.,

PETTY OFFICERS' SOCCER TEAM



and Navy drawing with both Army and R.A.A.F. Three "Albatross" members, L.R.E.M. Corkhill, E.M. Wade and N.A. Crane were selected in the Navy team.

RUGBY LEAGUE

After defeating Kangaroo Valley and Albion Park in the first two games of the second round, the Albatross team has struck a slump with successive losses to Nowra, Jamberoo, Kiama and Gerringong. This could be partly attributed to the loss, through injury, of two of the team's stars, goalkicker, Trevor Beutel and lock, Bob Connellan. Beutel, against Albion Park scored 20 points, two tries and seven goals; whilst Connellan's hard tackling and constructive play have earned him Group representation in previous years. The last three games have been hard fought and if the team had had a shade of luck, they would have been won. A hard working forward division has more than held their own throughout the season but the backs, owing to injuries, have not had the chance to settle down and become a force to be reckoned with.

Now that the chance to make the final four is lost, we are looking to the Reserve Grade team to carry off the honours in that division. The team has naturally been upset by promotions to the first side but should settle down now. With Watt, as coach and Crichton, as captain and keeping their noses to the wheel, we can look forward to seeing Albatross playing off for the honours in the Reserve Grade final.

AUSTRALIAN RULES

Although no major activity in the Australian Rules sphere has occurred since Albatross played the curtain raiser to an Interstate game last month at Trumper Park, it is thought fitting to produce in full a copy of a letter of appreciation received by the Sports Officer and written by the Hon. Secretary of the N.S.W. Australian National Football League;

21st JULY, 1957.

With reference to the match between Combined Services and H.M.A.S. "ALBATROSS", as a preliminary to the Perth — New South Wales fixture at Trumper Park Oval on 30th June, 1957, by the direction of my League, I have to congratulate your Committee and your players, and followers of the code generally; for an excellent and thrilling exposition of the game.

It was a fitting pipe-opener to the main attraction and reflected great credit on the calibre of the players and the strength of your organisation.

Also please accept our best wishes for a successful conclusion to your 1957 season.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

(By Sports Editor: In this match "Albatross" was defeated by only one point).

ATHLETICS

Albatross Amateur Athletic Club was formed in April, 1951 and until two years ago it was one of the best known clubs in the N.S.W. Association. The club has produced many fine athletes in Sub. Lieut. C. J. Morris, current Australian Hammer Throw Champion and record holder, and Australian representative at the Melbourne Olympics; L.E.M. P. Kelly, an outstanding all-rounder who specialises in the javelin throw, was rated number four, in Australia, prior to the Olympics and just missed selection, has planned to re-register in the summer with an eye to the N.S.W. title; Sub. Lieut. J. R. Elliott, another all-rounder who gained third place in the N.S.W. decathlon title prior to his retirement, and Petty Officer L. J. Murray, an excellent hurdler, sprinter and hop, step and jump, won the N.S.W. country H.S.&J. in 1955.

Until recently Albatross A.A.C. was seldom beaten in N.S.W. country distance running, victories being the Country 10,000 metres Team Championship in 1951-52-53-54; the individual title on these occasions also going to Albatross athletes; 1951, P.O. McCaffrey; 1952, N.A. Leonard; 1953, N.A. Ripps and 1954, Ldg. Air. J. Mackie.

Attempts are now under way to re-organise the Club and set it back to its former status. If you are interested in amateur athletics a place is there for you in Albatross A.A.C. No previous experience is at all necessary — good coaches are at your service. So come forward NOW while you have time to get fit before summer. Contact any of the following: S/Lt. Elliott (Air Weapons Officer), S/Lt. Morris (Elect. M.U.), Petty Officer L. Murray (M.R.S. "A"), Petty Officer L. Mackie (T.T.S.) or the Club Secretary, Frank McCaffrey at the Canteen.

Two Albatross members are competing in the N.S.W. Marathon (26 miles, 385 yards) at Botany, next month. We wish them success.

SOCCER

In the Illawarra League, the team continues its run of failures, usually by the odd goal. However, in mid-week Inter-Ship games, with Albatross at full strength, the team has yet to be beaten. A 3-nil victory over Nirimba, puts us in the final of the Rear-Admiral Show-er's Trophy. This game against a combined Penguin/4th Submarine Team should be played at Albatross, in mid-August.

Last month, a Navy Team with six Albatross representatives defeated Royalist to win the Auckland Trophy. This team is expected to represent the R.A.N. in the forthcoming inter-service matches on the 5th and 7th August.

All soccer players, wish N.A. Barnard, who has left the Service, the best of fortune in civil life. "Merv." was a very popular player, who represented the Navy for three years, and was acknowledged one of the best goal-keepers in the Service.

ALBATROSS GOLF CLUB

Since the last issue of "Slipstream" the Golf Club has made marked progress. Members have played in various competitions on their home course and have enjoyed visits to Nowra and Jervis Bay. The course at Albatross has been seeded and trees have been planted to define the fairways. It is hoped that in the near future to have a hut erected on the course as a Club Room.

Two members of the Albatross team are to be congratulated in making the finals of the Nowra Club Championships. Tel. N. Brown will play G. Williams, of Nowra, in the "A" Grade Final and L/Air. Beardsley is versus H. Frost in the "C" Grade Final. Best wishes to both.

I believe E. Jenkins is now No. 1 choice for the Knock Out Competition. Gus Gundry is still a little dazed after his whirlwind round with Ev., reckons 36 off the stick is a bit hard to beat!

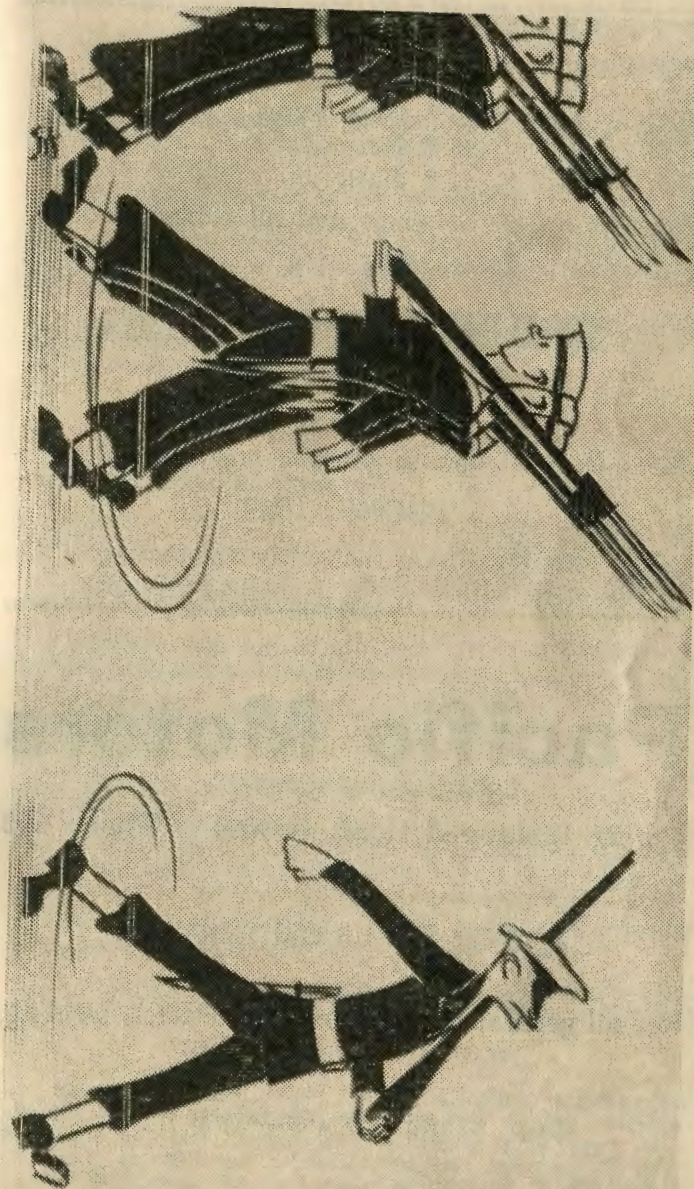
Heard that Dan Duigan is boasting that he and Lt. Eccleston will beat any pair on the station off h'cap. Any challengers, see Dan.

Players are reminded that they MUST drop ball away (2 club lengths) from staked ornamental trees. Please look after these trees as they make a big improvement to the course.

Members wishing to play in competitions on Saturdays and Sundays are asked to be at the 1st Tee by 1250. This will enable a draw to be arranged.

TALL STORY

"Talking of smooth landings," said the Senior Pilot, "A friend of mine was doing his first trip at night in a Firefly Trainer, with an Instructor in the back seat. He came in for his first landing, and confidently rounded out for a three pointer. 'Good heavens!' said the Instructor, 'That was perfect, I didn't feel a thing!' 'Yes,' said the Pupil, 'That's about the smoothest one I've ever done!' Then they turned off at the end of the runway and spun in!"



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COMING EVENTS

SPORT

Congratulations to our Dempster Cup Team for reaching the final, when unfortunately for us they were defeated by Penguin.

The main Sporting Events that we have to look forward to now, are mainly internal. The next Station Competition, of interest, is the Inter-Divisional Annual Cross Country (teams of ten). Start will be at 1530, on the 2nd September.

We expect to start the finals of the Inter-Divisional Hockey, Soccer, Rugby and Aussie Rules on approximately 3rd September.

CINEMA

The following are selections from the August-September Cinema Programme:—

Monday, 19th and Tuesday, 20th August — THE OPPOSITE SEX; with June Allyson and Jean Collins.

Friday, 23rd August — THE LUSTY MEN; with Susan Hayward and Robert Mitchum.

Monday, 26th August — ALL THAT HEAVEN ALLOWS; with Rock Hudson and Jane Wyman.

Sunday, 1st September — TANGANYIKA; with Van Heflin and Ruth Roman.

WHITE ENSIGN CLUB

Cabarets are now being held every alternate Thursday, tonight the 15th, being an exception. The next one will take place on Thursday, 29th August. Roll along, the shows held so far have been great successes.

Our Darts Competition (Nowra League) is expected to commence within the next fortnight.

MET. INFORMATION

The rainfall for the month of July totalled 7.69 inches, which was almost as much as we had for the previous six months. We still have a long way to go to catch up with the rainfall for 1956. To date we have had 16.82 inches for the year; in 1956, up to the end of July we had registered 49.85 inches.

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TO LET — 4 Berth Caravans (Average Rent £4) Ideal for Permanent Dwelling. Apply "The Plot," Duncan St., Huskisson.

FOR SALE — Two Bed-roomed Furnished House at Huskisson. All conveniences. £2,750 or £2,600 with Crown Lease to pay off. Apply Lt.-Cdr. B/Moore.

FOR SALE — As new, a B.G.E. Electric Stovette. Any reasonable offer. Lt. Anderson, Ext. 548.

REPAIRS — Panel Beating, Spray Painting, Motor Trimming and all Body Repairs. Stan Dugan (late of Wollongong) "The Plot," Huskisson.

FOR SALE — Roden "68" Stovette, near new. £20. P.O. Norris — Line.

FOR SALE — Silent Knight Refrigerator. Excellent condition. Ideal for A.T.C., Workshops, etc. Offers to S.P. 805 Sqdn. Ext. 539.

FOR SALE — 120, 2½ x 2½ Super Baldax Camera, coupled with Range Finder and Lens Hood, in Leather Case. Kobold Flashlight, Practos Visual Light Meter. £25 the lot. C.A.A. Hallas, Ext. 495.

FOR SALE — Naco 20 Gallon Electric H.W. Unit. 4 months old. £30. P.O. Norris — Line.

FOR SALE — 1957 Standard Ten. Two-Tone Grey. 6500 Miles. £830. Deposit £208. C.A.F. Rowe, Ext. 353.

FOR SALE — 35mm Futura Super Camera, coupled R.F. Lens Cover, Eveready Case. "Sixti" Exposure Meter with Case. Leica Green Filter. All never used. £100 Cash or £110 Terms. Acmn. Chapman, Ext. 486.

Admiral Fechteler — U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, 1954:

"While I cannot guarantee victory solely as a result of our retention of Command of the sea, I can absolutely guarantee defeat if we lose that command".

The German Admiral Doenitz made the following remark after World War 2.

"The lack of an extensive Naval Air Arm has proved to be a decisive disadvantage for the German conduct of the war at sea".

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

1 Rats.
2 Name.
3 Grey.
4 Stew.
5 Tsars.
6 Race.
7 Anor.
8 Nine.
14 Nadr.
16 Alberta.
17 Tara.
19 Den.
20 Ty.
22 Meet.
23 East.
25 Omen.
26 Eddy.
28 Ear.
29 Rum.

DOWN

1 Rings.
5 Train.
8 Artisan.
10 Tamer.
11 Acorn.
12 Eye.
13 Ren.
15 Was.
18 Band.
20 Tip.
21 Ember.
22 Wden.
24 Yore.
27 Era.
28 Err.
30 Mad.
31 Statute.
32 Tot.
33 Ram.
34 Nay.

ACROSS

YOUR WELFARE COMMITTEE

Last issue gave you the names and addresses of your sectional representatives. Now we hope, within a limited space, to give you an IDEA of the workings of your Committee. Under the Chairmanship of the Commander, the Committee meets at least once a calendar month and more frequently if deemed desirable. As a general rule business discussed and dealt with are, (a) items of a semi-domestic nature and the financing of same if necessary; (b) consideration of appeals by deserving charities and some benevolent bodies; (c) modification and implementation of various routines, entertainments, payments, etc., for the convenience and common good of the Ship's Company and the Station, thereby.

The above are only a few "bits of business", the committee takes in hand at every meeting and the others are really too numerous to mention fully here. However, some indication may be obtained of matters dealt with from the following items. Procurement of T.V. for Messes and the Canteen; purchase of Wash-Boilers for the Ship's Company; Winter and Summer sports gear requirements; Records for the S.R.E.; Cinema films; Bus timetables; Cold drink dispensers around the Station; the Village Shop and Canteen; Main Dining Hall suggestions and many other Amenities.

It must be fully understood, however, that this committee is not set up to deal with, nor discuss, Station policy, Naval disciplinary matters and the like. We are there for every-one's benefit.

Phone: Nowra 1111

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