



## Lead-in Technician Course Graduation



Mr David Newman, Manager Trade Training, Mr Ken Mitchell, Director and Mr John Csucsy, Mechanical Instructor Aerospace Training Service and the graduating Royal Australian Navy Avionics students at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Nowra Hill, NSW.

More Photos page 9.

Published by the Fleet air arm Association of Australia Inc  
Editor Ron Batchelor email ronbatchelor64@gmail.com.  
Print Post Approved - PPO100002097



## Two Of A Kind

Lieutenant Commander Linton (Dixie) Lee and son Seaman Aviation Technician Avionics Corey Lee photographed together after Corey received his Certificate II in Aero Skills from Mr. Ken Mitchell, Director of Aero Space Training Services.

## MEMBERS TRAVEL TO YOUNG



Headquarters - Fleet Air Arm members travelled to Young, NSW for Anzac Day commemorative events. L-R: Petty Officer Gred Hodgson, Leading Seaman Scott McLaren, Able Seaman Adam Clerget, Chief Petty Officer Rohan Denman, Lieutenant Ian Donovan, Detachment 2 I/C, Able Seaman Vanessa Roedel, Lieutenant Stephen Cole, Commander Cliff Kyle (FAEO) Detachment I/C, Lieutenant William Miles and Leading Seaman Stephen Michell.

## Opening LHD Ship Training Facility in Mascot



BAE ILS Manager Wendy Bour explains details of the training and simulation system to Rear Admiral Tim Barrett, AM, CSC, RAN at the official opening of the new Landing Helicopter Dock training facility, Mascot, Sydney. Minister for Defence Materiel Dr Mike Kelly today opened the Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) ship training Facility in Mascot, New South Wales. The new facility will train over 700 ADF personnel to safely operate and maintain the LHDs in anticipation of acceptance by Navy of Australia's first LHD NUSHIP Canberra in early 2014 and the acceptance of NUSHIP Adelaide the following year. The redevelopment of the site took around six months

at a cost of \$5m which gives the ADF a purpose-built, state of the art training facility that has simulated training suites, LHD ship fitted equipment, classrooms and an office. The facility has the potential for follow on Training and Through Life Support Training and to manage and conduct the future training needs for the ADF, Command Team Training and Further RAN/ADF Training. The two LHD ships will each have a crew of over 350 Navy, Army and Air Force personnel.



Firstly I would like to apologize for all the mistakes in my first issue as apparently my older software and the printers software did not see eye to eye and all hell broke loose, so once again “ very sorry”. All is fixed now with both of us having the same up to date software, so I can not use that as an excuse again. A couple of the older

members were not very happy with the new concept of the Slipstream and did not want to read about the Fleet Air Arm as it is today . But once again I am afraid that is the way it has to be. I have included an new segment into slipstream called “Social Scene” comprising of various colour photos of families and holiday snaps and etc. So if you have photos worth publishing please sent them in.

I have increased the pages from 36 to 40 as with this issue and have had to to change the content 11 times as more material comes in. It is a hard time in trying to work out what to publish and what is left for another day. At present we can get away with the costs of producing Slipstream but if we were to increase the contents ( which would be easy to do) it would mean we would have to increase the membership fees a small amount and I don't know how you would feel about that.

Ways to contact me :

**ronbatchelor 64@ gmail .com**

**Snail mail:-  
9 monk Cresnet Bomaderry NSW 2541**

**Mobile  
0402854959**

**Cheers Ron**

**DISCLAIMER**

Slipstream is published by the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia Incorporated. All rights reserved. Reproduction in part or whole is forbidden without the express permission of the Editor “in writing”.

All care will be taken with material that is submitted for publication but no responsibility is accepted or assumed by the publisher or editorial staff for any loss or damage incurred to it. The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Association or Committee of Management.

\* \* \*

# LETTERS Editor

Dear Editor,

I noticed with interest a letter from Mr. Ambrose Boulter in magazine Volume 23 no1, I am slow in making a comment. It concerns a Sub Leut RN who lost his life on the flight deck of the Sydney on Friday the 16th January 1954. I was flying at the time just off Hong Kong and I noticed the ship turn around and make great speed back into the harbour. We landed at Kai Tak and then I asked PO Doigin what the trouble was and he stated that Mac Clinton had hit a prop. When we got back on board, the story was that Stan Carmichael had gone US and on changing aircraft cause mac was duty pilot and he thought he was outside of the wheel crawling under the wing but he was on the inside . That's the end of the story.

Mac and Tex Owen, John Iverson and I shared G94 Cabin, all of 805 Squadron. It is a strange thing but there were two previous incidences where Mac forgot things. One was doing bail out drill and he leapt out of the aircraft without his parachute. The second one was at Hervey Bay , when we were practice dive bombing , he forgot to fuse his bombs and they plonk into the sand and the boss wrote a story about it. That is all I have got to say , I was sorry to see Mac go. He was buried on the 18th January 1954 at the Happy Valley cemetery . Where did Mr Ambrose Boulter fit into the picture.

Yours Sincerely  
James Ferguson

James

I have been told that Ambrose was the CPO on the flight deck at the time .....Ed.



*Mac and I*

# LETTERS Editor

Dear Ron,

First , congrats on volunteering to fill the hole when Greg retired, I'm sure you will do the job admirably. Second, I noticed in the Royal Navy's May edition of The Navy News, the passing of a former RAN Chaplain who I'm sure would be remembered by the old and bold who are still around. He was C of E Chaplain Patrick Helyer. His career originally commenced as an assistant Chaplain at the Mission to Seamen in Glasgow , Scotland in 1941. The year he joined the RNVR and served on HMS Tartar, Quality and Ashanti through to 1946. He then left the Navy and for the next four years served as Vicar at a church in Kent.

In 1950 Patrick moved to Australia as Chaplain at the Missions to Seamen in Fremantle, WA. 1952 saw him join the RAN and successive postings took him first to Tarangau, then Vengeance, Melbourne, Nirimba, Penguin, Cerberus and HMA Naval Dockyard Garden Island. In 1961 he returned to UK and served as Vicar and Rector at Frome and St Quintin then Evershot and Melbury Bubb until 1971. Once again Patrick became associated with the Navy when became Honorary Chaplain Royal Marine detachment Falkland Islands until 1975 at the same time holding the post of Hon. Canon, Port Stanley. The next six years were spent serving the church, the final three years of which he was stationed in Tristan da Cuna. In 1981 he retired. Sadly, this tireless servant of the faith and the Navy he obviously loved, went to his heavenly reward on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013 , aged 97 .

**RIP, Chaplain Patrick Helyer.**

J.J.(Blue) Harrison.

## HELP WANTED

Hello All,

Can anyone please assist me to identify the HMAS Voyager crewman in this photo.



**If you are able to assist with the following please contact Les Sheehan email**

**address:**

**[Inis@iinet.net.au](mailto:Inis@iinet.net.au)**

**Thanks and regards,**

**Les Sheehan**

# THE DEFENCE WHITE PAPER 2013

As all readers probably know, the Defence White Paper is a statement by the Government sets out its appreciation of Australia's strategic circumstances, the likely and possible influences which might change these, considered reactions to these influences and the size and shape of the Defence Force to align with the evaluated situation. The Paper is updated every 5 years. There's usually a lot of excitement over the usual list of new equipment needs and this attracts the most media comment, plus of course its cost.

The Gillard Government's Defence White Paper of 2013 was released in the first week of May, a year earlier than normally due. The reason given for the earlier release is given as 'the significant developments in Australia's strategic circumstances since 2009 and the continuing effects of the Global Financial Crisis have necessitated the bringing forward of this White Paper.'

It goes on to state that 'our most basic strategic interest remains the defence of Australia against direct attack and the security, stability and cohesion of our immediate neighbourhood Australia also has a real strategic interest in the broader Indo-Pacific region and in a peaceful, rules-based international order.'

Most media commentary on the discussion of these factors then outlined in the White Paper says that the main thrust of it is to dampen the prospects of conflict with China as given in the 2009 version which gave the basis for a larger capital equipment program featuring 12 new submarines, 100 JSF strike fighters, air warfare destroyers, amphibious ships and new armoured vehicles for the Army, costing somewhere in the region of \$75bn. The 2013 Paper says that the Government remains committed to delivering the core capabilities identified in the 2009 Paper as well as extensions to cyber security infrastructure, but notes that this will have to be managed within available resources. (Which we know will be much less than the estimates of available revenue made in 2009). Independent analysts estimate that likely funding available for the 2013 capital equipment wish-list will be somewhere in the region of at least \$35bn short of that required between 2009 -2022. Added to this will be the cost of establishing new or modifying existing complex logistic arrangements to support any announced new equipment together with associated training.

What's in it for the Navy?

First, a discussion on the 12 new submarines. At the start, nuclear options have been ruled out. Second, the Government says they will be built/assembled in South Australia. Third, it has discarded options based on military off-the-shelf designs in favour of 'focussing resources on progressing an 'evolved Collins' and new design options likely to best meet our future strategic and capability requirements'. The support and maintenance arrangements will be improved to ensure the Collins class can continue to operate over the interim. Noting that the first Collins submarine was commissioned in 1996 and the last in 2003, independent assessments say that they will have to last until 2030 until any replacement would appear. The cost of the submarine replacement could be \$36bn.

Second, the AWD destroyers. Ideas about a fourth ship have been ruled out. The three AWD's, to cost \$8bn, are being built in SA with some module construction at Williamstown. The first delivery is now 2016, the second 2017 and the third 2019. The Budget Papers 2013-4 state that projects to provide facilities at HMAS WATSON, Garden Island and Randwick Barracks are expected to start this year and complete 2015.

Thirdly, Naval Combat Aviation. As we know, the new MH-60R Seahawk naval combat helicopters are well down the track to replace the S70B Seahawks. We also know that RAN personnel have gone to the United States to train on the new type.

We see in the Budget Papers, Defence Portfolio, 2013- 14, that facilities at Nowra to accommodate 725 Squadron, formed to operate the 60Rs, are planned to start this year, subject to Parliamentary Works Committee approval, and be finished in mid-2017. These facilities will provide new hangars, workshops, synthetic training and working accommodation.

No new construction seems to have happened yet at ALBATROSS but it appears that this project should proceed successfully.

Fourth, Amphibious Ships. The White Paper says that the two new Land Helicopter Dock (LHD) ships will join HMAS CHOULES within the next two years HMAS CANBERRA in 2014 and HMAS ADELAIDE in 2016. The hulls were built in Spain, the equipment and island fit-out in Williamstown and the combat system integration in Adelaide. Each ship can carry four LCM landing craft, has 6 helicopter landing spots on the flight deck and can carry up to 1000 embarked forces.

Others.

The White Paper states the Government intentions to replace HMAS SUCCESS and HMAS SIRIUS at the first opportunity. Replacement of the Armidale Class patrol boats is another objective, these ships are of course continuously at work in the North West area and probably are the hardest worked ships in the RAN, given the asylum seeker activity. There's reference too of establishing a project for the replacement of the Anzac Class frigates, which are also hard-worked ships given the Gulf commitment and NW Australia. The problem of maintaining employment at Williamstown Dockyard in the future might give some impetus to the logistic ship replacements.

The White Paper also flags some rationalisation of Defence bases. 'We have too many Defence bases, many of which are small, inefficient and not located in areas that are well aligned with current basing principles' it says. There is a Defence project in place 'to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the Defence estate to develop a more contemporary defence estate profile.'

Comment.

The capital equipment program is something akin to a snakes and ladders game. It is at the mercy of so many influences, availability of finance, technical expertise, good project management, govt. policy consistency to name a few. The new submarine program and the AWDs will continue to be subjected to many of these influences for some time yet, especially shrinking budgets. The media highlighted the gap between the likely costs involved and the probable finances available to government in the future. Another strong influence on the submarine program will be the technical design and engineering skills available. The amphibious ships and the MH-60R seem to be surviving well but perhaps might not meet their timelines.

The projected images of shiny new aircraft, ships and tanks are often used to deflect other discussion of the force in being. For example, Defence was hit by budget reductions of up to \$5bn during the last few years and it is hard to recover from the effects of that scale of reduction as it permeates throughout the whole system. The Budget announced this year has given some relief for the years ahead but again is subject to future raids when money becomes tight.

The Editor would welcome your comment on the White Paper

## WOs kickstart new post

By CPL Nick Wiseman



*Warrant Officer of the Navy, Martin Holzberger stands in front of a wall of poppies at the Roll of Honour after the first Commemorative reading of 'A personal story from the Roll of Honour' at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, on the 3rd April 2013.*

The War Memorial has been boosted with the daily reading of a personal story of a soldier, sailor or airmen as representative bronze panels of the Roll of Honour. The three most senior warrant officers of the ADF led the first ceremony on April 3, ahead of the official launch on April 17. Director of the Australian War Memorial Brendan Nelson said the idea came from his visits to Menin Gate Memorial in Belgium where they did something similar.

Shortly after I started as Director I started attending the existing closing ceremonies here at the Memorial," Dr Nelson said. Although they were great and very touching I thought we could do more." Dr Nelson approached the CDF and three Service Chiefs and told them his idea to expand the closing ceremony each night. After requesting for ADF support to read a personal story and recite the Ode he received full support with RSM-A WO David Ashley keen to take on the first ceremony. RSM-A WO Ashley was joined by WO-N WO Martin Holzberger and WOFF-AF WOFF Mark Pentreath and read the personal story of TPR John Waddell, who was killed in action at the defence at Elands River on August 4, 1900 and was Mentioned in Dispatches. WO Holzberger said the ceremony maintained a strong and visible link between those currently serving and all those who have served our country. "A show from us as the three service warrant officers is a demonstration of all three services as one ADF," he said. "As a Navy representative I am proud of our history and grateful of the service of those who are remembered at the Australian War Memorial." The Memorial has traditionally provided a daily closing ceremony originally comprising a pre-recorded playing of the Last Post.

In 2004, a live musician was brought in for every ceremony alternating between a piper and bugler and Australia's Federation Guard agreed to provide a catafalque party once a month. The catafalque party was expanded last year to twice a month where it remains in addition to the new ceremony. Each night a uniformed service member will tell the personal story of a service member who lost their life in service of their country. Dr Nelson said he had directed his staff to ensure an even mix of personnel was represented. "Every day stories of personnel will be told irrespective of awards or ranks. Apart from special occasions, where we have the opportunity to focus on a particular event," he said. The new ceremony will be broadcast live each day at 4.50pm on the Memorial's website so those who cannot visit the Memorial can still experience the ceremony. This broadcast is to be expanded in the future with additional viewpoints for people around the world including deployed servicemen and women. Dr Nelson said he was overwhelmed by the support of the ADF. "The Last Post ceremony means a lot to me but I also know how much it means to ADF members," he said. "We must keep evolving and if any serviceman or woman has any suggestions, please don't hesitate to tell me".

# YESTERYEAR

Hi Ron & Terry

I came across this photo yesterday It is probably historical as it shows the RAN White Ensign and the Aus Flag being paraded for the 222nd Batt Change of Command Ceremony at Vung Tau just after we arrived. I also believe it was the same day that the Batt Com had the welcome party for us.

Cheers Beachball



Damaged during barrier landing on HMAS Melbourne. 6/67. Single engine failure on catapult launch. Pilot declared an emergency and obtained permission to fire off the 8 rockets on the wings. The flaps were still in take off configuration and the rocket blast blew off both outboard flaps and severely damaged the remaining flaps. This caused a higher than normal landing speed, arrestor hook failed to pick up a wire and aircraft crashed into safety barrier. Not economically repairable Withdrawn from service. On display Camden Aviation Museum, NSW.

Note: Pilots name was Leut Talbot , How do I know ? I was on the island with camera..... Ed



Crashed 20/02/1961, Nowra NSW. 725 Sqdn Lt (P) G.O'Day RAN Left undercart down during a single engine flypast. Stalled and landed in trees, crew unhurt. Reduced to components.



Withdrawn 15/08/67, T2 Trainer. Flown by Lt(P) Cabban RAN 724Sqdn coded 791 on 13/11/1956. Aircraft suffered an engine over speed, engine shut down but not feathered. Propeller disced on landing beside runway. U/C not locked down. Pilot error. Used for firefighting HMAS Albatross .

*CONGRATULATIONS to the Seaman Aviation  
Technician Avionics personnel who received their Certificate DD in Aero skills from Mr. Ken Mitchell,*



*Russell Donovan*



*Jake Whittaker*



*Robert Viandante*



*Simon French*



*Jacob Kambanaros*



*Joshua Mitchell*



*Corey Lee*



*Lee Birrer*



*Stuart Pratt*



*Ryan Taylor*



*James McDonald*



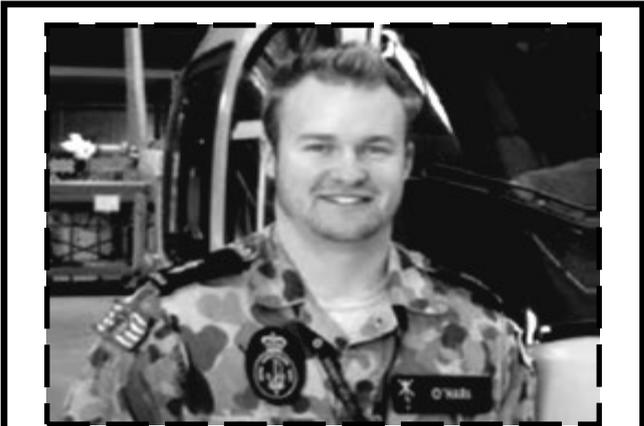
*Graham Ward*

# Bravo Zulu



**ABATA M Moore 808 Squadron** During a routine servicing of the T/R dampers on aircraft A40-009, ABATA Moore carried out an additional inspection beyond the scope of the task. As a result he was able to determine the slightest movement between the spherical bearing and the blade root. Further investigation revealed the hardware fastening the two components was under torqued, therefore not within limits and unsafe. Due to the sailors diligence in undertaking his duties he has prevented a potential failure of a safety critical item. On another separate occasion, AB Moore displayed further attention

to detail by discovering a crack in the engine exhaust diffuser on aircraft A40-006 during a scheduled S43 engine servicing. ABATA Moore deserves to be commended on these efforts and encouraged to continue this professional attitude towards his maintenance of the MRH-90 aircraft. BZ ABATA Moore



**ABATA B O'Hara 723 Squadron** ABATA O'Hara (QM3) deployed with 723 Squadron to RAAF Darwin for Exercise Triton Thunder, in support of the Minor War Vessel Concentration Period along with five AS350BA. On the night of 17 May 12, following the final fleet serial, AB O'Hara was conducting a routine tail rotor bay service on aircraft A22-016 (863) when he discovered excessive play in the tail rotor pitch change spider. Further more detailed inspections by senior detachment maintenance staff confirmed ABO 'Hara's findings and the aircraft was removed from its planned over-land return transit flight and transported to NAS Nowra in a C-17. What makes AB O'Hara's actions praiseworthy is that the inspection of the tail rotor spider is not part of the tail rotor bay service and was detected as part of AB O'Hara's "three foot rule" inspection of the immediate area and related systems. Additionally, the fact that the

unserviceability was uncovered through the detection of the unusual sound made when manipulating the pitch change spider demonstrates AB O'Hara's attention to detail and system knowledge. Upon return to *HMAS Albatross*, the assembly was removed and the inner nylon bushings on the pitch change spider were discovered to be excessively worn. AB O'Hara's prompt actions eliminated the possibility that this assembly could have deteriorated further to the point of failure during the long transit planned for return to *HMAS Albatross*. BZ ABATA O'Hara



**DEADLINE FOR  
ARTICLES FOR NEXT  
EDITION IS WEDNESDAY  
11TH SEPTEMBER 2013.**

**GOING TO PRINT  
FRIDAY 20TH  
SEPTEMBER 2013**

By Clark Pierce  
Editor

More than 30 Royal Australian Navy (RAN) maintenance personnel began their journey through MH-60R Seahawk helicopter maintenance training units April 1 at the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Unit (CNATTU) Jacksonville.

CNATTU Jax Commanding Officer Cmdr. Daryl Pierce greeted RAN 725 Squadron Commanding Officer Cmdr. David Frost and the first group of MH-60R students.

"It's my pleasure to welcome you to NAS Jacksonville and CNATTU. I envy you because you're the first capable MH-60R Seahawk," said Pierce. "Your resident project team has worked with CNATTU master instructors to create a phenomenal syllabus and career opportunity. Enjoy both your classroom and hands-on training, in addition to our great Navy lifestyle here in northeast Florida."



The training is part of a foreign military sales agreement with the U.S. Navy for 24 MH-60R helicopters. It includes a "total package" of training, technical and logistics support from Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Atlantic (HSMWINGLANT) at NS Mayport.

In December, RAN 725 Squadron will take delivery of its first MH-60R Seahawk helicopters known as the "Romeo" variant. "This will be the first Romeo to come off the Sikorsky production line in New York with a kangaroo painted on its tail," said Frost. "In August, we'll be ready to begin operating from our assigned space in NAS Jacksonville Hangar 1122.

"We're here to learn in the schoolhouse and on the shop floor, with the added opportunity to work alongside USN maintainers in the hangar. Our neighbors will be HSM-72 and HSM-74. We look forward to watching HSM-74 because, like us, they're also transitioning from the classic Bravo to the new Romeo," said Frost.

By the time 725 Squadron returns to Australia in 2015, about 65 maintainers will be qualified to service and repair the MH-60R. In fact, the squadron will receive support on every aspect of the Romeo acquisition, including hardware, software, publications, spare parts, weapons and logistics support.

"Cmdr. Pierce and his CNATTU staff were most helpful in adapting the courseware to reflect the two RAN enlisted aviation rates – avionics and airframes – versus five USN aviation rates (AD, AM, AE, AT and AO)," said Frost. RAN aircrew will also be training at NS Mayport with HSM-40, the fleet replacement squadron for HSMWINGLANT.

"Our Australian Seahawk aircrew configuration is different from USN squadrons. We have a pilot in the right seat, a tactical coordinator/mission commander in the left seat, and a sensor operator in the cabin behind them," explained Frost.

"We are loving the support that our maintainers and aircrew are getting at NAS Jax and NS Mayport. Everybody's excited about learning this new platform and ultimately returning to Australia with a higher level of interoperability with our allies."

Frost went on to say that in the RAN, squadrons designated with a '7' are training squadrons and those with an '8' are operational squadrons. Currently, the RAN operates only one helicopter squadron (816, equipped with the Bravo variant) that is responsible for both training and operational units. Under the new construct for Romeo, 725 Squadron will take on training responsibilities, as 816 Squadron concentrates on supporting the fleet

Under the new construct for Romeo, 725 Squadron will take on training responsibilities, as 816 Squadron concentrates on supporting the fleet by primarily serving on board RAN frigates and destroyers.

Pierce said, "We're pleased to host our Australian allies and begin building a new partnership centered on the MH-60R Seahawk. We've worked on this program with NAVAIR and the Australian advance team for little more than a year. Our weekly teleconferences with all the players ensured that every parameter was met and everything was in place for the arrival of RAN maintainers. Most importantly, we met the challenge of adapting and validating the curriculum and training aids from USN to RAN standards."

Frost added, "These maintenance training units are complete game-changers for how we instruct our people to take care of helicopters. By embedding our men and women with USN Romeo squadrons, we can accelerate our training, safety and quality assurance.

Originally commissioned in 1943, the 725 Squadron decommissioned in 1975 with a strong record of success in both training and operations. RAN 725 Squadron is scheduled to re-commission in early 2015 and will operate solely as a helicopter training squadron – much like a fleet replacement squadron in the USN.

In addition to the MH-60R Seahawk, CNATTU Jax provides career "C" school training for maintainers of the P-8A Poseidon, P-3C Orion, and aviation support equipment.

*Reprinted with permission of Jax Air News*



CNATTU Jax Commanding Officer Cmdr. Daryl Pierce (right) welcomes the men and women of Royal Australian Navy 725 Squadron to their MH-60R Seahawk schoolhouse.

Photos by Clark Pierce



RAN 725 Squadron Commanding Officer Cmdr. David Frost (left) is welcomed aboard CNATTU Jacksonville by commanding officer Cmdr. Daryl Pierce. He said it's an honour to work with a valued American ally from the Pacific Rim.

# YESTERYEAR



John Collier would appreciate if any member could put names to these faces The year was 1953—1954 and the only ones he can remember are Ron Heron, Graham Bown, Gus Hewatt, Bill Gray and ? Cocegie Many thanks if you could help out. .... Ed

## NATIONAL FLEET AIR ARM REUNION 1992

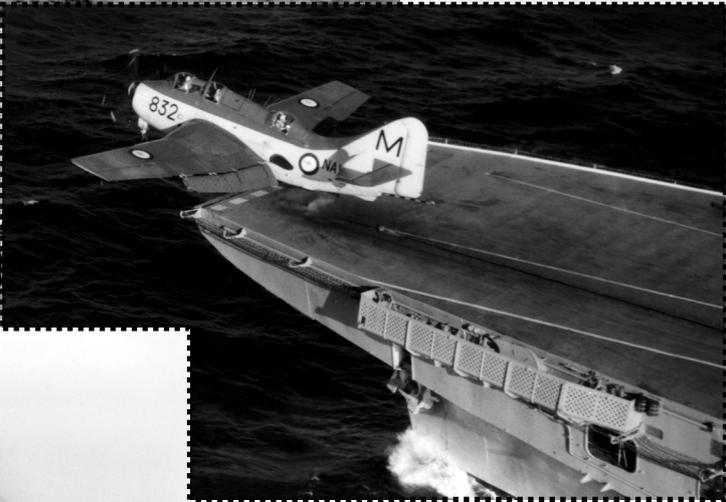


● **Left:** The Fleet Air Arm reunion culminated in a Naval air day, held at the Naval air station, HMAS Albatross. The day marked the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea and included displays of modern and past aircraft used by the Defence Forces, along with many other attractions, including a parachuting display.

● **Above:** During the Fleet Air Arm Reunion last week, a dinner was held for the FAA Safety Equipment personnel. Among those present at the dinner were (back, from left) Mr D Alcon and Mr B Fernie, and (front) Mr G Lee and Mr N Brooks.

Published in the local Nowra Newspaper on the 13th May 1992 at the Safety Equipment reunion was (back left) D. Alcon and B. Fernie (front) G. Lee and N. Brooks. Sadly two of these gentlemen are no longer with us. (News clip courtesy Terri McNeil nee Fernie).

# BEVIN'S PHOTO ALBUM





## THE NEW AGE NAVY

Petty Officer Marine Technician Anthony Moffatt (right) and Leading Seaman Marine Technician Nathan Cook with the Programmable Logic Controller: part of the T.T.I.M. The T.T.I.M is a practical application, used by trainees at the BAE Systems training facility, to replicate systems that will be used on HMAS Canberra.

Introduction into Service Training for the first crew of NUSHIP Canberra (LHD1) began on 6 May 2013 at the BAE Systems - Maritime Contractor Temporary Training Facility at Mascot, Sydney. It is the principal platform specific training location for LHD in Australia and is equipped with Part Task Trainers and complex simulators, including the LHD Engineering Systems Trainer (LEST) which simulates the LHD Engine Room Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS); the Marine Evacuation System; a Bridge Simulator; and LM2500 Gas Turbine trainers. The simulation scenarios available on the LEST are beyond that available on the actual ships equipment and will provide significantly advanced training for RAN personnel.

All personnel entering this LHD training pipeline will conduct their professional category /PQ training relevant to their rank prior to platform specific training. Training Force will provide training management

## SPARE A THOUGHT

I have received a phone call from Judy Arthur to inform the committee that both Barry and herself will be unable to attend the October Reunion. Barry is unwell and requires a serious operation in the near future. The committee wish him all the best and would members keep the Arthur Family in your thoughts

.....ED



## **DVA Funded Veterans Fitness and Health in the Shoalhaven**

NJF Exercise Physiologists would like to offer you the opportunity to become proactive in the management of your health and lifestyle. Exercise Physiologists are Allied Health Professionals who specialise in the prevention, treatment and management of injuries, disease and health conditions through appropriate exercise prescription. NJF provides individualised and group gym conditioning and rehabilitation programs to **ex-servicemen and women** (issued with a gold or white card) **and their partners** in a friendly, supportive and professional environment.

The **aim of our service** is to **improve the strength, fitness and mobility** of our clients in order to **enhance quality of life**. Regular exercise can help **reduce the risk of falls and fractures**, manage conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure, and help **maintain independent living**. Reduced anxiety and improved self-esteem are also additional benefits. We seek to educate our clients in order to provide them with the knowledge and ability to self-manage their own health.

NJF currently operates out of the Bay and Basin Leisure Centre in Vincentia and has recently opened a new clinic within the Shoalhaven Heads Bowling Club.

### **How do you ACCESS this service?**

- NJF requires a D904 referral for Gold and White DVA/TPI card holders from a GP prior to the commencement of exercise

### **How much will it COST?**

- NJF Exercise Physiologist services are **100% bulk billed** with the **Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA)** for eligible ex-servicemen and women (**white and gold card holders**)
- Partners of Veterans are able to come along and exercise for **FREE**

NJF offers a great opportunity for Veterans and their partners to become proactive in their health and in the prevention and management of disease. For further information or details about this service please feel free to contact our staff via email or phone (see details below).

#### Exercise Physiologists

Alex Stronac

P: 0433 637 934

E: [alex@veteransexercise.com.au](mailto:alex@veteransexercise.com.au)

Sophie Garrett

P: 0401 964 151

E: [sophie24588@gmail.com](mailto:sophie24588@gmail.com)

## Around & About with Navy Photos



Commodore Vince Di Pietro CSC, RAN presents Leading Seaman Aircrewman Richard Clark with his certificate of promotion during the Aircrewman Rotary Course 06 graduation ceremony held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum on 23 May 2013

Commodore Vince Di Pietro CSC, RAN presents Leading Seaman Aircrewman Damien Wallace with his certificate of promotion during the Aircrewman Rotary Course 06 graduation ceremony held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum on 23 May 2013.



Commander Fleet Air Arm, Commodore Vince Di Pietro, CSC, RAN presents Seaman Aviation Hayley MacDonald and Mr Maxwell Wharton the winners of the badminton competition held at HMAS Albatross their plate and certificate

Commander Fleet Air Arm, Commodore Vince Di Pietro, CSC, RAN presents Mrs Laura Gill and Lieutenant Paul Coxell the runners up of the badminton competition held at HMAS Albatross their certificate



Photography by ABIS Alan Lancaster

## ALL IN THE FAMILY



Emily, Caroline, Don (ex RAN 816 Squadron Armourer) and Danny Herman (ex Petty Officer Marine Technician) with the two Sikorsky S-70B-2 Seahawk models that were presented to 816 Squadron by Danny who makes models as a hobby

## *INS Vikramaditya Aircraft Carrier*



Military-Today.com

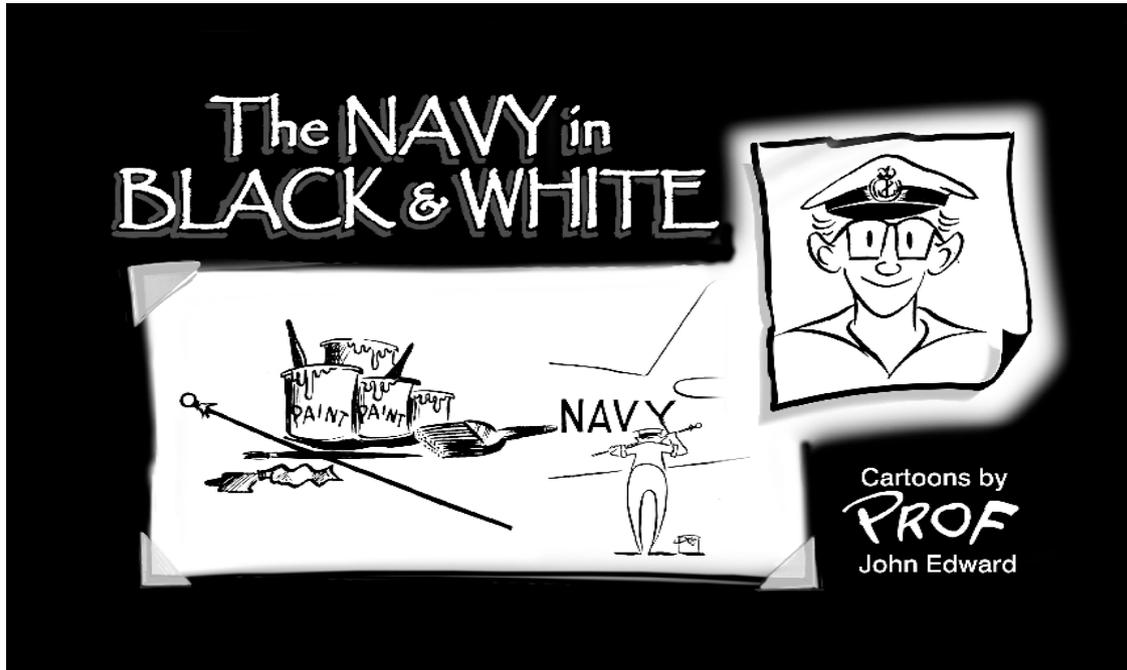
*INS VIKRAMADITYA* IS THE NEWER AIRCRAFT CARRIER TO BE INDUCTED INTO INDIAN NAVY IN MID 2013.

“VIKRAMADITYA” IS SANSKRIT FOR “BRAVE AS THE SUN”AND WAS THE TITLE OF SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS KINGS IN INDIAN HISTORY, SUCH AS THE VIKRAMADITYA OF UJJAIN & INDIAN EMPEROR CHANDRAGUPTA II.

*INS VIKRAMADITYA* IS THE RECHRISTENED NAME OF FORMER SOVIET UNION AIRCRAFT CARRIER ADMIRAL GORSHKOV PROCURED BY INDIA.

*INS VIKRAMADITYA* WAS ORIGINALLY THE MODIFIED *KIEV* CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER *BAKU* BUILT IN 1978–1982 AND IS BEING EXTENSIVELY REFITTED AT THE SEVMASH SHIPYARD IN RUSSIA.

*Prof Edwards Cartoon Drawings in Book Form*



*58 of John's drawings are now in book form and can be purchased from the Fleet Air Arm Museum shop at HMAS Albatross or can be posted to you by ringing 02 44242179 for the full amount of \$10.00.*

**LOCAL FLYING DISPLAY**

LOCAL NOWRA RESIDENT MIKE BEVERLY CHECKS HIS RADIO CONTROL METEOR AT A RECENT FUNCTION . IT IS HOPED THE SHOALHAVEN FLYING CLUB WILL BE ABLE TO SHOW THEIR FLYING SKILLS DURING THE REUNION IN OCTOBER

PHOTO ABIS BRENTON FREIND

As well as the entertainment at the reunion members will be treated to the first river festival to be held in Nowra. There will be a street parade, music concert, markets food stalls and some fantastic river events. An initiative of the Shoalhaven Tourist Board and supported by Shoalhaven City Council , the Shoalhaven River festival is set to be staged on Saturday October 26th 2013



## WHERE THERE IS A WILL THERE IS A WAY

The underbelly of history. A lot of stories like this are buried with the men who fulfilled the missions



*In the lighter moments of WWII, the Spitfire was used in an unorthodox role: bringing beer kegs to the men in Normandy.*

During the war, the Heneger and Constable brewery donated free beer to the troops. After D-Day, supplying the invasion troops in Normandy with vital supplies was already a challenge. Obviously, there was no room in the logistics chain for such luxuries as beer or other types of refreshments. Some men, often called 'sourcers', were able to get wine or other niceties from the land or rather from the locals. RAF Spitfire pilots came up with an even better idea.

The Spitfire Mk IX was an evolved version of the Spitfire, with pylons under the wings for bombs or tanks. It was discovered that the bomb pylons could also be modified to carry beer kegs. According to pictures that can be found, various sizes of kegs were used. Whether the kegs could be jettisoned in case of emergency is unknown. If the Spitfire flew high enough, the cold air altitude would even refresh the beer, making it ready for consumption upon arrival.

A variation was a long range fuel tank modified to carry beer instead of fuel. The modification even received the official designation Mod. XXX. Propaganda services were quick to pick up on this, which probably explains the official designation. As a result, Spitfires equipped with Mod XXX or keg-carrying pylons were often sent back to Great Britain for maintenance or liaison duties. They would then return to Normandy with full beer kegs fitted under the wings. Typically, the British Revenue of Ministry and Excise stepped in, notifying the brewery that they were in violation of the law by exporting beer without paying the relevant taxes. It seems that Mod. XXX was terminated then, but various squadrons found different ways to refurbish their stocks, most often done with the unofficial approval of higher echelons.



**The Spitfire had very little ground clearance with the larger beer kegs.**

In his book *Dancing in the Skies*, Tony Jonsson, the only Icelander pilot in the RAF, recalled beer runs while he was flying with 65 Squadron. Every week a pilot was sent back to the UK to fill some cleaned-up drop tanks with beer and return to the squadron. Jonsson hated the beer runs as every man on the squadron would be watching you upon arrival. Anyone who made a rough landing and dropped the tanks would be the most hated man on the squadron for an entire week.

## FIRST DIRECT ENTRY NAVAL AIRMAN RECRUITS



**50 th REUNION of 1947 1st DIRECT ENTRY ARMOURERS CLASS  
HELD AT HMAS ALBATROSS OCTOBER 1997**

Back Row L-R Jim HIBBETT John ELLIOT Ian FERGUSON Jack HERBERT Neville WAY Jim HALLAHAN George McKENZIE  
Front Row L-R Blue HARRISON Terry EGAN

Dear Ed,

The Cover Picture of the March 2013 issue of Slipstream brought to mind another photograph taken on a similar occasion in October 1997. This was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Direct Entry Naval Airman Recruits into the Royal Australian Navy. The occasion was marked by a Reunion at Nowra of ten of the original fourteen Naval Airman Recruits. Two were deceased and a further two could not attend one due to an accident and another due to illness.

The fourteen were part of an intake which consisted of Aircraft Artificers, Skilled Air Mechanics, and three General Service Recruits two Bandsmen and an Electrical Artificer. The intake was divided into two Recruit Classes designated A1 and A2. The AA's were Keith Hodges, Jim Galliot, Ted Truscott, Keith Badock, John Picken, and Jack Wakefield. The SAM's were Jack Cameron, John Bray, Wally Douglas, Brian Edwards, Basil Gray, Des Gleeson, Blue Harsma, Bill Hitchcock, Tom Keely and an Ex Rner Ken Jackson. The NA's were Peter Busby, Stan Dyker, Terry Egan, John Elliott, Dennis Finn, Jim Hallahan, Jack Herbert, Jim Hibbert, John Harrison, Keith Hope, George McKenzie, Max Vinen, Nev Way and yours truly. The two Bandsmen were Jim McDonough, and Earl Dowson later Blacksmith. The EA was Jim Cousins. All left the service at various levels from Commander down.

The accompanying photograph shows nine of the Group (Finn had a slack hammock) at the Fleet Air Arm Museum for a BBQ on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 1997. Max Vinen and Peter Busby were deceased, while Stan Dyker had an accident just prior to the reunion and Keith Hope was ill.

Thanks Ron

Ian Ferguson

## ROMEO TRAINING FORGES AHEAD IN USA



**NUSQN 725 (CMDR D.L. Frost ) continues to progress towards an initial operating capability in Jacksonville, Florida. The first aircrew recently completed the USN NATOPS, which represents a significant milestone in training curriculum.**

**Aircrew and maintenance personnel are conducting initial training as part of the acquisition of 24 MH-60R combat helicopters and training systems, purchased to replace the RAN's current fleet of S-70B-2 helicopters.**

**NUSQN 725 aircrew are training at Naval Station Mayport with HSM 40, and maintenance personnel are training at NAS Jacksonville. At present the RAN has 49 members training at Jacksonville, this will increase to 112 throughout 2013 and 2014.**

**NUSQN 725 will take delivery of its first two MH-60Rs in December this year with further deliveries throughout 2014**



**LCDR Todd Glen is all smiles after successfully conducting Deck Landing Qualifications (DLQ) training onboard USS Philippine Sea (CG-58) off the coast of Mayport**

**LEUT Flowerdew RAN**



## PRESIDENT'S SLIPSTREAM REPORT

Winter has arrived in the Capital. After attending the dawn Anzac Day service and then representing the FAAA at the French embassy, it was a busy and memorable day. I certainly hope you all enjoyed the fellowship and camaraderie that Anzac Day allows us to celebrate with old and new shipmates.

We recently had a National Executive committee meeting at our halfway house office, the Nerriga Pub. We covered many topics, but some of the key ones were the ongoing information flow of the HARS proposal. Paul Folkes has done a great job working with the HARS executive. Paul also represented me at the Wings over Illawarra air show in early May. I know the NSW Division reunion team and some seconded members are working tirelessly in pulling together the 65<sup>th</sup> celebrations and associate events over the four days. Returns are a little slow, but I'm sure as the special event gets closer, the response will be very strong. I would also like to remind all members of the International Fleet Review that will be conducted in Sydney from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October.

One of the other items discussed at the meeting was whether as an Association we need to be more enquiring and speak out on issues that affect the Navy in general and the Fleet Air Arm in particular. It was decided we should push the boundary a little, so hopefully there will be an article in the Slipstream that reflects some views from the National Executive and maybe in conflict to those of the Government.

At the reunion dinner we have invited Head Helicopter Systems Division, Rear Admiral Tony Dalton to be the guest speaker, and at the National Council meeting AGM, I have invited the Commander FAA, Commodore Vince Di Pietro, who will give us an update of all things Naval Aviation. I believe Rear Admiral Campbell will also make himself available at the AGM for questions.

I would like to thank Commander Matt Royals Deputy Director Naval Aviation in Navy HQ for sending an email out to all the serving birdies in the Canberra area on my behalf to encourage them to join the Association. Pincher Martin, my ever reliable Secretary tells me our membership is still hovering around the 1000, plus or minus a few. With a new website and the reunion in October, I hope we can generate more interest in the Association and encourage new members.

As an Association we continue to lose members and family of members through illness and old age. We now have a volunteer as the national Welfare Officer and we will hopefully soon have a deputy. This is a vital position to not only be available to provide advice to members, but also provide support to families when they lose a loved one. To all members, I wish you a healthy winter period and I look forward to catching up with many of you at the reunion in October. Stay safe Geoff Ledger – National President

A couple of announcements from Canberra, DVA are conducting a service at the Australian National Korean War Memorial on 27 July to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korean War Armistice. Not sure of the time, keep an eye on the website. We also received word from the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal stating that our nomination of the RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam has been listed in Part 3 of the Report and that the Tribunal has provided Government recommendations on possible future actions with regard to our submission.

## NSW DIVISION

This time again and it just comes around quicker each time. The new Committee has settled in and so far we have managed to assist the Museum in a very worth while program. You will all remember the outstanding pencil sketches proliferated by "Prof Edwards" over the years and now I am pleased to let you all know that they are preserved for all times at the Museum. Also included in the gathering of sketches are quite a few done by "Bluey" Richards (ex WO Handler / Work Study). The Museum Curator put together a quite large assortment of their work and originally had them mounted and displayed in the gallery at the Museum.



An idea was generated from this and a booklet (A5) has been collated and printed of 'Prof's' work and is available for sale from the Museum shop for a grand old total of \$10.00. Most of the initial costings of these projects has been borne by us as it was considered a very worth while project to help archive some of the light hearted side of our heritage.

Anzac Day this year was again something to behold at my local 'Dawn Service'. I am not sure and no one seems sure about the numbers except for the fact that they just could not fit into the venue provided and as well they were lucky to even get standing room on the streets into the bargain.

The very large attendance by children was for sure the most rewarding scene, they came from all walks of the community in massive numbers. A large contingent of uniforms were present and the numbers of veterans was also pleasing, even if quite a few had trouble in managing the distance and the pace of the march. More than one



probably be their last early outing as age has wearied them. One such member (Ron Jenkins) agreed to lay the wreath this year as his final Dawn Service tribute. He is pictured with his ever present grand daughter Haley and her partner.

We seem to be having a bad start to the year with illness and the passing of mates, I hope this trend does not continue as attendance at the local Lawn Cemetery is not the best place to meet mates. Here is hoping the get well list soon diminishes.

Membership as always remains well to the fore in discussions, we only seem to have a hand full that have not paid their dues this year. This can be attributed to the work of Mike Heneghan who diligently reminds those of us who forget, also if you know any ex 'birdies' who are not members give them a nudge in the right direction as without members the Association will fail. Members from the latter years seem to be the hardest to attract and these are the ones that will be required to carry on when the 'old crocks' at present at the helm sail on.

The reunion in October seems to be rather slow in attracting members and if you wish to attend the 'Reunion Dinner' don't leave it until the last minute to make your reservations as there are only about 350 seats available to all and they will get very short very quickly. Table groups (10's) can only be booked when all those listed have registered.

We had thought that a make over for the HMAS Sydney's propeller would be a good project to assist the museum with but after some discussion with Terry Hetherington (Museum Manager) and others it has been decided that it should be kept in its natural ambience. A clean up and spit polish would not present it to the public in the best manner so a clean up procedure that does not make it 'as new' again has been proposed and will be carried out in the near future. As it is old it should be maintained in that condition.

Paperwork never seems to get less these days and I thought I retired some years ago to go fishing but somehow my fishing mate (Pincher) and I seem to get there less and less each year. This has to change and we have booked ourselves a boating trip to SA in a couple of months so I had better get to the Editor and start on the next one as I will probably be missing when he sends for it.

Greg Wise

## FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA - ACT DIVISION NEWS

Hi again to all for this edition of Slipstream.

Anzac Day 2013 was well attended by the FAA community this year in Canberra. I attended the Canberra Services Club gunfire breakfast at 0430 Canberra and the Dawn Service with my wife Kerrie, my son Scott and my niece's partner Jarrod, both who are both serving Army members, and their partners. It was a very crisp minus 2 in the nation's capital but this didn't deter a big crowd attending the Dawn Service. It was a very moving ceremony and this year the light show displayed against the Australian War Memorial (AWM) backdrop was very impressive. The crowd was estimated to be around 35,000 which was the biggest turn out I have ever seen at this event. I caught up with Dr Brendan Nelson, the AWM Director, after the Dawn service and I congratulated him and his team's efforts on the outstanding work they have done on the AWM and in putting on a very impressive light display.



The Anzac Day march in Canberra was again well attended and we had 60 members and visitors turn up to march with the FAA squad. A number of people had travelled from other states and it was good to catch up with them and have them join us in the march. Terry Wilkinson (ex CPO Aircrewman) had travelled from Victoria and a few others had travelled from Nowra and Sydney. After the march many of us caught up at the Canberra Services club for a post-march drink and to tell a few stories. I appreciate the support from our members and also our serving uniform members who make the effort to march and it is pleasing to see the numbers continuing to grow each year. I would certainly recommend the Canberra Dawn Service and march to anyone who is contemplating visiting the capital as it gets better and bigger each year.

16 June 13

By the time this goes to print we would have held our ACT Division AGM which is scheduled for Friday 28 June. I will provide an update on the outcomes of the meeting in the next edition and on the FAAA website. I must say a big thanks to Pete Davis for his tireless and outstanding work on revamping the FAAA website which is very user friendly and provides a lot of current information about the Association's activities.

A big congratulations also goes to those recipients in the 2013 Queen's Birthday honours list, in particular Warrant Officer Fred Campbell on his award of an OAM for "meritorious service in the field of aviation maintenance and for leadership as a warrant officer in HMA Ships Cerberus and Creswell". Well done Freddy, certainly great recognition for all your efforts over the years.

I was fortunate enough to visit NUSHIP CANBERRA (the first RAN LHD) during its construction as part of my work in DMO. I must admit the ship is massive and much bigger than I thought it would be. The work being done by the LHD Project Team and BAE Systems is very impressive and having spent almost three hours on the ship I still didn't see all the compartments. What I did see was an excellent new capability for the ADF and I will envy the Officers, sailors, soldiers and Air Force personnel that will be lucky enough to be serving on her in the future. I am looking forward to seeing the ship in Sydney in October this year after it conducts its first sea trials and it will be in the Garden Island dry dock for a hull scrape.

being built. There is some very good work going on in South Australia and the AWD will be a very capable ship. I also visited RAAF Edinburgh and this base has certainly changed. Very modern buildings and accommodation have replaced the old buildings and the base looks very impressive and has expanded considerably since I was there in 2010. I toured through 92 Wing, ARDU and 7RAR which has recently relocated to Edinburgh and managed to chat with a number of ex FAA personnel who are now working there.

Looking forward to catching up with those who are attending the FAA 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion in Nowra in October so I hope to see you there

If anyone has any stories they would like to contribute to Slipstream, please pass them to me and I will include them in my next article.

Regards  
John (*Schonners*) Schonberger

President ACT Division  
Ph: 0412882810  
Ph: 0412 882 810

President

## FLEET AIR ARM MUSEUM SLIPSTREAM REPORT JUNE 2013

### FUNCTIONS & EVENTS

In the last week of April the Museum joined other South Coast and Shoalhaven tourism operators to exhibit at the annual Sydney Travel Supershow at Rosehill Racecourse. Shoalhaven City Council generously sponsors our annual attendance at this event which attracts around 90,000 visitors over eight days.

A very successful Squadrons Family Day was held at the Museum on 18 May by 723 and 816 Squadrons. Over 1,000 squadron personnel and family members were entertained all day with flights in the squadron helicopters and by a variety of exciting static displays in and around the Museum.



One of the Museum staff members, Margot Napier has retired from the Public Service after almost seven years employment in the finance and administration role. Margot was the public face and voice of the Museum who managed our tour bookings and arranged our team of volunteer guides. Recruitment to fill the vacancy has commenced.

### VISITORS AND DONATIONS

The visitors numbers have trended downwards as usual during the Autumn months and we have some initiatives underway to attract more school groups and bus tours. An updated TV commercial is being produced and at long last there is prospect of reopening the cafeteria later this year.

It is pleasing that we continue to receive donations of artefacts and memorabilia from current and ex-Navy personnel and from members of the general public. The Collections Curator has recently installed a 'curiosity cabinet' where newly acquired items are being displayed. Scale models of FAA aircraft donated by the son of ex-armourer Don Herman are now on show in the cabinet together with many other interesting items that have been in long-term storage.

I would like to invite Association members who are attending the National Reunion in October to share their memorabilia with us. If you have photographs or any significant documents that we can scan and digitise while you are visiting Nowra, we will return them to you together with a disc copy before your departure.

### HISTORIC FLIGHT PROGRESS

The most recent Project Board meeting was held on 1st May and decisions are still pending on the overall framework for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between HARS and the RAN for management of the Historic Flight aircraft. Demolition and rehabilitation of the proposed site for the hangar and admin complex has been completed, pending finalisation of the MoU.

### COMING EVENTS

The 'Prof' Edward and 'Blue' Richards cartoon exhibition 'The Navy in Black and White' has been installed in the Shoalhaven City Art Centre and will remain on public display for the next few months.

808 Squadron is soon to be recommissioned and will operate the latest MRH-90 multi-role helicopter from Nowra and the new LHD ships *Canberra* and *Adelaide*. It has been a privilege to support the CO and his staff with Museum artefacts and memorabilia from the bygone Sea Fury and Sea Venom eras of the squadron.

For many years a Navy 'Iroquois' helicopter has been exhibited at the Nowra Tourist Information Centre. In coming weeks the aircraft will be returned to *Albatross* for maintenance and a facelift; and with the support of Council it will go back on display by August for the 65th Anniversary of *Albatross* and to promote the Navy centenary International Fleet Review. Jervis Bay will be the focal point for over forty visiting foreign and RAN warships in preparation for the Fleet Entry into Sydney Harbour on 4th October. The Navy website [www.navy.gov.au](http://www.navy.gov.au) contains the full programme of events.

Together with the Museum curators and other staff members I look forward to welcoming the Association delegates and members for the October Federal Council and Reunion.

*Terry Hetherington*  
Manager Fleet Air Arm Museum

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Greetings from the boys in the West, another few months gone and another report.

We celebrated another very good ANZAC Day, smaller numbers this year for us but increasing crowds lining the streets of the march. We had several father son and one father and daughter pairs , Winston & Marie James daughter Lauren now a Lt. Commander marched with us, Owen Gardiner and son Leith carried the banner and Cameron Burns pushed dad Lou around the march. “Kipper’ Britten’s grandson has marched with Barrie Dunbar for several years and now 18 he carried the Division flag for us and was really proud to do so, he was finally old enough to enjoy a beer with us all afterwards, which was good. I finally coaxed my youngest son Shaun out to march with me and Clive Mayo’s son Ian marched also with his father. Rosie O’Gradys was packed again, we welcomed the young trainee pilots from RAAF Pearce again with their C.O. Lt. Cdr. Ryan (Rhino) Jose and they enjoyed themselves. Bill Flints grandson Daniel also joined us a handed us a bottle of quality scotch whiskey to raffle which was well appreciated



We have attended several Memorial Services over the past weeks, the Battle of the Coral Sea Service at the State War memorial organized by the Australian American Society; Captain Angela Bond C. O. HMAS Stirling gave the key note speech ; and the United States Memorial Day which is held at the Flame of Remembrance and had its largest attendance with some 80 wreaths being laid one being ours. I also attended two Naval Cadet events; one for the Annual Continuous Training Camp and the other for T.S. Canning Efficiency Inspection. From both of these events there are Cadets soon to join the Navy as Midshipmen and as sailors male and female and all very competent young people.

Looking forward to the reunion in October ; see you

Yours aye

Keith (Squizzy) Taylor

Scribe



Geoff Vickridge resides mainly in Cambodia now and celebrated ANZAC Day there at the Australian Embassy

Andy Curran talking to Doug Rasmusen; Jack Suriano; Ian Mayo & Lt.Cdr.Lauren Harmer (James)



## **FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION WALL of SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR. MONTHLY REPORT.**

Things have been quite since the start of the year, with nil applications received during the month of May. The latest version of the application form (due to an increase in plaque costing) is now available in the FAAM shop and on the FAAAA Homepage.

The current status for the Wall of Service is as follows:-

Order number 29 is currently at the foundry with 5 plaques due back in late June,  
Total plaques placed on the wall – 800,  
54 plaques have been re-attached to the wall, and  
Current open order number 30 with nil applications.

J. BALAZIC  
WoS Administrator

10 Jun 13

## **MINI – REUNION**

**October 65<sup>th</sup> Mini-Reunion**

**AE/ATA's ( Spanner Wankers ) Mini Reunion**

**Will be held in the beer garden at the Bridge Hotel Nowra**

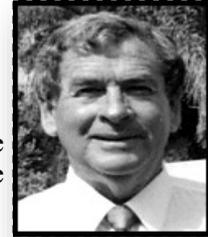
**1200 till 2200 on Thursday the 24th October 2013 .**

**No frills, pay as you go on the day.**

**Sausage sizzle will be available.**



SLIPSTREAM  
QUEENSLAND DIVISION  
JUNE 2013



Best wishes to all Division members from we Queenslanders. Sounds a bit like the Origin motto! Disappointing to have lost the first, but the next match should be fun. Most of us are amazed at the leniency shown after the punching exhibition!

Our AGM went well in March-at the Bribie Island RSL-all of the Executive stood again and were re-elected and we took on board 2 new committee members who are: Alan Arnell and Cam Barnes. The full committee now is as follows:

Barry Lister, President; Mick Blair, Vice President; Trevor Tite, Secretary; Des Kelly, Treasurer; Committee members: Ray Murrell, John Stewart, Alan Arnell and Cam Barnes. Good to have a full book again. We are in the process of arranging a visit to the Queensland Air museum, Caloundra Airport, on 20th July. The F111 is now there so becomes a focal point of the displays. Our Naval Aircraft look pretty good as well! Ray is attending a meeting there shortly to make arrangements. We hope to have a morning tea there as well as a sausage sizzle put on by Dee & myself, as we did at La Balsa Park for Christmas.

We enjoyed another successful Anzac Day in Brisbane-good clear and hot weather as usual-around 45marching then 70 or so attending the lunch and get together at the Spring Hill Hotel. Lots of raffle prizes and the Hotel Owner donated 3 bottles of wine for the raffle. Much appreciated! Don Herman and family came up from Nowra for the event and Blue Devery was there with most of his family again. Great to see them all again. I got a bit confused initially as to which "Woody Herman" was coming! Ted Hall and Paul Woods did a great job getting the Banner set up. Ted has just been in the Wesley Hospital as he had a slight stroke. He is now home and recovering well. He has been clear of the Legionnaire's Disease which has occurred there.

We are pleased to welcome new members: John Wort, Dave Hines, Steve Winter and Peter Davis. Peter is now the Fleet Air Arm Webmaster and he invites all to visit the website. Our overall membership has dropped a bit due to some passing away, unpaid fees and some resignations due to health reasons.

We have just been to Auckland to see an old mate who is having a hard time due to cancer. Travelled on China Air and came home with a "nasty" chest infection! Met the Harlem Globetrotters in Skycity & got a sneaky photo including a lady Trotter(?).

Warm weather is staying with us so far! May it continue. I'm out now so say cheers to all & hope you're all keeping fit & well.

Barry Lister. President.



Queensland FAA Anzac Day Brisbane

## VICTORIA DIVISION REPORT

Greetings and best wishes to all Members and their Families.

The Anzac Day March in Melbourne was excellent ,once again it was my privilege and honour to lead the Division, a good turn up of members ,good weather and the crowds of spectators the largest we have seen for years, and at times the applause was deafening along the way, very well accepted.

On completion of the march it was back to the Melbourne Naval Centre for our Reunion and lunch, where we caught up with the members who where unable to march and were transported in a range of classic vehicles such as Rolls Royce, Cadillac's etc and I believe one particular member was waving to the crowd like a member of the Royal Family from the Rolls Royce he was being transported in.



Summing up it was a good day catching up with old shipmates, hearing the same old stories and jokes plus some new ones,a very successful day, and a sincere thank you to all those members who so kindly donated prizes for our traditional Anzac Day fund raising, with special thank you to Anne Taylor who won the major prize, and donated it back and was won by "Hank" Fargher in the redraw also

special thanks to our Social Co- Ordinator Val Christie for organising of the catering needs of the day and also to my daughter in law Lisa Christie for her efforts in the fund raising. Once again "Thank you All "

Unfortunately since the last edition of Slipstream we have lost two of our esteemed members:

Norm Thompson 22nd April 2013

Clem Conlan 1st June 2013

Clem for those who do not know was the founder of the Victoria Division of the FAAAA and has been an active member ,holding many positions since then. On behalf of the Division, our Sincere Sympathy to Shirley Thompson and Betty Conlan and their Families at this very sad time

### LEST WE FORGET

Sick Bay:

Ralph Mayer had a fall ,breaking his Femur and injuring his hip, after spending several weeks in hospital he is now in Vic Health Rehabilitation Centre

Les Jordan had a fall, breaking his hip, was in hospital for several weeks, he is also now in Peter James Rehabilitation Centre.

Happy to report both are making slow but good improvement.

So on that note ,until the next time  
Regards

Ron Christie  
FAAAA State President ( Victoria )



Top: L-R Mal Smith , Ron Christie ,  
John Champion, Charles Fargher  
Left : L-R Peter Harney, Rob Taylor  
Ken Pryor, George Self



## TASMANIAN DIVISION

Dear Ed,

We had our meeting at the Ravenswood 50 7 over club on the 26/5/13 with an attendance of the total of 26 which is made up of members and members with partners.

We celebrated the birthdays of John Nobes's 82nd birthday and Barry Simpson's 80th, both received a great ovation from the floor. We also have a raffle with donations from members with the results helping the bottom line.

With the 100 year anniversary fast approaching it was decided that we would attend and march as a unit in Hobart for Anzac Day 2015, with a lead into that by marching in Launceston in 2014.

I updated the meeting in regards to the research and writing of a book by John Carroll titled "Out of Site, Out Of Mind" all about the logistic naval support for the Vietnam war, it is very comprehensive and it has led to recent submissions to Honours and Awards for the award of the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

There has been some controversial statements and a lack of information flowing from Government departments that has led to this with the outcome yet to be determined.

Our AM is due at our next meeting in August with hopeful results that will allow us to keep afloat.

Again I extend an invite to all our north Island mates and partners to come on down, we look forward to seeing you.

Keep well

Kind regards

Tas Browning

## National Secretary's Report Slipstream June 2013

Another 3 months gone already and good old Nowra has started on the cold Westerlies all ready. Most of the last couple of months and of course the next couple has been taken up with Reunion organisation and a National Executive Meeting at our half way meeting place the Nerriga Pub.

I am glad to report that we have had a volunteer for the position of Welfare Officer with Ray Burt offering to take up the position. Ray already does a sterling job with the NSW Division so he has now added to his work load many thanks Ray.

Most Divisions by now have held their AGM so it is a good time to remind secretary who has not forwarded to me current membership and slipstream lists to do so. First notices of the Annual Federal Council Meeting have also been sent to all Divisions (FCM held at Nowra on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2013) members wishing to input material for the FCM should contact their Divisional Secretaries.

On a sadder note we continue to lose members due to illness and aging I would like to ask members that if they hear of any Members or ex FAA people that pass away to please inform me so that the National Body can extend their sympathies to the next of kin on behalf of the Association.

To close this report I would like to urge all members who are considering attending the Reunion to let us know by booking early there are still plenty of vacancies left for all events.

Yours Aye,

Pincher

(Dick Martin)



# FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA DIVISION.

PRESIDENT - LEON V COPPINS  
1 RANDELL COURT BELAIR SA 5052  
0413 739 648 EMAIL: amwild@internode.on.net



## President's Report May 2013

The year has been quite busy including our regular meetings and other events, all by the good efforts of our Secretary Roger Harrison and Special Projects Officer Ian Laidler.

We continue to use the Windsor Hotel at Windsor Gardens as they look after us well.

John Saywell continues our participation in The Council of Ex-Service Associations, even though he has plenty on his plate.

He braved the Anzac Day March but I had to travel in the Land Rover due to my lung complaint. He sent me the attached photo which was taken by his wife, Moira.

The day was clear and good for marching. Henry Young represented us at the Dawn Service whilst Ian Laidler did the honours for us at The Repat. General Hospital.

There was a good turnout of our members and the regroup lunch was at the Windsor Hotel.

Ian "locko" Lockett led the March in my absence and there was much clapping etc from the crowds as the march progressed.

Gordon Gray was again our Flag man with Roger Harrison and Charlie Cifala on the Banner. Well done everyone. It was a great day.

In March we held our AGM and I am pleased to advise that the "old guard" has been re-elected. It means that we have continuity of service and can maintain our external contacts as well as to better serve our members.

President; Leon Coppins

Vice President : Mike Stubbington

Secretary ; Roger Harrison

Treasurer ; Gordon Gray

Audits : Michael Cain

Defence Forces Rep. John Saywell

DVA Rep ; Mike Stubbington

FAAAA Representative for 2013 Mike Stubbington together with Roger Harrison as an observer.

Committee Members include: Ian Laidler as SPO, John Saywell, John Siebert, Michael Cain.



Leon V Coppins  
President  
May 2013

### CONLAN CLEM

It is my sad duty to advise members that Clem passed away on Saturday 1st June. Clem was the founder of the Victorian Division of the Fleet Air Arm Association, a life Member and held many Executive and committee positions. At various times Clem was attached to 723-724-816 and 805 squadrons and paid off in January 1962 with the rating of POAM2. Our thoughts are with Betty and family at this difficult time. Clem was on the front page of Slipstream volume 24 No1 edition (blue shirt)

Mal Smith



### HOLTHOUSE DAVID GUY

*It is our sad duty to inform members that Rear Admiral David Guy Holthouse AO RAN (rtd) passed away on Friday 31st May 2013. David was a long time President of the Naval Officers Club of Australia and only lost his wife Isobel two months prior. Our deepest condolences are extended to his son Captain Guy Holthouse RAN and his daughter Victoria*



### POOLER COLIN

It is with regret to announce that Colin "Lofty" Pooler passed away on Saturday 01/06/2013. Lofty joined in 1952 and was a member of handler class 39 which commenced on the 01/09/1952. To his wife Noeline and Family goes our deepest sympathy

The Postie



### ELLIOT JOHN ROBERT

27 JANUARY 1928—27 May 2013

Beloved husband of Joan. Father & father-in-law of Les & Dick, Kris & Ian, John & Jane, Vicki & Garry, Pete & Fi.

Adored Grandpa of Paul, James Amanda & Joe, Amy, Chloe, Jack & Sam, Daniel & Hannah, Liam & Kadyn  
Great - Grandpa of Elle, Mia And Tyler



### VALE

Winton George June 2013

L/Cdr Dixon Paul January 2013



### BEASLEY GEORGE INNES

Late of Linfield, Devoted and loving Husband of Pam  
Father of Kim, Michael and Scott  
Grandfather of their children.

Aged 84 years



## FAA Association contact details

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

**President:** CDRE G Ledger DSC AM RAN (Ret'd) - 57 Wilkins St, Mawson, ACT 2607

(02) 6286 1140

email : [chadled@inet.net.au](mailto:chadled@inet.net.au)

**Secretary:** Mr Dick Martin -

Nowra. 2540 (02) 44225860

PO Box 7115, Naval PO,

email : [rfmartin@tadaust.org.au](mailto:rfmartin@tadaust.org.au)

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**President:** Mr Winston James -

6023 (08) 94477727

19 Hilarion Rd, Duncraig, WA.

email : [winstonj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:winstonj@bigpond.net.au)

**Secretary:** Mr Keith Taylor

WA. 6082 (08) 95721487

26 Hebron St, Mount Helena,

0409 913252

email :

[ktt59345@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ktt59345@bigpond.net.au)

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**President:** Mr Leon Coppins- email : [amwld@intermode.on.net](mailto:amwld@intermode.on.net)

**Secretary:** Mr Roger Harrison

2 Gwendoline Crt, Coromandel Valley, SA 5016

(08)82788307

email: [coroman@bigpond.com](mailto:coroman@bigpond.com)

### VICTORIA

**President:** Mr Ron Christie- 15 Bianca Court, Rowville, Vic. 3178

(03) 9764 5542

email : [seafury1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:seafury1@bigpond.net.au)

**Secretary:** Mr Malcolm Smith-

Hawthorn East, Vic. 3129

(03)98130308

24 Dnoerway Grove,

email : [r59167@bigpond.com](mailto:r59167@bigpond.com)

### TASMANIA

**President:** Mr Tas Browning email: [tasarb10@bigpond.com](mailto:tasarb10@bigpond.com)

**Secretary:** Mrs Maureen Douglas- PO Box 88, Beaconsfield, Tas

email : [maureen.douglas@bigpond.com](mailto:maureen.douglas@bigpond.com)

### QUEENSLAND

**President:** Mr Barry Lister - 3 Royal Close, Regatta Pk, Wurtulla,

QLD. 4575 (07) 54934386

email : [decandbliter@bigpond.com](mailto:decandbliter@bigpond.com)

**Secretary:** Mr Trevor Lite -

4510 (07)54993809

37 Miles St, Caboolture, QLD.

email : [trelor@tadaust.org.au](mailto:trelor@tadaust.org.au)

### NEW SOUTH WALES

**President:** Mr Greg Wise -

NSW. 2540 (02) 44471602

4 Bindaree St, Greenwell Point,

email : [gregwise@pacific.net.au](mailto:gregwise@pacific.net.au)

**Secretary:** Mr Mike Heneghan-

NSW. 2540 (02) 44412901

98 Suncrest Ave, Sussex Inlet,

email : [mheneghan1@setelco.net.au](mailto:mheneghan1@setelco.net.au)

### ACT

**President:** Mr John Schonberger-

Bonython ACT 2905

0412 882 810

41 Noarlunga Crescent

email : [John.Schonberger@defence.gov.au](mailto:John.Schonberger@defence.gov.au)

**Secretary:** Mr George Sydney-

ACT. 2612

(02) 6247 9221

12 Feakes place, Campbell,

email : [sydneys5@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sydneys5@optusnet.com.au)

## **THOMPSON NORMAN**

The Victorian Division is sad to announce the passing of Norman (Norm) Thompson. Norm served from 1952 —1959 and was a long standing member of the Fleet Air Arm Association. Norm's cheerful manner and quick wit will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with Shirley and family in this difficult time.

Mal Smith



## **MOORE RON**

4-11-34 - 18-5-13

Late of Perth—formerly of Nowra  
Passed away peacefully on the 18-5-2013

Dearly loved father to Leanne, Jenni  
& Ronda

Grandfather to Nathan, Toni- Louise,  
Matthew, Christopher, Courtney  
& Lauren

Great grandfather to Maria, Rosie,  
Mikaela, Alirah & Isaac

Rest peacefully, you will  
always be in our hearts



## **GNUDSEN ALAN**

It is Our sad duty to inform members  
that Alan passed away on  
Monday 20-5-2013  
Alan was of the Class of 84 (2-2-1960)

**REST IN PEACE**



ANZAC DAY 2013 JACKSONVILLE USA 725 SQUADRON



# *LEST WE FORGET*

## **ANZAC DAY 2013**



# SOCIAL SCENE



**Mal Barnes, Des Kelly  
& Bill Strahan**



**Garry Ried & Friend**



**Dee Lister & Dusty Millar**



**Denise Ward, Dulcie Blair, Flos Nugent,  
Brenda Stewart & Baraba Murrell**



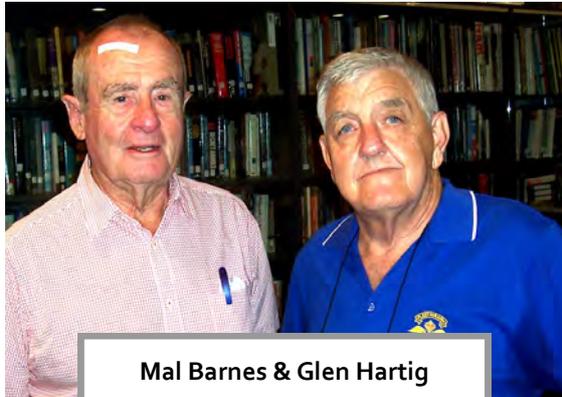
**Bear Hammond & Micky Mack**



**Ray Murrell, Alan Arnell  
& Geof Moreton**



**Barry Lister & Mick Blair**



**Mal Barnes & Glen Hartig**

# SOCIAL SCENE

## 723 & 816 Squadrons Combined Family Day

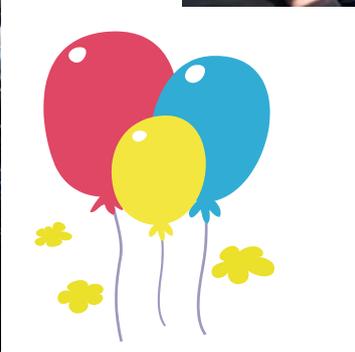
Elanor & Ryan  
O'Loughlan



Maddison  
Sedgwick



Ryan O'Loughlan



Wil & Stacie Sime



Rui DaSilva



Gabby Jones



Kaia Jarvis



Chelsea Davis



Emily English



Heidi Hough

# SOCIAL SCENE

## 723 & 816 Squadrons Combined Family Day



Jacob & Olivia Maxwell



Tamika Millard



Steve, Natalie and Lucinda Bacales



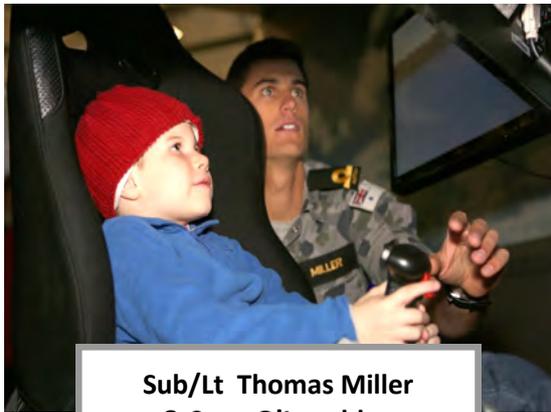
Tyson Douglas



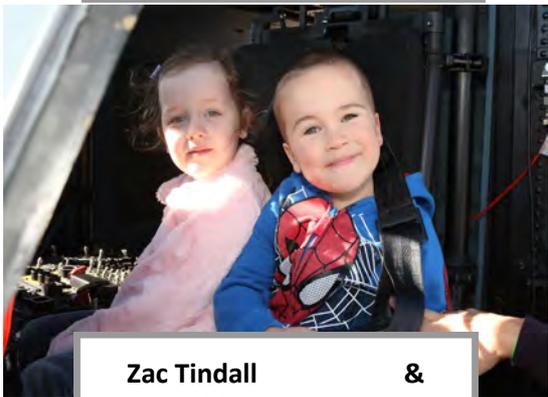
Jack Millard



Taylor Gill & Eva O'Sullivan



Sub/Lt Thomas Miller & Sean O'Loughlan



Zac Tindall & Millie Lynch

# SOCIAL SCENE



**Dee & Barry Lister Anzac Day QLD**



**Snow Tite—Ron Powell—John Stewart AGM QLD**



**Judy & Burrie Arnell Anzac Day QLD**



**Barry poses with member of Harlem Globetrotters in Auckland**



**Jim Davidson—Mal Smith Anzac Day VIC.**



**Korean Vets L-R Les Jordan—Ron Christie Alan Clark—George Self Anzac Day VIC**

