



Commanding Officer 808 Squadron, Commander Adrian Capner, RAN, with his daughter Zara (10), before her flight in a 808 Squadron MRH-90 helicopter as part of the combined Families Day at HMAS Albatross and at the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

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VISIT OF STUDENTS FROM ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MILTON

(L-R) Firefighter crew leader, Gary Holman, Leading Seaman Anthony Da Silva, Chief Petty Officer Eddington and fire fighter Richard Hansen. Year 1 & 2 students from St Mary's Primary School at Milton on the NSW South Coast, visited HMAS Albatross as part of their research project on transportation. While at Albatross the students learnt about helicopters when they visited 808 Squadron. Leading Seaman Aircrewman Anthony Da Silva gave a presentation to the students about 808 squadron and the helicopter the squadron operates, the MRH 90. The children also visited the Albatross fire station and finished the day at the Fleet Air Arm Museum



AVN sailors are specialists who will support the enhanced aviation capability of the two Canberra Class Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) ships entering service with the RAN in 2014 and 2015.

Mid-Caption Twelve sailors graduated from the latest Aviation Support (AVN) course during a ceremony at the Fleet Air Arm Museum at HMAS Albatross, where Commander Fleet Air Arm, Commodore Vince Di Pietro CSC, RAN, was invited to be the presenting officer.

The students successfully completed the comprehensive 12 week course and will put their new skills to use on the RAN's two Landing Helicopter Dock ships, HMA Ships Canberra and Adelaide, when they enter service in 2014 and 2015.

FROM THE EDITOR



Another year gone, each year seems to go faster than the last or is this just old age creeping in. I hope you have enjoyed this years four editions of Slipstream and with the amount of input from you all I have asked the National Body if I could increase the volume of the magazine. Of course this mean an increase in the postal rates which I hope we can get around with out increasing the price of Slipstream, but will just have to wait and see.

Like nearly everyone I am preparing myself to the influx of grandkids over the Xmas period, but it is great to have them all together at the one time. To all have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and don't drink to much

ED

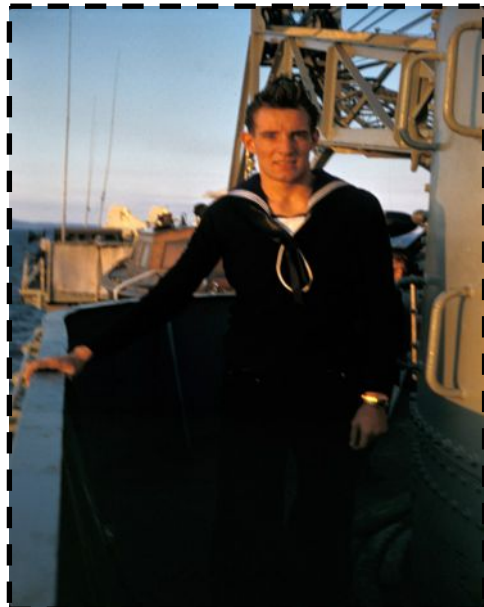
LETTERS

Editor

Good day-
Ron.

Bill Strachan was concerned about my whereabouts when 817 sqd. Photo was taken (vol.25 No.3) you didn't think that I would skulk divisions, Bill? I was doing a "samca" on gannet weaponry at abbotsinch with my opposite No. Harry Wade of 816 sqd. We were educating the instructor who was suppose to be educating us! Hope life is treating you well Bill.

Regards, Jack Constantine



Jack onboard Melbourne year NK

Hi Ron , Jack Cevaal, Ex LASE, RPO< and WONP> Thanks for your efforts with the magazine. Went through my Navy Photos and don't recall landing mirrors on the starboard side..... Just see if they are of interest I am in the overalls behind Peter McNays big save by wrapping arrestors wires around the props and some flight deck shots. The only time I ve seen Don Debus Run (before The Gannet stopped . Well nearly) Yell out if they are like proper phot quality. Plenty more but one may help with mirror question ,astern of the 2 deck Safety Equipment Section. Hope it finds you well . Hi to Cluey

Regards Jack



I found this photo in a shoe box on my wife's grandparent's property in Nerriga NSW. All it has on the back is 843 squadron 1945. Can anyone enlighten me on this one ED

SITREP NO 16 DATED 28 NOVEMBER 2014

By now, addressees should have received the "Analysis of the DFRDB Arrangement" I put together in October.

An encouraging response has been received. As a consequence I intend to seek a meeting with the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW to explore if action through the Justice system is feasible to:

One - obtain a full legal retirement pay entitlement for myself and other DFRDB retirement pay recipients who exercised the commutation provision of the DFRDB Act before 2008 and have forfeited the full value of the lump sum advance as a consequence of the reduced (notional) post commutation retirement pay arrangement, and

Two - ensure that people in receipt of the DFRDB Spouses Benefit receive 5/8th of their **deceased spouses fully indexed uncommuted** DFRDB retired pay entitlement in accordance with Section 39 of the DFRDB Act.

Whether, or not, grounds exist to support action could be associated with one, or possibly more, of the following considerations:

One - the current DFRDB Authority interpretation of Sections 24 (Commutation) and 98B (Indexation) of the DFRDB Act 1973.

Two - The possibility that the construction of the DFRDB Act could be in breach of Section 15 AB (2) © of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901 in respect to the legislative requirements that formed the basis of the legislation passed by the parliament in 1973 – please see the "**Analysis Paper**" paragraphs 2 to 8.

Three - the fact that the DFRDB arrangement is part of a military condition of service package in force from 19 June 1973 (date DFRDB Act received Royal Assent) to 1 October 1991 (date when the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS) superseded the DFRDB arrangement).

Four - the possibility that the DFRDB Authority has engaged in **deceptive and misleading conduct** directed at ADF retirees and their families in the 1973 period – please see the "**Analysis Paper**" paragraph 58.

The Law and Justice Foundation of NSW.

Established in 1967 the "Law and Justice Foundation of NSW" is an independent, statutory, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving access to justice for "socially and economically disadvantaged people". I was privileged to attend the 2014 Justice Awards function in Sydney. The function was impressive and the quality of the people involved doubly so.

Life Expectancy Factor and Notional Retirement Pay

At paragraph 22 of the Analysis Paper I indicated that I would take action to seek an **explanation** from the DFRDB Authority regarding the determination of life Expectancy Factor and notional retirement pay in the situation where an ADF Retiree does **not elect to commute** on leaving one of the three services after completing 20 years service.

The reason for the concern is that in these circumstances, he/she, is not **only paid a reduced amount** of retirement pay each fortnight, but does **not receive a lump sum advance**. This means that a person in these circumstances never receive their full retirement pay entitlement in accordance with their military service. Also, their Spouses Benefit entitlement is reduced, in the event of their death, because the entitlement is based on a lower post commutation notional retirement pay figure.

This is a deceitful situation when the information made available to the members of the ADF is taken into account.

On 28 November I posted the following letter to the DFRDB Authority with information copies to the Chiefs of Air Force, Navy and Army:

"In accordance with the provisions of Freedom of Information legislation, I hereby formally request that the DFRDB Authority (ComSuper) provide the following information please.

"Details of the method currently employed by the DFRDB Authority to establish the quantum of DFRDB notional retirement pay due to a person, leaving one of the three Military Services, who qualifies for receipt of DFRDB Retirement Pay but does not submit a formal notice in writing to the Authority in accordance with Section 24 of the Act electing to commute a portion of his/her retirement pay as required by Section 24 (1)."

Specifically, in this situation how are the **mathematical parameters** involved with establishing the **quantum of notional rate** of pay, i.e. "Lump Sum Commutation Entitlement" and "Life Expectancy Factor", determined by the Authority? "

I will circulate the reply I receive via a Situation Report.

The festive season is nigh – accordingly I wish one and all and families a happy joyous Christmas and a healthy, productive 2015 - be of good cheer warm regards to all,

J the T
(Jim Treadwell)
MMSOB

THE MYSTERY NAVAL SAILORS OF ALBATROSS

Shipmates

HMAS Albatross (2)

H.M.A.S ALBATROSS (2)

(Royal Australian Naval Air Station, Nowra, N.S.W)

Named to perpetuate the name of the RAN's Seaplane Carrier of 1929, the airfield at Nowra was originally used for civil purposes. Used by the RAAF from May 1942 until October 1944, it then commissioned for the Royal Navy as HMS NABBINGTON. All RN air bases in Australia were given names beginning with NAB-, meaning Naval Air Base. Paid off on November 15, 1945, it was taken over by the RAN. King George VI approved the name HMAS ALBATROSS for the station. It commissioned as such on August 31, 1948 (CMDR H.J.F. Lane, RN) and is still operational today.

In Fleet Air Arm shore establishments it appears that the general rule for mascots was for different branches of the service to adopt their own. In this respect, the Armourers seemed to be the most prolific and innovative of any branch. Their propensity for keeping sheep and goats as their mascots had a lot to do with the requirement to keep down the grass that grew on the artificial 'hummocks' created by earth heaped over the explosives bunkers in the bomb dump. Pushing a hand mower over these humps was an unenviable task, so Jolly Jack (ever inventive) decided to use what nature had provided - perambulating lawnmowers.

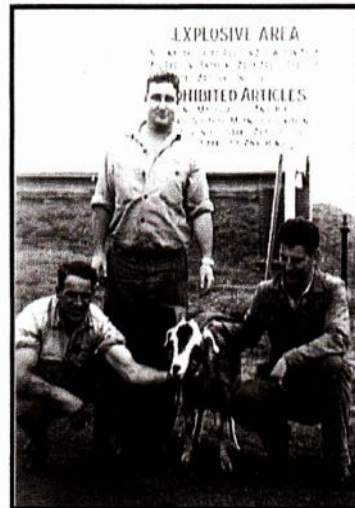
'Lew Hoad'

One of these was a goat named after the late, and great, Australian tennis champion from Mudgee (NSW), Lew Hoad. The goat, like most Navy mascots, was known to enjoy a grog or two, but his main claim to fame was the fact that his 'nuts' had been painted with armament spray - one red and one green - which was all very nautical, of course, as they represented Port and Starboard. His diet consisted of anything that didn't move out of the way quickly enough, which resulted in a couple of close calls, with subsequent trips to the sick bay. After one particular 'pig-out' - on plastic explosive! - no one was game to pat him for a couple of weeks.

'Billy'

The Bomb Dump Crew [Bill Blain, Jack Herbert - no, not the onetime police commissioner - and Kev Raddatz, seen here (L to R)] had another willing helper; a goat that went by the name of 'Billy', or 'Bill'.

Like 'Lew Hoad' before him, Billy, too, led something of a charmed life, but was looked upon with great affection. He once had a swig out of a drum of Titanium Tetrachloride (used in 10-lb practice smoke bombs) which upset him so much that he had to be rushed to the Sick Bay on a bomb trolley. Upon arrival (and this gives some indication of the esteem in which he was held) Billy was taken directly to the head of the queue - ahead of about thirty sailors who had been patiently seated in the waiting room. Greater love hath no man...



Bomb Dump crew with Billy the goat

Asked to provide a brief biography for *Slipstream* - the magazine of the Fleet Air Arm Association, Billy 'penned' these few lines:

Few people know of my existence on the Air Station, although I joined nearly a year ago. I was purchased from the Nowra Cordial Company by the Armourers' Tea Boat, and although there have been quite a few rumours, I had nothing to do with the manufacture of Fruity Lemon.

My rate is Naval Goat 1st Class and I am employed at the Bomb Dump as grass-cutter, dog chaser, and empty box label eater. I am the only rating in the Navy who has had a beard since birth, and I consider that all others are amateurish when compared with mine.

About two months ago I was indisposed for a few days because I had eaten a hearty meal of 'Ratsack', but as I refused to go to Sick Bay I recovered completely. My biggest disappointment since I have been in pussers was not being inspected by the Admiral, after I got myself a nice coat of roofing green paint, too.

HELP WANTED

Captain Cris George has compiled an amazing history of (the more serious) FAA aircraft accidents/incidents, after finding that no permanent record of this important historical information exists. Much of the information has been collated from people's recollections, however, so there may be errors or omissions in the records.

Your help is required to:

- Check the detail of any accidents/incidents listed
- Advise us of any that are missing, or incomplete

Provide additional detail if you have any, including photographs.

The history can be viewed on our website at <http://faaaa.asn.au/> (under the 'Histories' menu). Any feedback should be sent to the webmaster at marcuspeake@me.com



Photograph via Australia's Museum of Flight.



Photo via Bob Geale AMOF



The next three pages are some of the 2,880 photos that suddenly appeared on my tablet. Some of the people I know, and some have departed our world, whilst some of them I would not know who they were. But the main question is who sent the photos.



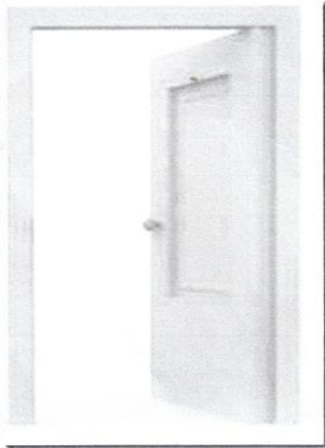




RAN HELO FLIGHT VIETNAM
FIRST CONTINGENT
OCT 15 1967 \ OCT 16 1968



Scientific proof. What a relief !



Ever walk into a room with some purpose in mind, only to completely forget what that purpose ? Turns out, doors themselves are to blame for these strange memory lapses!

Psychologists at the University of Notre Dame have discovered that passing through a doorway triggers what's known as an Event Boundary in the mind, separating one set of thoughts and memories from the next. Your brain files away the thoughts you had in the previous room and prepares a blank slate for the new locale.

Thank goodness for studies like this. It's not our age, it's that damn door !

P.S.

Please forgive me if I already sent this to you from the other room!

AVIATION MEDICINE STUDENTS FROM NEW ZEALAND



Aviation Medicine students from New Zealand's Otago University visit the Fleet Air Arm Museum, HMAS Albatross. Mid-Caption Students undertaking a Diploma and Masters in Aviation Medicine Program at New Zealand's Otago University conduct a residential course at an international location every year.

The group spent a day at HMAS Albatross where they were invited to tour the squadrons of the Fleet Air Arm, the Helicopter Underwater Escape Training centre and the Sea Hawk simulator.

The focus of the visit was on the military aspects of aerospace medicine with a specific focus on requirements of naval aviation such as flying over water and deck landings.

Hi Keith

Just a short memo to add to the next Slipstream.

To celebrate Kayes 70th birthday this past August, we decided to do a trip to Canada and travel from West to East by train. We had been invited to the 45th

reunion of the Evans/ Melbourne collision, to be held in Seattle, so we decided to include the reunion in our trip. Eleven Australians attended, including seven survivors and four wives. The welcome we received from the Americans was overwhelming and the fellowship shared by both Navies was fabulous.

Next year the reunion will be held in Mobile, Alabama and all personnel who were serving on Melbourne in 1969 are more than welcome to attend. If any of our members need any information on the reunions or the Frank E Evans Association they can contact me by email at lifthi@bigpond.com or my mobile 0408078622. New members of the association are always welcome.

After our train trip which was fabulous we flew from Toronto to New York, then on to Helsinki, where we caught a plane to Madrid for a nine day tour of Spain, ending in Barcelona, where we flew back to Helsinki, then to Singapore and on to Perth. Away for five weeks and enjoyed every minute of it.

Hopefully we will get more Aussies attending next year's event.

Regards

Bevan & Kaye Daws.

Donnybrook

Western Australia.



Hi Roger.

Lee passed away on 1st Nov. after a period of being very unwell. We were married for 62 years so obviously I am feeling a bit strange. Last time- was single was in 1952. She died with family at her bedside at home. She left a legacy of 10 grandchildren and currently 19 great grandchildren. I would appreciate publishing her death in the next report for "Slipstream" for there may be a handful left that knew her in her youth. She was 86 so as the saying goes "she had a good innings". Her last lucid conversation with me was and I quote "It never seems the right time to die" I am in good health but her passing has alerted me to my own mortality. My best wishes to all the troops.

Barry (Dooley) Lord



BROOKES RON

Nigel Brookes just called and said our good ship mate, his Dad Ron, Passed away about 1500 today Sunday. His last couple of days were rough.

Please let everyone know. I have no other email addresses.

Will let everyone know more on when advised.

Regards

Kevin Longford



Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia (FAAAA)

RECRUIT A MEMBER CAMPAIGN



Everybody knows someone who is not a member of the Association, and if each of us recruited just ONE person this year our membership would double...

So make it your good deed for THIS WEEK: simply get one of your serving or ex-serving FAA mates to sign up. See the website for the campaign details:

www.faaaa.asn.au

or ask the National Secretary to send you a 'recruiting pack'

SNAIL MAIL A THING OF THE PAST



Able Seaman Communication Information Systems Libby Pearce in the Main Planning Room onboard NUSHIP Canberra.

With the biggest ship in the fleet comes the largest computer network and communications suite onboard a Royal Australian Navy vessel.

The communications and information systems department started work onboard NUSHIP *Canberra* in August during sea trials and have spent a considerable amount of time since then ensuring that the ship's communications systems are ready when the crew embarks.

The ship's Communications and Information Warfare Officer, Lieutenant Commander Andrew Mannion said the communications system on board *Canberra* would bring an enhanced capability to Defence, specifically the ability for embarked forces and their headquarters staff to operate and communicate from the ship.

"The planning for setting up the networks and communications systems on board commenced early in the year," Lieutenant Commander Mannion said.

"The communications suite on *Canberra* is significantly larger than any other ship in the fleet, we have approximately three times the amount of radios, networks and users."

The 34 members of the department are responsible for the operation of the ship's six local area networks (LANs), providing a 24/7 Information Technology (IT) helpdesk and information management on board. The department will also look after the radio, satellite and visual signalling (lights and flags) communications mediums.

The migration of the ship's administrative paperwork and processes represented a move of approximately 50 gigabytes of data.

"We had to transfer data that we had accumulated over the past 18 months to the ship's servers," said Lieutenant Commander Mannion.

"This was done with the assistance of a team in the city of Canberra who copied the data to a hard drive and then couriered it down to Melbourne for us," he said.

The department has also had to create logons for all 400 crew members, plus additional accounts on the classified networks.

"When we start embarking forces, we will need to go through the same process for them, which could be approximately 300 additional personnel," Lieutenant Commander Mannion said.

The ship has three internet cafes that provide space for the crew to conduct personal administration.

These are ship's networked computers but there is a work in progress to install a Wi-Fi network so both crew and embarked forces can use personal devices to communicate with family and friends back home

725 SQUADRON'S HOME IN THE STATES



YESTERYEAR



Photos courtesy Roger Harrison

First ship's company meal onboard NUSHIP Canberra a winner



T-bone steak, burgers and salt and pepper squid were all on the menu as some of NUSHIP *Canberra's* crew tucked into their first meal onboard the ship recently.

Just as the ship was readied for her departure from the BAE Systems dockyard in Williamstown, Victoria, it was up to *Canberra's* chefs to cater to the various dietary requirements of 380 hungry personnel

"The chefs provided a great service and I'm really looking forward to eating more meals onboard," Able Seaman Keevers said.

There are 23 chefs onboard *Canberra* including seven from Army. The majority of the time they will be cooking for the crew of 400 but they will be called upon to cater for up to 1,400 when embarked forces are onboard.

The galley is unique in that from a central location it can support four separate serveries, the Wardroom, the Senior Sailors' Mess, and the Junior Sailors' and Embarked Forces' Cafés.

The ship can store dry goods to feed 1,400 personnel for 45 days and can store 14 days of fresh fruit and vegetables. There is also a bakery within the galley where the chefs will cook fresh bread nightly.

Petty Officer Maritime Logistics - Chef Paul Bailey said the galley facilities provide an excellent working environment for the chefs onboard

"The size of the galley, the facilities, lay out and storage are all exceptional and most of the chefs used the galley during sea trials, so they are getting quite familiar with the layout now," Petty Officer Bailey said.

"The chefs set a minimum standard with the first meal and we will improve on that from here on in.

"I'm really looking forward to getting to sea and getting myself and the chefs into a good routine," he said

SOCIAL SCENE



ANZAC DAY 2014 CANBERRA



Back Chaplin Andrew Thorburn,, Rob Taylor, Herman Blommesrein, Rob Earle Middle Alan Clark, Ron Christie, Ann Taylor, Marion Earle. Front Col McKenzie, Mal Smith, Val Christie Chaplin Clyde Appeby



Members outside chapel prior to wreath laying ceremony in memorial gardens HMAS Cerberus
George Self Ron Christie Mal Smith



Victorian Division Dinner 30/08/2014

Col Mckenzie, Norm Pickering, Mal Smith, Ron Christie, Alan Clarke, Herman Blommestein, Bob Earle



Victorian Division Wreath Laying HMAS Cerberus

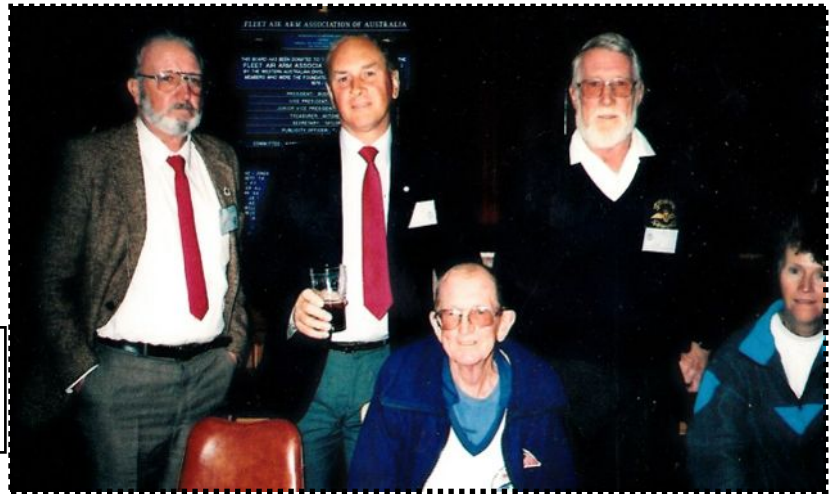
SOCIAL SCENE FAAA REUNION 1992



Noel Wyborn, A Cook, Bob Davies, Bill Wilkinson, John Metheral



Bill Wilkinson, A Cook, Digger Dunn, John Metheral, Mrs (Bob) Jan Davis



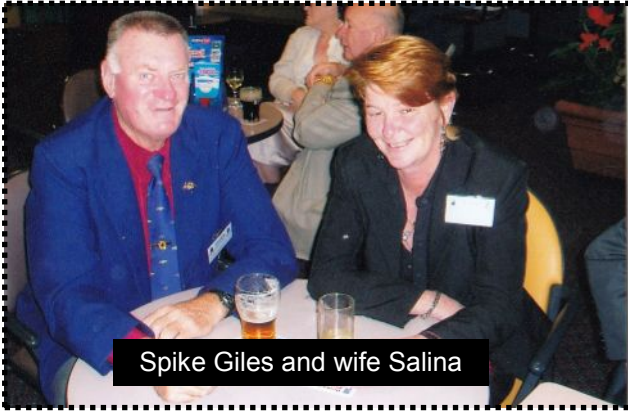
Noel Wyborn, John Banister, Casey Dykstra, George Parker



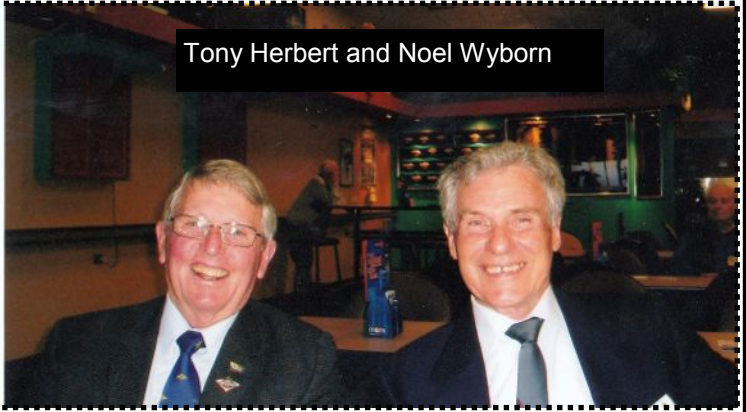
Ted Goater—former N.A. Armourer, retired airline captain and Noel Wyborn (LEM (A))



SOCIAL SCENE HMAS Melbourne Reunion 2010 PLUS MORE



Spike Giles and wife Salina



Tony Herbert and Noel Wyborn



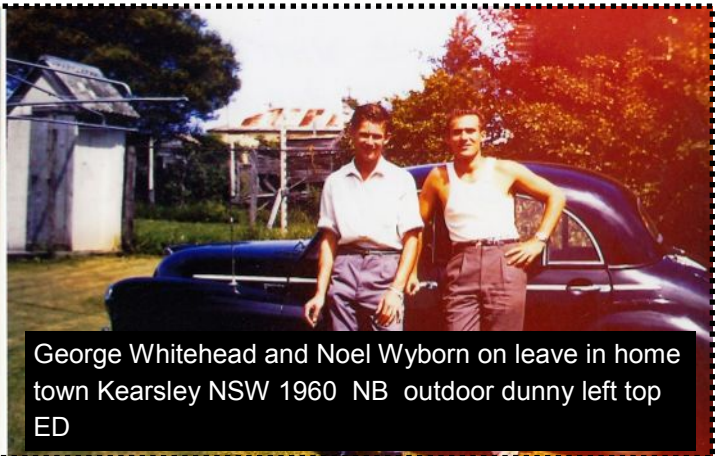
Barry Sunderland and wife Kaye



Gavin Greer and John Metheral



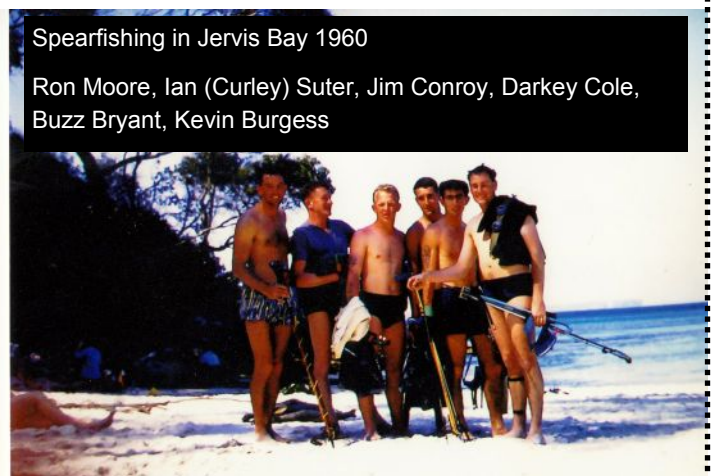
Brian Fitzgerald and Buzz Bryant



George Whitehead and Noel Wyborn on leave in home town Kearsley NSW 1960 NB outdoor dunny left top ED



Noel Wyborn And vampire FAA Reunion 2008



Spearfishing in Jervis Bay 1960

Ron Moore, Ian (Curley) Suter, Jim Conroy, Darkey Cole, Buzz Bryant, Kevin Burgess

SOCIAL SCENE

**I know that the Fleet Air Arm are getting some *NEW* ROMEO's,
but here are some *OLD* ROMEO's.
(Retired Old Men Eating Out)**



Standing: Left to Right,

Col Blundell, Kev Camm, Mick Doyle, Denis Mulvihill, Col Chessell, Ben Link, Brian Carroll, Debbie Reynolds, Peter Penny, Ted (Simba) Smith, Tom Kinross.

Sitting: Left to Right,

Renald (Mak) Makila, Lenny Connell, Col Poulton, Kevin Longford, Ian (Spike) Jones, Don Parkinson, Dave Groom, Leo Burggraaf.

Leading Seaman Adam Wade, Ian Gallop, Ivan Plavsic, Aaron Baker and Rhys Withers became Navy's newest qualified aircrewmembers as they were presented with their wings by Commander Fleet Air Arm, Commodore Vince Di Pietro.



Staff and students of Aircrewman Rotary course 08.(Front, left to right) Petty Officer Gregory Rose, Lieutenant Dave Oxley and Chief Petty Officer Jeffrey Weber

The Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia Website

Open for Business

The Association's Website has been open for years, but fell into disrepair...but it is now up and running again, and going from strength to strength.

You also have a highly responsive Webmaster who can answer questions (or point you in the right direction) or accept articles for publication.



Webmaster: Marcus Peake

Did you know you can find

- Articles of interest about the FAA, past and present.
- An Amazing compilation of FAA aircraft accidents since before WW2.
- A Gallery of Photographs of FAA aircraft, past and present.
- A list of Useful Links to other ex-Service and relevant Government organisations.
- A Calendar of Forthcoming Events.
- A list of Lost Contacts, to help mates find each other.
- Obituaries of deceased FAA members.
- Histories of the Squadrons.
- Details of the FAA Wall of Service, with the ability to apply on line.
- The Aims and Values of the Association.
- A List of Association Office Bearers and what they do.
- Electronic Forms to Join the Association or Change your Details.

Minutes of Meetings and other points of interest.

This is YOUR website, so why not use it? All you have to do is type "FAAAA" into your Search Engine and follow the link, or go to the following web address: <http://faaaa.asn.au>

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**DEADLINE FOR
ARTICLES FOR NEXT
EDITION IS WEDNESDAY
11TH MARCH 2015
GOING TO PRINT
FRIDAY 13TH
MARCH 2015**

PRESIDENT'S SLIPSTREAM

REPORT – DEC 2014

A warm welcome to all members and their families, and I hope this Slipstream edition finds you healthy and well. Our numbers over the past three months have been slowly increasing, which is very good news. I welcome all new members and their families to the association, and I congratulate you on your contribution to the FAA, I hope you will be an active participant and supporter of the FAAA.

The Federal Council meeting has been and gone. This was generally a good meeting, although some of the reforms we were hoping to achieve with respect to Centralised Membership Management System were not tabled due to lack of support, at least there was robust discussion on the serious issue of falling membership and communication in general. The national executive is committed to continue to put in place options that will enhance our ability to recruit and retain members, as well as offering some tangible benefits for the membership. I would like to congratulate both Neil Ralph and Winston James on their appointment as life members of the association. Also, to Clive Mayo a Diploma of Merit for his efforts in the West, well done to you all and thank you for your service to the Fleet Air Arm Association, it is very much appreciated.

At the FCM, we had the pleasure of Commander FAA, Commodore Vince Di Pietro who gave us a thorough update on FAA activities both abroad with the Romeo program, and also locally with the MRH90 and HATS program at Nowra. The FCM also received an update on the HARS project, and that it now sits with Chief of Navy's Advisory Committee for a decision on funding and support. Vince also answered several questions on the LHD introduction, and the possibility of these platforms becoming a carrier of fixed wing aircraft, Navy's use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's), and also his thoughts on how the Association can thrive and survive. Thanks to Vince and several senior Canberra FAA officers pushing our cause, the FAAA stocks have risen and I would like this to continue.

Marcus Peake the webmaster has been given FCM approval to seek a provider to update and enhance our website. This work is being done as this edition hits the street. Marcus is also presenting a challenge to members to recruit a new member, and you will see a flyer in this edition of the Slipstream of our intent in this campaign. Some of the key discussions at the FCM was around communication, and it is evident the two key mediums for communication and information flow for the Association, are the FAAA Website and the Slipstream magazine.

In line with the work being conducted to build our membership base, I have sought sponsorship from the Australian Defence Credit Union to help us grow the Slipstream magazine a little more, and provide some relief for postage and printing of the magazine. I am hopeful to have the ADCU on board as a sponsor for 2015.

Once again over the past three months, we have lost too many shipmates and family members to illness and untimely sickness, which is always hard to come to grips with. I acknowledge the great work the Divisions do in passing on this important information to the wider membership, and the support given to the families.

I again would like to congratulate Terry Hetherington and his hard working team at the Museum in keeping the place looking absolutely first class in all aspects. My thanks also goes to all the volunteers that continue to work diligently and tirelessly on the Navy Historic Flight aircraft, thank you for your efforts to keep these beautiful reminders of our heritage in pristine condition.

Finally, thanks again to all of you that support the association. Please encourage anyone with a connection to the FAA to join. They will be most welcome. On behalf of the National Executive, I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Ledger DSC, AM



NSW Report



The time has come to put pen to paper again, seems only yesterday I was doing the same thing.

You will find included in this issue your membership renewal, for those so inclined (the not so old farts) you can remit this by Direct debit. To do so please use the following information making sure that you use either your membership number or your name in the description or reference space (Bank: - St George BSB 112- 879 Account No 049612462). No reference and we do not know who sent the money. If you pay for your raffle book at the same time the amount will let us know this and we will fill out another blank book with your info and you can destroy the book you received with Slipstream. If you do not use this method, just return everything as usual.

On the subject of membership, the Association on as a whole is suffering badly, we (NSW) have been fortunate in so much as we have picked up about 20 new member so far this year, mainly current serving personal and these are very valuable members as a lot of us are getting shaky on the perch. Have a look around among your .mates and see if you can find just one chap who is not a member and try your best to convince him to join. The easiest way to do this now is to go onto the website (<http://faaaa.asn.au>) and fill out the form online and it is done in the blink of an eye, payment can be done the same way at the same time.

We had the usual list of those that 'forgot' to renew on time this year and even after a reminder letter (which is quite an expensive cost to us) they still did not let the 'penny drop' until there was no more Slipstream and then we get phone calls asking if we have missed the magazine or lost their address. Remember only one magazine will be sent if your fees have not been paid. It is too expensive and not fair to those who have paid to carry member who just forgot. If you have a change of address please inform the Secretary so we can change the mailing list as again Aust. Post does not miss us, they now charge for returned mail and then we have to pay to re-mail it at full rates.

Sorry if this sounds a bit like a general whinge but these are small things that cost quite a bit of money if we don't keep on top of them and it's your money that will be wasted.

On the subject of Slipstream, the federal Council Meeting decided not to increase the cost of the magazine so our fees will stay at the same rate. The Committee is at present addressing the cost of overseas mailing of Slipstream and by the next issue we will have made a decision as to what we do about the rapidly increasing cost (The Post Office have increased the postage overseas twice so far this year and it is becoming quite a problem.

There has been quite a bit of activity out at the 'TROSS' of late; I attended the ANNUAL divisions the other week and they had in the viewing area no less than six previous Captains of the base present and it was good to catch up with some old acquaintances. The first of the new Seahawks have arrived and their new hangars down between the old pig farm and 26 runways are almost finished. They have just started demolishing 'Avionic Workshop' and new admin block is going to be built there. If that not enough they are getting ready to clean out all the old hangers (C,D,E&F) and build new ones so as you can see the old place is updating very rapidly. At the Museum an art exhibition by our friend and Honorary Member John Downton has been opened and will run until January so if you are in the area drop in and have a look as it is well worth while (the next raffle prizes are on display there as well).

Greg Wise



National Secretary's Report

(Slipstream Dec 2014)



Well another year has just about gone and the ranks keep getting thinner just recently we have lost Spider Brooks, Doug Sutherland and Len Anderson and we send condolences to all their families. If I have missed anyone please accept my apologies.

Since my last report we have held our Annual Federal Council Meeting and since this was not an election year all office bearers remain intact. During the Meeting our President Geoff Ledger presented the following awards

Life Membership awards to Neil Ralph (NSW) and Winston James (WA) Diploma of Merit to Clive Mayo (WA)

Congratulations go to all recipients.

The main theme coming from the FCM was that our ways of communicating with potential members in this current age must be focused on the electronic side of communications to this end the National Executive was authorised by the State Divisions to upgrade our Web Site and also to look at such things as a Facebook page.

Our current members were not left out as Slipstream will continue to flourish as a printed medium (This was indicated by all the States saying that the majority of their members wished to keep Slipstream as a printed copy)

Ron Batchelor the editor of Slipstream indicated that he wished to increase the size by a few pages as he had plenty of material to work with - due to costs etc. This will be looked at by the National Executive over the next few months.

With the festive season fast approaching it only leaves me to wish you all

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS, and a HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 2015"

Yours Aye

Pincher



Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia

Victoria Division



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Greetings and best wishes to all Members and their Families from the Committee and Members of the Victoria Division.

Since our last report the Federal Council Meeting in Nowra has been held and it was productive with some good initiatives which no doubt will be mentioned by our President in his report.

By the time this edition goes to print we will have held our last meeting for the year followed by our traditional BBQ. We have had an excellent response this year and are anticipating a good attendance.

Life Member Ralph Mayer (one of the "Originals") is currently in sick bay and we wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back on deck early in the New Year.

We are all well aware of the problems recruiting new members to the association so it is pleasing to report that we have had an increase over recent months. We welcome Jeremy Butler, Robert Gagnon, James Hawley, Scott Myers and David Ostler and look forward to them taking an active part in our division.

Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 8th February. All members who are able are encouraged to attend. Several of our more senior committee members have indicated that they feel the time has come to step down and allow younger members to have their turn at guiding the division. Shortly I will be contacting members with details of the AGM and now is the time for anyone interested to start thinking of standing for election.

FAAAA (Vic) Calendar of Events 2014.

Sunday 8th February – AGM.

Saturday 25th April – Anzac Day.

Sunday 7th June – Committee & General Meeting

Saturday 29th August – Annual Dinner

Sunday 30th August – FAA Memorial Service HMAS Cerberus.

Sunday 20th September – Committee & General Meeting.

Saturday 24th October – Federal Council Meeting. Venue to be advised.

Sunday 6th December – Committee & General Meeting & Christmas Breakup.

I take this opportunity to wish all Members and Families a Safe, Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year.

Mal Smith
Secretary.



The Navy Canteens organisation commenced catering operations in our Function Centre on 24th November in the new "Flight Deck Café" and business is already very brisk. Glen Derwin was attracted out of the Melbourne Entertainment Centre to head-up the operation and he and his staff have set the scene for a very busy Christmas holiday season.

John Downton's Art Exhibition was launched on 29th October and it will run until early February 2015. Sales are very promising and we wish John every success, as we are grateful for his generous support to the FAA Association and to the Museum over many decades.

The combined Squadrons' Families Day in late September was a resounding success with everybody enjoying family flights in the Seahawk, Bell 429 and MRH-90 during the entire day.

The HMAS *Albatross* Ship's Ball on 18th October attracted a crowd of over 250 guests who were entertained by the Navy Band until well past midnight. The evening kicked off with flying demonstrations, a marching display by the Federation Guard precision drill team and a ceremonial sunset. A week after the Ball the FAA Association Federal Council Meeting was held at the Museum and it was my pleasure to greet the many interstate representatives.

Annual Divisions took place on 7th November and the CO, Captain Simon Bateman and I took the opportunity to host our special guests, including a number of former *Albatross* CO's to luncheon to celebrate the FAAM's 40th anniversary. It was a great privilege to have Mr Glen Doré, the inaugural FAAM Curator with us on the day.

A very significant milestone in the history of *Albatross* and the Fleet Air Arm occurred on 14th November with the formal signing of the Helicopter Aircrew Training System (HATS) Contract between representatives of Boeing Defence Australia, the Defence Materiel Organisation and the Australian Defence Force. The HATS Project introduces basic helicopter aircrew training for Army and Navy personnel to the Naval Air Station, Nowra and will bring with it a fleet of new twin-engined helicopters, major building and infrastructure upgrades and an influx of scores of permanent personnel to manage the training throughput for ADF helicopter aircrew for decades to come.

On a more personal and somber note, the funeral for the late WOATA Ron "Spider" Brookes was held in the Museum on 8th December. Ron's FAA career spanned three decades from 1959 to 1989 and he was a much-respected mentor and colleague of many generations of 'Birdies'. As is often the case, funerals are also an opportunity to reunite with old shipmates whilst farewelling a departed comrade, and many a dit was spun at the gathering in the Flight Deck Café once we had paid our respects to 'Spider'.

One stalwart who I caught up with was Les "Bill" Bailey and he reminded me that my mention of 817 Squadron in my last report was off target by two years. Apologies to those who were members on 817 when she commissioned into the RAN on ANZAC Day in 1950.

The staff and volunteers of the FAA Museum extend our warmest wishes to all Association members and their families for a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to bigger and better things for 2015. Please call in to say hello if the opportunity arises and it will be our pleasure to share a coffee or a meal with you in the new Flight Deck Café.

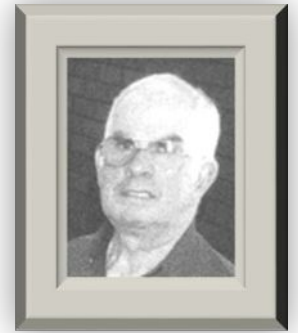
TERRY HETHERINGTON

Manager



Former Commanding Officers of HMAS *Albatross*, including Commander William Bird (Rtd), Rear Admiral Simon Cullen, AM, RANR, Commodore Toz Dadswell AM, (Rtd), Commodore Grant Ferguson RANR, Commodore Robert Morrison, CSC, RAN and Captain Geoff Cole, AM, (Rtd), with the current Commanding Officer of HMAS *Albatross*, Captain Simon Bateman, CSC, RAN (left) at the Fleet Air Arm Museum following 2014 Ceremonial Divisions

TASMANIAN DIVISION



The Tassie Div. continues to go its own way, in so many words, it is far from the maddening crowd, but there has always been a continual spark in its members.

At the meeting of the 30th of last month there were some twenty in attendance, with the make up being of partners and members, without the partners it would be very much in the doldrums.

We have a new member who has decided to come to the South Island, Well done John Schofield, great choice mate. Mick Johnson, one of our members from the deep south has had a triple bypass, again being a south Islander, he's tough.

It would appear that there is some confusion over recent changes put forward by our national executive. my feeling is that it may have been rushed, no doubt that overall great ideas have come out of it, but there needs to be a hands on approach, by that I mean, talking to the divisions, one at a time.

Great ideas bring great PR. and from that membership can be expanded by way of, the recent expansion of the FAA and bringing back old members that have lost interest, and by that I mean that the functions of the FAAA has to be spread around, and has to be done post haste.

None of us are getting any younger.

There is another issue that the FAAA has has not mentioned and that is the Vietnam Campaign Medal, in a nutshell, the South Vietnam Government gave the Australian government a Directive No. HT-655-430 Article.

There is considerable effort being made to express the workings of that Directive and of where it should be in its outcome.

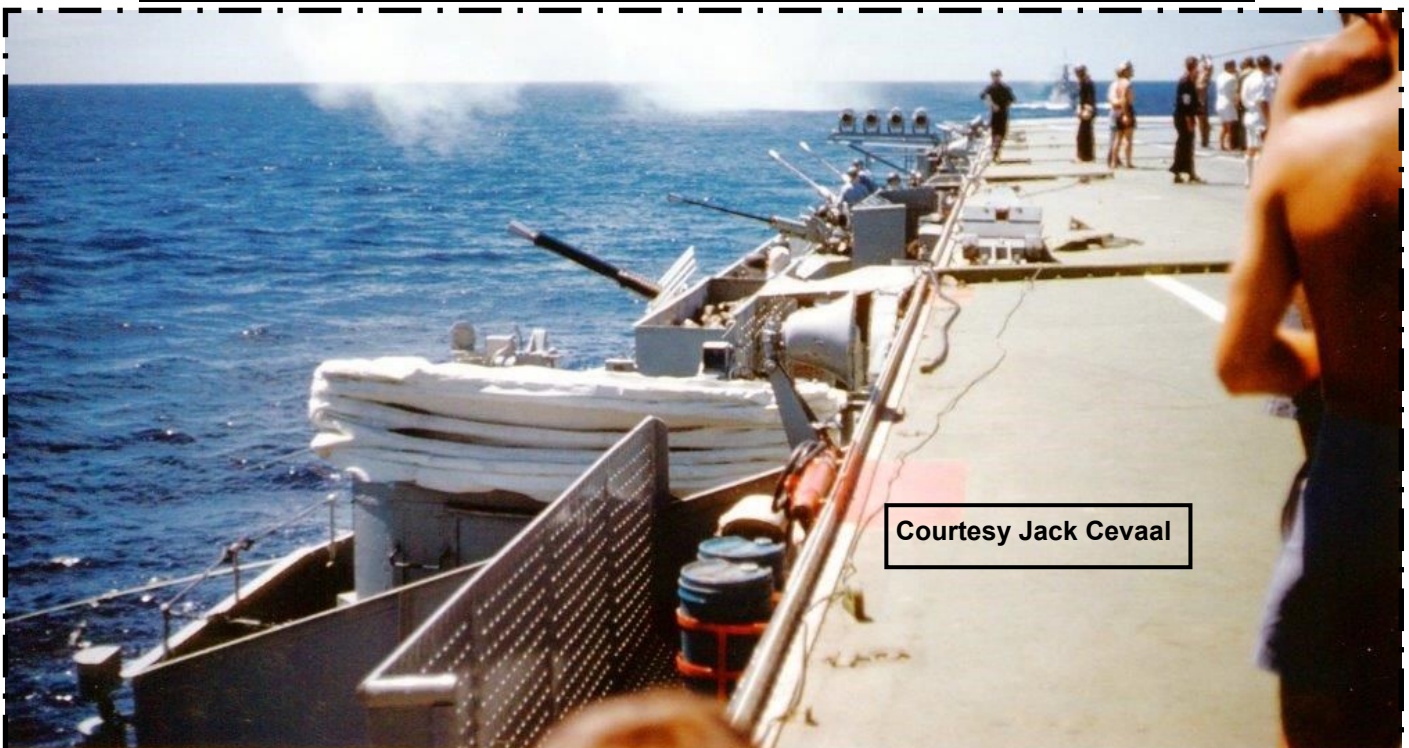
All the Best to all our members where ever they maybe and also a special thanks to all partners who make our meetings what they are.

All the best for the Festive season

Tas Browning

Scribe

YESTERYEAR



Courtesy Jack Cevaal

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ACT DIVISION NEWS



Hi again to all for this edition of Slipstream.

The ACT Division held a dinner function at the Hellenic Club at Woden in September which saw a small turnout who had a very enjoyable evening. Thanks to George Sydney for organising the event and to those who were able to attend.

In October, George Sydney, Rob Hall, PJ Fleming and I attended the FAAA Federal Council meeting at the FAA Museum at HMAS ALBATROSS. It was a very interesting meeting and it was fascinating to hear from Commander Fleet Air Arm, CDRE Vince Di Pietro, who gave a very detailed presentation on issues occurring in the FAA now and the future. The minutes of the Federal Council meeting have been emailed to all ACT members.

It was also good to have a look around the FAA museum and I would like to pass on my thanks to Terry Hetherington and his hard working team who have the museum looking really great and it is pleasing to see some of the new additions to the static displays, including the recently acquired RAAF F-111 cockpit.

Our division's membership numbers have remained relatively steady with a number of new members joining the ACT Division whilst some others have moved on. I have sent a reminder to those members who have yet to renew their FY 14/15 membership, so would appreciate if any members who have yet to pay for their renewal could do so as soon as possible.

We have organized our final 2014 social gathering for Friday 12 December so by the time this edition goes to print we will have had our get together. George Sydney and I will put together the 2015 social calendar in January 2015 and email it to all members and place a copy on the FAAA website, so please keep your eyes peeled for this information.

The ACT Division has continued with its sponsorship of a prize at the ADFA / UNSW Awards Ceremony. This year we have sponsored the award for the best academic performance by a Navy Aerospace Engineer in their final year at ADFA. The ADFA awards ceremony is due to take place on 10 December and I will provide details of the winner in the next edition.

Well not much more to report at this time as I am currently getting some more sea time up, although this time it's on the luxurious Celebrity Solstice heading to New Zealand, where we are definitely getting multiple beer issues every night. Certainly beats the grey funnel line for service!!

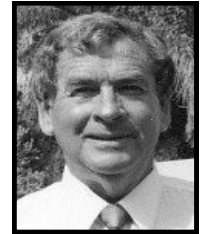
Anyway, till next time, stay safe and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

Regards,

Schonners

SLIPSTREAM—QUEENSLAND DIVISION

DECEMBER 2014



MERRY CHRISTMAS to everyone from the Queensland Division members. I hope you haven't been hammered by the recent storms. Here on the Sunshine Coast we've been lucky though we do need the rain.

We held our Christmas Party at La Balsa Park on the Mooloola River bank on the 22nd November and it was a terrific day-plenty of sunshine and a soothing breeze and excellent company. Dee and I went to the park a bit early to "get" our spot, put the Division flag up and get the BBQ revved up. There were some people at the big table we try to commandeer and they were about to go and helped put the flag up before leaving so we had our "best" spot again. Dee and I provided the sausages and onions so that everyone could have a "reviver" after such a long drive. They could follow with their picnic later!

There were 25 or so turn up-just a nice comfortable number. Apologies from Mick & Dulcie Blair (Mick being a bit fragile), The Blakemore family, Des and Aileen (Des is a bit crook) Bungy Williams and Cam Barnes.. It was good to see Trevor Tite though Lorraine wasn't able to come. Flossie Nugent was in good form and had a win in the raffle. Peter McDonald was in a wheel chair, doing it tough with a type of leukemia.

There were plenty of prizes on offer for the raffle and quite a few tickets were put back in for redraws. Even I won a bottle of Bundy Rum! Thanks, Trevor, for the work you and Lorraine put into selecting prizes.

We've had some of our people pass on recently: Ken Hegarty, Trevor Bolitho, Lt.Cdr Len Anderson(Observer). We were en route to Sydney for Ken Hegarty's funeral when I had a call from my sister to say one of our cousins had passed away whilst fishing on Fraser Island. It was good to see Max and Norma Wilson, Ben Matthews and Rollo Sangster at Trevor's funeral. Sadly Max Gant wasn't able to make it.

Bill Bryant and Judy were as well and came to the BBQ. Alan Arnell rang to say that Spider Brooks had passed on and also Doug Sutherland

Re membership: It's been suggested that we could each endeavour to find a new member within the quarter of the Slipstream issues which I reckon is a good idea. Let's have a go! Also the Web site is close to being in a usable condition. Our grant application for a new computer has been approved and work will commence this week on obtaining a new setup. At present, I'm unable to access my mailing list for the Queensland Newsland. Also, please send me your email addresses so that we can better utilize mass communications.

Had a call from Colleen Connelan recently to tell me that Dick Markwell was in Hospital so I was able to phone him then. I had 2 C Scans then a meeting with my Surgeon and the good news is that my next appointment is at least 2 years away! It just takes a while for my strength to get back. But I'm not complaining.

Ray Guest and Dot were in Albany recently for the celebrations of the 100 year time frame of our ships sailing from there to take our troops overseas, and got some photos as well. I'm not sure if I can get photos in for this production of Slipstream due to the crankiness of the computer!

Some of us got to help Mick Blair get over the hump of his 80th Birthday. He had 81 there to support him. Well done, Mick! Bob McBride came to the BBQ and looks to be in good shape. Our next function will be the AGM at Bribie RSL

. Best wishes to all.

Barry Lister. President



Ron Powell and Bill Strahan



Alan and Judy Arnell

Defence and the Navy – December 2014

The media during this quarter, particularly in 'The Australian' has given Defence good coverage, particularly on the Defence organisation, the New Submarine question and the Air Warfare Destroyer. There has also been coverage elsewhere on the trauma effects of asylum seeker operations.

Defence Organisation.

The effectiveness of the Defence organisation, particularly the Defence Material Organisation, is creating a huge shadow over the Department. A similar problem occurred in the British Ministry of Defence in the late '90s. The Defence Special Report says that 'Defence has accumulated a heavy overlay of executive and middle management. Senior executive and star ranked military officers have increased by 71% and 72% respectively, and the number of middle managers has grown by 96%.' The ADF itself does not seem to have become any larger, Navy has one large LPH ship in HMAS CANBERRA now in commission but it is operating only the ANZAC frigates, patrol boats and a few logistic ships as well as the FAA squadrons.

The Federal Government has commissioned a 'first principles review' into the Defence organisation which will include management of the equipment procurement program. A high powered team of experts from outside of Defence will conduct it, assisted by the Boston Consulting Group.

Let's hope that changes will eventually occur which enables Defence to operate more efficiently and effectively and save money badly needed for the acquisition of needed equipment.

The Future Submarine Question.

There has been interest expressed from Europe builders in providing new submarines for the RAN – Germany, France and Sweden which, together with the Japanese, are broadening the options which might be available to replace the Collins Class. The Germans have indicated they could build a submarine fleet based on the 216 class, an HDW216 which would be a development of the existing 216 but much bigger. The French have in mind the 'Ocean' concept – a 4700 ton surface displacement vessel which would be bigger than the Collins and be powered by air-independent propulsion. Sweden is talking about a 4000ton variant of its A26.

The 'Question' will be with us for quite some time yet. Then there's the financial question – can Australia find the resources for such a program with present indications for a bleak future for the national economy.

The AWD Program.

The bottom line here is that completion of the three AWDs will remain as planned with the first in March 2016, the second in September of 2017 and the third in March 2019. As advised in previous summaries, the project's planned cost has increased by \$800m with estimates for a final blowout cost of about \$1Bn.

The Minister recently observed that ASC 'could not build a canoe' – an expression of frustration and disgust at present progress and cost blowouts. The journalists strongly criticised this 'outburst' but a number of readers wrote in to the editor of the 'Australian' agreeing the Minister's comments.

There is some pressure to extend the AWD project, i.e. stretching it out over a longer time-frame so that the Dockyards will have ongoing work rather than having no work beyond AWD completion. Doesn't sound a very efficient idea.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION



Greeting's to all from the West, Christmas fast approaching and we would like to wish all Members and their Families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Federal Council Meeting has been held and we take this opportunity to congratulate Neil Ralph and our Winston James on their elevation to Life Membership and to our Clive Mayo on his award of a Diploma of Merit.

Winston and Clive will receive their awards at our Christmas Lunch on Sunday 14th December.

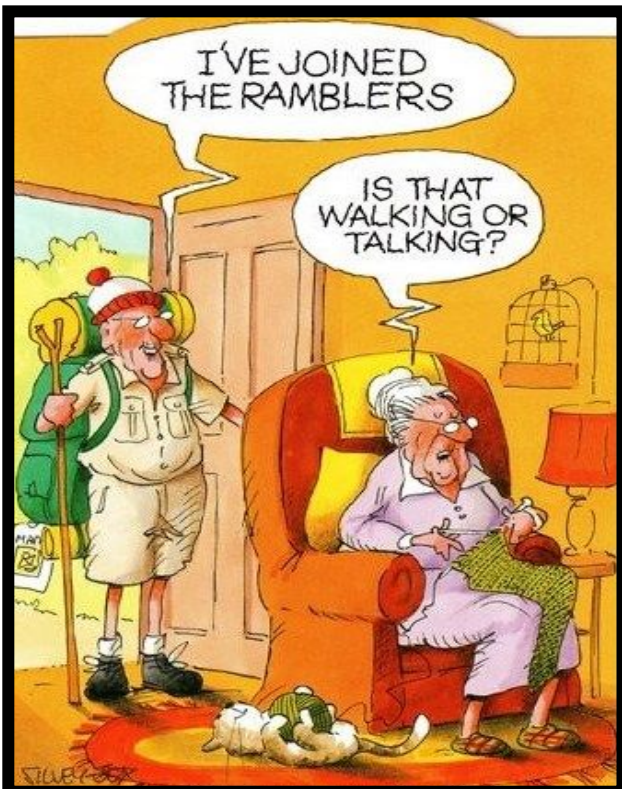
Several of our Members were able to get to Albany for the ANZAC Centenary celebrations held there and all have been of high praise for the magnificent way in which the area has now been developed and the great spirit shown during the weekend. If you are visiting Western Australia, it's certainly some thing to put on your bucket list to see and be part of.

We have had a couple of BBQ's recently, one at Clive and Margaret Mayo's home and one at Bomber and Merryl Brown's , both well attended and a good deal of good food and a little drink to wash it down and great friendship; thanks to Clive; Margaret; Bomber and Merryl.

Have a great Festive Season with Families and Friends and we see you all again in 2015.

Keith Taylor

Scribe





**Fleet Air Arm
Association of Australia
South Australia Division**

Incorporated in South Australia.

Roger Harrison

2 Gwendoline Court

Coromandel Valley. SA. 505 1

08 82788307

SLIPSTREAM REPORT (Nov 2014)

As we move steadily and with anticipation into the Christmas madness and the dust from the Federal Council Meeting has settled, I can reflect back on this Divisions year of good times and not so good.

I refer to the passing of 3 Members in the early part of this year that can never be replaced but universally loved. Of Don Parkinson's wife Jan who recently died and to all other Members and friends from this National Association who have found their final anchorage. I will never understand how many of us deal with the grief and sense of loss.

The good times are easy to spot over this year starting with our Picnic in the Park meeting in the month of January 2014. Apart from sunburnt to the top of our thinning hair, a great day. February we remember the 50th anniversary of the Voyager/Melbourne collision and we buried our President Leon Coppins. Our State Constitution was brought up to current thinking by Ian Laidler and John Saywell. Members attended the Banka Strait Memorial Service and 7200 Bombing of Darwin Commemorative Service.

March saw the AGM come and go with not a lot change in the management with the exception of the vice President Michael (Stubbo) Stubbington taking on the Presidency after the death of Leon Victor Coppins. We buried John Saywell OAM this month, and the role of lower deck lawyer normally held by the late John Saywell OAM has yet to be filled and nominations for the position remain open. Both Cherie Coppins and Moira Saywell remain active within our Association. Vice President Fred Driver attends an unveiling for the late Ron Akeroyd at Kapunda in South Australia.

April was taken up with the ANZAC Day March which was well attended and finished up at the Windsor Hotel for a good meal and companionship. President Michael Stubbington led the SA Division in a true Naval like manner, not to be confused with Military like manner. The merry month of May was soured by the death of member Doug Dewhirst. Once again we attend a Funeral for one of our own. The May 21st Meeting went as expected with Treasurer Gordon Gray investigating ways of reducing the enormous bank fees inflicted upon the Association and Richard Kirkman involves us in DVA Services and Men's Health issues. Ian Laidler will contact the local RSL office with the view of recruitment of ex FAA personnel. Ian also continues to produce a full colour State FAAA News Letter for our enjoyment.

June and July are our quiet months here as we battle winter with the normal sou-westerlies and rain blowing up our skirts. July Meeting was covered by assistant Secretary Ian Laidler while the Secretary was swanning around in France and England with family. A lot of e-mail traffic about the approaching Federal Council Meeting in October and some of it looking ugly.

August and September heralds in an increase in temperature and spring buds developing on plants remaining alive throughout the winter months. The Secretary returns home and the Assistant Secretary with his mistress, leaves Adelaide to tour Europe. May have to raise an Audit check on the Divisions financial standing. John Berry relocates to a Retirement Village on Silkes Road, Paradise and seems well pleased. Cherie Coppins is planning something similar but with more razor wire in place.

Some Members attend various Military functions and Treasurer Gordon Gray is volunteered as the Divisions Delegate to the approaching Federal Council Meeting and signs out of the Slops Store, one slightly used but not abused, flak jacket for the use of. John Siebert was the last Member to use it and after some attention, the blood was removed successfully.

Congratulations to Life Members Neil Ralph (NSW) and Winston James (WA)

Navy Week completed with a church Service at North Adelaide and was attended by our President Mike Stubbington. A part of the Service was to read out the names of all Naval Members who have departed for safer anchorage and we had our share. The visiting ship HMAS Newcastle departs Adelaide.

October and the FCM has come and gone with Gordon Gray returned to us in a safe and sound manner. Memories of the Meeting will be mixed and varied depending on which side of the desk you were sitting around. With all the different views expressed from all the different States, it was always going to be a difficult task to gather us all up into one cohesive group. I am firmly convinced that eventually this will happen and hopefully, soon.

Marcus Peake is battling with the upgrade of our Webpage and we all have high hopes on a successful outcome. Reference to the FAA-RN site. He is asking for more details from Divisions regarding functions, punch-ups, funerals, everything.

November and a lot more cheery weather to go on with although that 38 degree day the Queenslanders sent us was a shock. That hot north wind was the give away.

Our November Meeting locked in the End of Year Christmas Dinner to be held at the Windsor Hotel, 410 North East Road on Thursday 18th December starting around 1800 for 1830 and with a Christmas atmosphere of family and friends, bells and whistles and that uncle with bad breath.

Remembrance Day was celebrated in the usual fashion with Members participating in many directions, and it is interesting to witness the public schools showing so much interest. Maybe connected with the 100 year Anniversary

On behalf of all our Members here in South Australia, I extend to all State Divisions and Territories, including Queensland, a Very Merry Christmas with a bright and cheerful New Year. May we all survive it peacefully with minimal gnashing of teeth?

Regards from

Roger Harrison Secretary SA.
FAA Honorary whipping boy.



11 PEOPLE ON A ROPE

Eleven people were hanging on a rope, under a helicopter.

Ten men and one woman.

The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall.

They weren't able to choose that person, until the woman gave a very touching speech.

She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids or for men in general, and was used to always making sacrifices with little in return.

As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping.....

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Secretary : Mr Mike Heneghan- 98 Suncrest Ave ,Sussex Inlet, NSW. 2540
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ACT

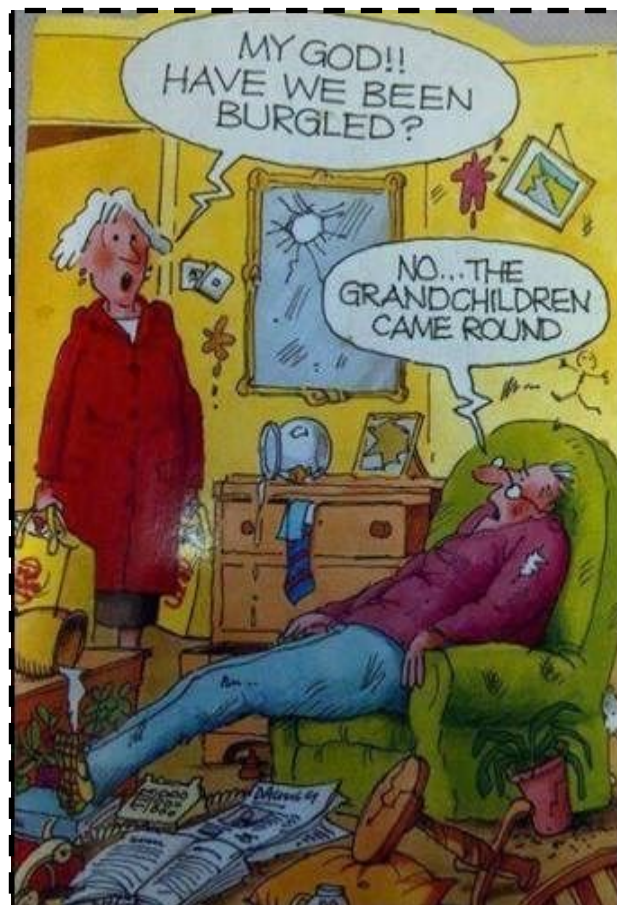
President : Mr John Schonberger- 41Noarlunga Cresent Bonython ACT 2905
0412 882 810 email : John.Schonberger@defence.gov.au

Secretary : Mr George Sydney- 12 Feakes place, Campbell, ACT. 2612
(02) 6247 9221 email : sydneys5@optusnet.com.au

Patron - RADM N Ralph AO,DSC, RAN (Ret'd)



Leading Seaman Aviation Technician - Avionics Jordan Berkhout of 808 Squadron and his fifteen-month-old daughter Aria enjoy the combined Families Day held at HMAS Albatross and the Fleet Air Arm Museum.



PAINTING EXHIBITION HELD AT FLEET AIR ARM MUSEUM HIGH SUCCESS



John and Gail Dowton with one of his artworks on display at the Fleet Air arm Museum



Diana Medcalf and Ian Ferguson



R .ADM Neil Ralph (rtd) and Colleen Hetherington



Rear Admiral Stuart Mayer, Elsa Chittick, Terry Hetherington, John and Gail Dowton at the opening of John's art exhibition held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum



***TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE STATE FLEET AIR
ARM ASSOCIATION
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION WISH YOU ALL
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
NEW YEAR***

