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EDITORIAL:

I have heard complaints from Members about not getting their copy of In Depth. The policy is that Members with access to a computer will not receive hard copy. Letters explaining this have been sent to all Members that we do not have an email address for.

Do we have YOUR current details?

The problem is usually created as a result of us having outdated contact information.

If you know someone that does not have computer access please contact me.

DISCLAIMER:

The opinions expressed in "In Depth" are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editor, the National and State Committees of SAA or the RAN.

From the President

The season for Branch AGMs has passed and the baton has been passed in Tasmania and Queensland. Kim Pitt and Barry McKeown have stood down after providing years of dedicated service to their members and I thank them for the support that they gave to me.

It was pleasing to see some more new committee Members, but many familiar long standing names are still on the list. Start thinking about taking on a role in your Branch next year.

I echo our secretaries concern over the declining membership of the Association, despite our recruiting success we are going backwards and we need to address the issue. If you have any suggestions on how to retain our members please discuss it with your local Branch committee.

The Association is seeking volunteers to be the Associations representatives and attend meetings with several kindred organisations, in particular the Naval Association Australia (NAA) and the Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council (AVADSC).


Our Executive either have jobs or are scattered across Australia and cannot always attend the meetings which are normally held in Sydney.

To gain maximum benefit of our affiliation with these organisations it would be beneficial to have one representative for each, that would report to the National Committee.

If you are in a position that would permit you to represent us please contact me for further details. This is an ideal opportunity to get involved in the Association.


Till next time.....

Secretary's Report

In the last issue I said that I had retained my sanity and sense of humour. I have now lost both as a result of my ongoing attempts to track down Members that have moved or changed email addresses and failed to advise us of their new contact details. It is like banging my head on a brick wall trying to track you down,  it only gives me a headache and gets me nowhere!

The slow response of some Members in paying their annual subscriptions has also been a cause of my sense of humour failure.

If you no longer want to remain a Member please let us know so that you can be removed from our membership list and save us further time wasting effort.

 The list of elderly and sick Members continues to grow and unfortunately I have joined the ranks of the unwell and unwashed. As a result of this I am late again with this issue and have also fallen behind with my SAA secretarial duties. I hope to have the bubble restored soon.

Preparations for SUBCON 2010 in Coffs Harbour are well under way and Geoff Anderson and his team are working towards making it an affordable week-end that should not be missed. SUBCON is an event that more and more are attending each year, a great opportunity for you and the missus to get away for a dirty weekend with old mates.

The hard copy In Depth that is produced for Members that do not have computer access is compiled from items out of The Log. Those that visit The Log will have already read most of the contents of In Depth. Contributions are always welcome.

Remember, I am here to help, feel free to contact me at all times.

Yours,



ETERNAL PATROL

The following members of the submarine community passed away since the July edition of In Depth. Our thoughts and condolences go out to the families and friends.

CAPT THOMAS BRINKLEY MBE RAN

CAPT Tom Brinkley MBE RAN (Rtd) died in the UK on the 13th July after a series of debilitating strokes.

Tom was a nuclear qualified RN submariner recruited to the RAN in late 1977. He was a very experienced engineer and senior Commander. On transfer he was posted to Canberra in the rank of Commander.

During his time as DSMR he was instrumental in developing refit procedures to accommodate the early lessons learnt in the SWUP programme. He was a key focus in the collation of information on which to base the requirements for the Oberon replacement relinquishing this role on the formation of the NCSP in mid 82.

He was very well liked and popular in the Navy, and was very well respected by CODOCK Management.

CPORSSM RAY SYLVESTER

Raymond Victor Sylvester died in the Brisbane Waters Hospital at Woy Woy on Monday 21 September 2009.

As an Ordinary Seaman Ray served in Vietnam after which he volunteered for submarines. He left Australia in February 1968. On completion of his initial submarine training at HMS Dolphin, Ray joined HMS Opossum to complete his Part Three training.

Ray was one of the commissioning crew of HMAS Onslow and returned on her delivery voyage to Australia.

As spare crew Ray served in HMAS Ovens and Otway and he also served as PORSSM in HMAS Oxley during her first refit at Cockatoo Island.

On promotion to CPORSSM, Ray was in charge of the Communications Section for Submarines at HMAS Cerberus. Ray decided to retire from his Naval Service in 1984, however, before he retired he had been offered a Warrant Officer's commission however he declined as the billet was to be at HMAS Cerberus.

Ray joined the Association in May 2008.

CPO KEN 'GINGER' PETERS

Ken (Ginger) Peters passed away in South Australia on the 28th September from possible pneumonia complications after a recent stroke.

Ken was a long serving RN Submariner, in the communication branch and served on HMS Truncheon, HMS Amphion, HMS Seascout, HMS Odin and HMS Warspite.

Our condolences go out to his wife Joan and family.

CPOETC4SM BOB HIBBERD

Robert Edward (Budgie) Hibberd died in England on the 27th September after losing his battle with brain tumour.



After doing the obligatory service in General Service which saw Budgie serve in the war off the Vietnam coast, Budgie volunteered for submarines in 1972.

After completing his initial training at HMS Dolphin returned to Australia to join HMAS Oxley in the latter half of 1972. On completion of his Part Three he joined HMAS Ovens from 1973 to late 1974.

Budgie returned to Oxley for a short stint in 1975, before posting to HMAS Onslow later that year. His draft kept him on the boat until 1978 when he was drafted inboard. Budgie returned to Onslow in 1980 and stayed with the boat until 1982.

Robert next draft was to HMAS Orion for a short stint later in 1982. In 1983 he joined HMAS Otway and served in her until 1986.

Robert joined the Association in July 2003 and moved to the UK last year with his wife Marie.

CPO STWD P. (FOO) FENTON

The New Zealand branch of the Submariners Association has informed me of the death of ex CPO Stwd P. (Foo) Fenton, aged 76. S/M Service 1953-73 on HMS Ambush, HMS As-tute, HMS Auriga, HMS Solent, HMS Explorer, HMS Gram-pus, HMS Artful, HMS Trump, HMS Dreadnought, HMS Valiant, HMS Scotsman and HMS Excalibur.



VALE - JULIE LYDIARD

Julie, the wife of CPO Mark 'Blu' Lydiard lost her battle with cancer and passed away Friday 04 Sept in the John Flynn Hospital, Gold Coast.

Julie is fondly remembered by many in the submarine community. We all offer our condolences to Blu and his family at this sad time.

I have one consolation that lives with me today.
That God is near to them, in his own special way.
So God in all Your mercy, keep near Thyself the soul,
Of every Submariner, still on his final patrol.

Lord, this departed shipmate with Dolphins on his chest
is part of an outfit known as the best.
Make him welcome and take him by the hand.
You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land.

So, heavenly Father add his name to the roll
of our departed shipmates still on patrol.
Let them know that we who survive
will always keep their memories alive.

SICK PARADE

The following are doing it tough at the moment. A phone call in times of need is always welcome and better than an Aspirin.

Contact details can be obtained from Norm Williams (secretary@submarinesaustralia.com) or on 0419 863 558

<i>John 'Tid' Currie</i>	<i>Jim Redwood</i>	<i>Terry Lewis</i>
<i>Graeme Porzucek</i>	<i>Bob Bobilak</i>	<i>Malcolm Campbell</i>
<i>Claude Roberts</i>	<i>Eric Armstrong</i>	<i>Merv Kidd</i>
<i>Mike Barnes</i>	<i>Stuart Prigmore</i>	<i>Ken 'Biff' Mills</i>
<i>Ian Appleby</i>	<i>David Holland</i>	<i>Stanley Moss</i>

WELCOME ABOARD

The following new members have signed on with the SAA since the July edition of In Depth.

ex SBLT/LSEWASM Paul **Gapes** Partner Amanda, Rochedale South, QLD 4123. Served in HMAS Farncomb, HMAS Waller and HMAS Dechaineux

ex CPOTS(SM) Peter **Stokes**. Partner Janice, Caringbah, NSW 1495. Served in HMS Ocelot 76/78, HMS Onyx 79/84 and HMS Valiant 84/87

CPOMTSM Tim **Rubenstein**. Partner Kellie, Dwellingup, WA 6213. Served in HMAS Oxley, HMAS Orion, HMAS Otama, HMAS Shean and HMAS Dechaineux .

Ex ABMTPSM Colin **Watts**. Partner Sandra, Mundingburra, QLD 4812. Served in HMAS Oxley, HMAS Onslow, HMAS Otama and HMAS Otway.

LEUT WE SM Andrew **Wilkinson** RANR. Partner Tracey, Kenthurst, NSW 2156. Served in RN and RAN, HMS Orpheus 88, HMS Repulse 89/95, HMS Renown 95/96, HMS Vigilant 99/00 - 03/04 and HMS Vengeance 01 - 03.

Join the SAA—Deep down you know it makes sense

BUDDIES OF THE MONTH

Name: **POUWSM Peter Wallen** (aka Wally)

DOB: 13 June 1959

Served on: HMAS Otway, HMAS Orion and HMAS Otama

Lives at: Gold Coast, Queensland

Wally's comments: Thanks for the memories and the adventure. Sorry if I hurt anyone on the piss. Take care.



Name: **LEUTMESM Darryl Madden** (aka Doc)

Partner: Gillian

Served on: HMAS Orion, HMAS Otway, HMAS Onslow and HMAS Ovens

Lives in: Narara, NSW 2250

Terry's comments: Currently an Engineer at sea on a P&O Nedlloyd container ship.

**FROM THE PENSIONS AND WELFARE COORDINATOR**

Training and Information Program (TIP) is a national Concept with the DVA to train Pension and Welfare officers. TIP also trains Advocates to level 4 (representation at the AAT). The SAA is well represented in comparison to other ESO's.

The SAA in each State /Territory can apply to be a representative ESO within the TIP Group for that state. The SAA is represented in NSW by the Naval Association post our affiliation.

Any application should be addressed to the TIP Chair of your state, you can find them on the DVA web site under Ex Service organisations.

A lot of claims are being rejected because of missing or improper information being relied on. Volunteer pension officers are there to assist you with your claim, use them and maybe your claim can be accepted at the primary level.

If you would like information on any subject pick up the phone.

Max Hardy

National Pensions and Welfare Coordinator

H: 02 4774 0542 W: 02 9264 8188

Email: welfare@submarinesaustralia.com



A full list of the Association's Pensions and Welfare Officers is online at http://submarinesaustralia.com/contact_dva.htm or call Max for details.

NSW BRANCH NEWS

A meeting of the Branch was held at Cockatoo Island on 20 September in beautiful sunshine at a location known to most. Unfortunately there was a poor attendance by NSW members with only 4 stalwarts in attendance with few apologies. Many thanks to Kevin Hayton for making the long journey down from Coffs Harbour to update us on the status of SUBCON 2010.

Terry (Admiral) Weatherall (LSETSSM) was killed on Sandy Point beach at Cerberus on the 9th Nov 1974 on completion of the POETS4 course. His family have requested a visit to the memorial on Spectacle Island. To commemorate the 35th anniversary, a BBQ will be held on Sunday 8 November 2009 on Spectacle Island.

The boat will run from 1000 to 1200 from under the west side of the Iron Cove Bridge. It is suggested that all those who plan to attend find alternative parking as the area near the wharf has now been taken over to build a new bridge road way.

Please advise your attendance to Geoff Anderson or Ken Norris. The November Meeting of the NSW SAA will be held that day in the Senior/Junior sailors bar (it was moved from Platypus) on the Island **instead of 1st November as previously advised.**

The SUBCON 2010 web page is online and taking registration of interest for those wishing to attend. It can be viewed at www.submarinesaustralia.com/subcon.

If you not online but are interested in attending and want more information contact the secretary. Coffs is shaping up to be a big weekend and one hell of a run. See you there!



It is your Association and your SUBCON so how about attending the next meeting at Spectacle Island and giving support to your Association.

Geoffrey Anderson,
President, NSW Branch

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH NEWS

After the passing of Max Sheen the WA Branch has invited CDRE Bob Trotter OAM RAN (Rtd) to become the new Patron of the Branch and he has accepted. Bob, who was awarded an OAM this year in recognition of his efforts in finding HMAS Sydney will make an excellent Ambassador for the Association.

Although activity level is quiet in WA, with John Rana away doing the Murray River Trek with his mates and Sid Czabotar imitating Stephen Fry in the US of A, planning is well underway for the next series of activities including the RN SM Association Service at Memorial Park, Fremantle 1030 20th October and the WA Branch Remembrance Day Service alongside Submarine OVENS at 1030 8th November.

TASMANIAN BRANCH NEWS

Secretary David Byrne sent the list of Office Bearers for Tasmania as elected at their AGM on 16th August.

President - [Kerry Bolton](#)
Secretary/Treasurer - [David Byrne](#)
Vice President - [David Taylor](#)
Social Secretary - [Mike Crellin](#)

NORTHERN QUEENSLAND BRANCH

It was an encouragingly well attended AGM held at the function room of the Townsville RSL club. We had twenty one in attendance. It was particularly heartening to see a good contingent travelling down from Cairns and attending both the Meet & Greet on the Friday night and the meeting yesterday. Good to see Peter Nielsen, Peter Price, Shorty Donnelly, Allen Short, Coyote Wyatt and partners who made the effort.....well done. Good also to see Kev Marengo up from Bowen and Mal and Kay up from Mackay.

The president Mal Bridge was re-elected unopposed with Cole Klease as Vice-president. Myself and Craig Cope were re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

It was extremely pleasing to see two of our newest members put their hands up for committee positions in Shorty Donnelly and Col Watts. Both have also nominated to be on the steering committee for SUBCON 2013. The other two committee positions were filled by Danny Carroll and Snow Schleicher.

It was great to see that the true spirit of SAA in place when Peter Price dropped in to see Claude Roberts on his way down from Cairns, although he had never met him before. I am sure that that would have brightened Claude's day considerably. rove every week, and has an extremely positive attitude.

We all shared a pleasant dinner in the Lavaracks Restaurant at the RSL on completion of the meeting.

It was determined by majority vote that the next meeting would be held in Ingham at the RSL on the weekend of 4 & 5 December. This will be our Christmas function of course. Can you please include this function on your events calendars.

Garth Schmidt
Secretary NQSAA.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

Once again the Victoria Branch VP Day Commemoration Service proved to be a resounding success, marred only by the effects of illness which prevented Dick Seer from reading "The Submariner", the day was saved by Commander John Goss RAN, who as the Senior Naval Officer present not only represented SNO but also relieved Dick of his duty.

The total attendance this year was 73, slightly down on last year but understandable given the number of apologies received from those suffering illness. The VIP's and visitors represented included:

Mr Stuart Gill The British Consul-General, and his wife Maggie. The Honorable Amanda Fieldhouse-Chalmers. CMDR John Goss AM RAN, representing SNO and the CO of HMAS Cerberus. LEUT Troy Battishall RAN. HMAS Cerberus, LEUT Adam Masters representing the CO of HMAS Waller (CMDR Manfield RAN.) Ms Carman Tom, Mr Ray Gill and his wife Dot, Mr Ben Solar - Members of the Royal Navy Association, Ganges & WRNS Associations President and Members of the Royal Marines and Special Forces Association President and Members of the RAF/ RAAF & Battle of Britain Pilots Association President and members of the Normandy Veterans Association. And the Ladies of our own members who have "Crossed the Bar".

As always, the success of the occasion is due to the participation and support of all concerned members, and in particular those members of the Ladies Auxiliary who always tirelessly slave away to ensure the catering is 'top class', organise the Raffle and act as guides and 'greeters', and of course all those who supplied a plate.

Following the commemoration service, two presentations to the branch took place; LEUT Adam Masters RAN presented us with a HMAS Waller Insignia Plaque, on behalf of his CO. And then Mr Ivor Porter presented the branch with a pictorial collection of Normandy Veterans from around the world. I thanked them both on your behalf, and assure them that the items will not be 'locked in the cupboard and forgotten.' Oh yes, Tot time seemed to be a success judging by the

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queue that formed; Our regular Rum Bosen Freddo Botterell was not feeling 100% and so John Hillman of the RAN Memorial Club kindly stepped in for him. Needless to say, our own Treasurer kept a watchful eye on the rum issue and ensured that any Queens was disposed of in the traditional manner!

ACT BRANCH

The ACT Branch held its AGM at the Canberra Services Club last weekend, there was a small but enthusiastic group of members present and afterwards we had a cold but enjoyable BBQ with the wives.

Officers for the 2009-2010 year are as follows

- President Andrew Galley
- Vice Pres Michael Wood
- Secretary Geoff Burns
- Treasurer Peter Knights
- Welfare Vacant
- Committee Alan Harris, Kevin Piechowski

The ACT Branch is currently having a new banner manufactured so we decided to donate our original banner to the Holbrook Submarine Museum. This will take place on Sunday the 18th of October 09, they are having an official opening of a Hologram section of the museum on that day.

Geoff Burns
Secretary, ACT Branch

QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

The response to our request for information about writing to the Federal Government complaining about the terrible treatment being accorded to DFRDB/DFRB pensioners was quite overwhelming with more than 30 of you asking for a copy of the "draft" letter to send off in your own name – well done crew, stick it to 'em, you deserve better.

Preparations are well in hand for our country meeting planned for the 10-11th October in Bundaberg, see you there.

Well, we now that we have our own website www.saaqld.org and we hope you look in to see what Queensland is up to..

Graeme Caesar
Secretary, Queensland Branch

Details of future SAA Events are available on the last page of this newsletter, please support your Committees and try and attend at least one meeting/function a year.

THE DITTY BOX'

Paul 'Diesel' Dann has passed on a little story of the time he spent at sea on the Target Torrens back in 1989.

I was the outsides AB on Orion, we had just left the port of Brisbane and were out in open water preparing to dive, so I was called up top to clean the windows and remove the mast covers. All was going as normal until I was removing the

large induction mast cover, it got caught in the wind and I was spun around almost 180 degrees, problem was my foot was wedged so it didn't move at all. The result was a very painful twisted knee, I let out a bloody loud "ahh f##*k" and landed flat on my backside sitting ontop of the fin with my right foot facing off on a peculiar angle.



The Skipper (Mick Gee) promptly got the Coxn (Craig Porrich) up and he straightened it back up and all seemed to be ok. However upon returning below and sitting on the panel my knee started to swell up to twice it's size and then the pain started, so off to my rack to rest, with some help from some "magic pills" I passed out .

Not real sure what happened for the next few hours but I do recall getting up to go on watch at lam and being told to go back to bed. This had me buggerd but not wanting to argue about getting a watch off I was soon back in the rack. Then I was told I was being Medi vac'd by a Helo so to get ready but it was cancelled due to bad weather so the next best thing was to be taken onboard Torrens by Zodiac.

Next morning (I think!!) my leg was splinted and my kit bag was packed by someone and I was being helped out onto the for'd casing, dressed in a pair of blue king gee shorts, one sandal and an old army shirt, what a sight.

After the terrifying trip by zodiac to the ship I was winched aboard and told in no uncertain terms to go aft and have a tubs! Which surprised me as we had only been at sea no more than a week...

So the Doc had a look and bandaged me up and I spent a few days in the sick bay sleeping and getting bored, all the while hearing over the intercom how they are at action stations to find and destroy the "enemy" Submarine.

I was soon told that I had to move out of sickbay and live in the aft stokers mess, near the laundry?? So off I hobble with my almost empty kitbag, one sandal, blue shorts and army shirt to look for this mess. Eventually I found it and was told again to have a tubs, this I did then I was given a rack (with sheets!!) and told to stow my gear??

Not knowing where to stow it I did what I did on the boat promptly put it all under my mattress and went to have a kip. I soon learnt that the mess kellick was a bit of a anti submariner type and he got me up and said I had to turn too from 8-4 (would have made a good coxn this bloke!) so I said there isn't much I can do and his reply was well you're tall so clean the overheads! Not wanting to give him anymore grey hairs I did a usual poor job and after several days I was left alone as a lost cause.

One very funny thing that happened was one day I was limping around the ship having a bit of an explore and I was somewhere near the front bit (??) in one of the little passage

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ways when a an officer went passed , stopped, turned and then told me to come here this instant!! He then said , who the hell are you?

I said Able Seaman Dann sir,

He said where's your uniform?

I said I don't have one sir

He said where's you part of ship?

I said I don't have one sir

He was going redder and redder by the second

He then said who are you, what are you doing here, don't you know we are at action stations!?!?

I said No sir I didn't know that

He was going mad by this time and he said are you that bloody Submariner?

I said yes sir

To which he shook his head and told me to get back to my mess and stay there!

I later found out he was the XO...

So after another week or so we finally pulled into Auckland NZ and I was told to get dressed and catch the train to Gisborne. I hadn't been paid and had

no money but was landed and sent on my way, so after explaining my situation to the train station folk they let me have a free ride to Gisborne and I was very happy to see Orion tied up alongside the wharf. I am not sure who was more surprised to see me the trot sentry or the skipper, who said Diesel what the hell are you doing here? I said I was put ashore and didn't ever want to be on a ship again!

I did enjoy one thing about it though, I spent a few hours on the back bit, that's the outside bit pretending to look for a White smoke that Orion had fired to help them find her, I did see one but being a POW didn't tell them!!

So there you go my 10 days or so on a surface ship, not my cup of tea but at least I stirred them up and will never forget the look on the XO's face at my very un navy pirate rig!

SLOPS VAN

The following are just some of the items that are available from the Slops Van. Items can be ordered online, by calling 0419 863 558 or by sending an order to: PO Box 63, Bauple 4650.

Beret with SAA Logo only \$25

Cap with SAA Logo only \$17.50

Pin on blazer badge with SAA Logo only \$30

SM Squadron tie only \$27.50

What do you get when you mix PMS with a GPS: A crazy bitch who will find you!



SUBMARINERS RECOGNISED FOR BRAVERY IN HIGH SEAS RESCUE

Three Australian submariners have been awarded Bravery Medals by the Australian Bravery Decorations Council for their extraordinary efforts to rescue shipmates who had been washed overboard in bad weather during a night operation. The medals were announced today by Her Excellency the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Chief Petty Officer Rohan Pugh, Petty Officer Greg Langshaw and Leading Seaman Steven Rowell did not hesitate to respond when five personnel were washed overboard from HMAS Farncomb by a large wave on the night of 19 March 2007.

The three Bravery Medalists were members of the recovery party and entered the turbulent water at great risk to themselves to ensure that their shipmates were all safely recovered.

Farncomb was conducting a dived open ocean transit when she surfaced to clear fouling on her casing and propeller. The sailors who were washed overboard were part of a team working to free the obstructions.

A full safety assessment had been conducted but rapidly worsening weather conditions meant their clearing operations were cancelled soon after they started. However, before the fouling party could return to the ship, the single wave washed them into the sea. The recovery teams worked for an hour and a half in extremely difficult weather conditions to recover the men overboard.

Chief Petty Officer Pugh, Petty Officer Langshaw and Leading Seaman Rowell displayed remarkable and selfless bravery in swimming to, supporting and helping bring their shipmates back on-board.

Several other members of the Ship's Company received Commendations from Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Russ Crane, AM, CSM, RAN, for their actions during the Farncomb man overboard recovery.

All of Farncomb's personnel who were involved showed significant fortitude, teamwork and courage to ensure that all sailors were returned to the submarine without major injuries and no loss of life," Vice Admiral Crane said.

Among them, the courage and actions of Chief Petty Officer Pugh, Petty Officer Langshaw and Leading Seaman Rowell are worthy of the highest admiration from all of us."

Editors Note: LS Rowell is the son of WOXOXSM Terry Rowell, it runs in the blood!

AROUND THE TRAPS

I heard that CMDR Tony Vine was currently on resettlement training at the University of Melbourne campus at Dookie in Victoria, completing a series of courses he needs to do before he can do humanitarian aid work with the UN after he retires in February. Humanitarian Aid? Tony is an

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MEO and we all know they don't have a kind bone in their body..... His response to this was "I was a Chief Tiffy, not a Chief Stoker therefore I was full of Compassion, humility and good grace, unlike the chap who did the Trim book, brought on fuel, loitered in the Senior Sailors Mess and yelled at Stokers and small children." I think this says it all, you are definitely **not** Human Aid material mate! Tony probably only wants to go to some third world nation (like NZ) to see the natives' boobs.

CO HMAS Stirling, CAPT Brett Dowsing, RAN received the following 'Thank You' from the Shean family for Navy's contribution to LCDR Max Shean DSO* RANR funeral on Mon 22 Jun 09:-

"Many sincere thanks for the wonderful send off for Max. He would have been thrilled to see his beloved Navy so ship-shape and present."

Captain Dowsing added "And the family was right - everyone who attended was magnificent and this was an appropriate recognition of a wonderful man who had served with dedication and obvious distinction."

Carol Wilson wrote "Would anyone out there know where the bell off HMAS Oxley is? It will be 40 (yes 40!!!!) years on 7th September that HMAS Oxley's bell was used for the Christening of Lisa Marie Smithies and Kim Adrienne Wilson by Chaplin R Lovitt from HMAS Penguin. I believe at a later date their names were inscribed on the bell. I think they were among the first to be Christened on Oxley." Peter Smith, our Historian, confirmed it is safe and sound at Spectacle Island.



Roger 'Jumping Jack Flash' Cooper is jet setting and reports from the UK "We stayed in Portsmouth for 2 days and visited the Gosport Museum the Curator Andrew and head of artifacts George Malcomson made us very welcome and I have acquired some good material for our Holbrook Museum and laid a foundation for future projects between our Museums.

An interesting thing I found there was the early submarines carried a small organ for church services at sea.

Gosport is now a massive marina and Portsmouth was hardly recognisable from 1970 when we were in Dolphin,

Peter Reid sent the following details of a small incident which he said occurred off the coast of Scotland in 1966. "With the new movie about Radio Caroline – The Boat That Rocked being made brought back the memory of an incident that occurred when I was on the HMS Sealion.

Some time in '66 the Sealion was returning to Faslane from

another aborted exercise with the RAF because the pilot had broken his nail or something of that ilk and decided to stay in bed that day. We were still dived and were preparing to surface and head for home when the skipper spotted Radio Scotland moored inside UK territorial waters in the Firth of Clyde. At the time the authorities were making noises about taking some positive action against these pirate radio stations.

The skipper asked each mess to select a song. The forward mess chose 'The Sloop John B' and I can't recall what the other messes chose, perhaps some others may remember as there were about seven or eight Aussies on board.

You can imagine the angst on board Radio Scotland as this unmarked submarine appeared and launched a small boat which began heading towards them. They must have thought that the authorities were about to raid them.

Anyway when the boat drew alongside Radio Scotland the Sealion's boat crew passed over a bottle of scotch and a note asking them to play each mess' request on the understanding that they did not reveal the source of the requests. They must have been greatly relieved.

They were true to their word and a short time later, to our delight, they played 'The Sloop John B'."

Jims Joyce said "One night, whilst in Singapore, myself and a well known LRO were ashore in Bugis Street. The bars closed at 0100hrs but our need for a beer, however had not been satisfied. So we adjourned to a "house of ill-repute in Sembawang" to slake our thirst, we were incapable of anything else.

Whilst in said premises, my Stepping Mate, espied a cat and proceeded to stroke, in an un- amorous manner, the feline, whereupon one of the girls stated that it had just had kittens. My mate, whose mother bred cats, inquired as to the cost of one such kitten and was asked, by the House Pappasan "Why, what's wrong with the Girls?" Anecdotes are our greatest source of History and I am sure we all have many."

SEA TRAINING GROUP TO MUSTER

Christopher 'Joel' Garner is trying to put together a list of past and present members of the Submarine Sea Training Group. Rod Baker (yes, him again!!!) provided Joel some information from the dim and distant past. Rod believe the first official SSTG was formed in 81/82. If you were a member of, or have any more information on, the SSTG contact Joel at christopher.garner1@defence.gov.au with your details such as years served, Name and Rate (ie: 1985 – 1988, Rod Baker, CPOETP). I am sure Joel will appreciate the information.

Dave Bryant sent a photo of the original SSTG Badge. He said "It was designed and worn by the first members of that elite organization when it was inaugurated under a Canadian Submarine Training Coordinator (STC) in the Australian Submarine Squadron in 1980. I relieved Graham (Jumper)

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Collins as the Chief UCSM in the Group in 1982, and served with the second STC LCDR Bruce McLean RCN for three years, along with such luminaries as Mick Lynch and Bill Hollas. We took the role of the SSTG to a new level, with combined emergency and tactical evolutions, thunder flashes and smoke bombs! (No distinctive green overalls in those days, but we still managed to smuggle the odd "bomb" onboard a working-up submarine alongside PLATS)."



World's Shortest Fairy Tale.....

Once upon a time, a guy asked a girl 'Will you marry me?'
The girl said, 'NO!'

And the guy lived happily ever after and rode motorcycles and went fishing and hunting and played golf a lot and drank beer and scotch and had tons of money in the bank and left the toilet seat up, and farted whenever he wanted.
The End

Who said we were not a multicultural navy. This photo was taken at the Anzac Day March in Hobart 2009. Notice anything different?



Cameron Martin sent the following. "My European tour continues after the World Dragon boat championships in Prague. The navy boys in the Australian team did really well winning 3 gold and 4 bronze medals. Since then I've been touring around visiting Vienna, Rome, Florence, Venice and I'm currently in Paris and then off to Amsterdam and the UK. Venice is an amazing city and the last place on earth you'd expect to see a submarine is in the grand canal."



Another on the current sick list is Dave Holland, but typical of a greenie, all he could do was crow about his hospital being better than mine... "Sounds like your hospital needs to take lessons from the Mater at North Sydney – They provide 'Wine' with Dinner - could not believe it !!! Made the HIP replacement a little easier having a 'tot' each night." You watch, there will be a stampede of greenies lining up for admission next week, anything for a free drink!

SUBMARINE HOLOGRAM AT HOLBROOK

SAA members have received an invitation to the opening of the Submarine Hologram at Holbrook on the Sunday 18th October 2009. The opening will also be the occasion of the presentation (on permanent loan) of a WWII Submarine Artifact, the Jolly Roger flown by HMS/M Unseen on com-

pletions of War Patrols in the period up to 1945.

The Jolly Roger was brought to Australia by the (now deceased) Torpedo Officer of HMS/M Unseen Lt. John (Jack) Straw R.N. Upon his crossing the bar, and by the terms of Jack's will, the Jolly Roger was entrusted to the Victoria Branch of the SAA for safe keeping and (possible) public display. The Jolly Roger itself was 'handmade' by the crew members of the submarine, one of which John Horlock, a well known and respected member of the SAA. Unfortunately John Crossed the bar in February of this year.

The Jolly Roger which the Victoria Branch holds in trust is of considerable monetary as well as sentimental value. Requests for its permanent loan have been received from such organisations as:

- The HMS Dolphin Submarine Museum
- The Imperial War Museum in the UK
- The National War Memorial Canberra
- The Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne

After careful discussion (which included John Horlock before he entered hospital for the last time) it was decided by member's vote that the Jolly Roger would be offered to the Holbrook Submarine Museum on a Permanent Loan Basis.

Although the other requesting organisations are of clear International and National prominence (especially the HMS Dolphin Museum) it was felt that the Jolly Roger should remain not in its adopted country, Australia, but in the care and control of its own community – The Submariners and Family Members of the Submarine Association of Australia. In addition, the SAA Victoria has at its own expense had 'true and exact' copies made of the original Jolly Roger for display and prosperity purposes.

Approximately 30 members of the Victoria Branch will travel to Holbrook to 'Formally Present' the said Jolly Roger to the museum for public display. Certain members of the SAA Victoria Branch will also during that weekend present other artifacts to the museum, but this will be done separately and apart from the official ceremony of unveiling, thus avoiding a distraction for the real and actual purpose of the Civic Ceremony.

DEFENCE NEWS

Malaysia's First Submarine Makes Port Call At Cochin

Malaysia's first submarine, on its maiden voyage to the naval base in Sepangar Bay, Sabah, made a port call at the Indian naval dockyard on Tuesday. The Scorpene-class submarine, named KD Tunku Abdul Rahman, which began its journey on July 9, transited in Jeddah and Djibouti, before reaching Cochin waters in Kerala.

In 2002, the Malaysian government acquired two submarines, jointly built by the French DCNS and Spanish Navantia experts at Cherbourg in France. In January, the first submarine was handed over to the Royal Malaysian Navy at the naval base in Toulon.

After three days in Cochin, the diesel-powered submarine will depart for Lumut and Port Klang before reaching its final destination at Sepangar in September.

The submarine commanded by Commander Zulhelmy Ithnain of the Royal Malaysian Navy is sailing with 35 crew members on board. It is named after Malaysia's first prime minister Tunku Abdul Rahman.

AUSTRALIAN FUTURE SUBMARINE PLANS TO RECEIVE A MORE DISTINCT SHAPE

Australia's next-generation submarine plans are progressing as the Minister of Defence, Sen. John Faulkner, recently announced a request for tenders (RFT) to complete a design study for what will be the most expensive defence procurement project in the country's history. The Future Submarine Project, dubbed SEA 1000, is expected to cost nearly \$17 billion.

As defpro.com reported earlier this year, the Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Russ Crane, had already announced plans to increase the size of the Navy's submarine workforce through a new approach. Being concerned that "their long-term sustainability cannot be guaranteed unless we act decisively," Crane presented the widespread reforms within the framework of the so-called "New Generation Navy" strategy.

As the Australian Defence White Paper of May 2009 had already outlined, the six Collins-class submarines, built by Australian Submarine Corporation (ASC) between 1990 and 2003, are scheduled to be replaced around 2025. The Royal Australian Navy is especially looking for more boats with a greater range and therefore plans for the procurement of 12 conventional subs. "The procurement of Australia's future submarines will be Australia's largest-ever single defence project and will form a critical part of the nation's future defence force," said Faulkner.

Since English singer Susan Boyle has been on TV there's been a marked drop in suicide bombing. Apparently, a lot of the terrorists didn't realise what a virgin looks like.

CADMIUM IN THE COLLINS CLASS SUBMARINES.

Greg Combet, Minister for Defence Personnel, Materiel and Science, has provided an update on the situation regarding cadmium in the Collins Class Submarines. "From the time that this issue arose, the Rudd Government acted immediately with Defence and the Navy to identify the source and extent of any hazard, and to ensure the safety and well being of the maintenance workers and submariners who have been working on the Collins Class Submarines," Mr Combet said.

"To allay staff concerns, ASC stood production staff down on Friday, 28 August 2009 and undertook initial testing on those submarines which were in deeper maintenance in South Australia. The Government then immediately ordered the testing of cadmium levels on all submarines, including operational boats. "Cadmium has always been used in Collins Class Submarine electrical components to minimise corrosion and is a well documented hazardous material.

"The main risk to personnel is through inhalation of cadmium dust or vapour through airborne contamination. The risk to personnel is mitigated through use in areas of infrequent access, warning signs and good hygiene practices.

"All six of the Collins Class submarines have now been tested for airborne contamination. This testing revealed that airborne cadmium levels within the Collins Class Submarines are well below the Australian Standard. "All submarines have also been tested for surface contamination. Testing has revealed that cadmium surface contamination does exist in proximity to some cadmium components on the submarines.

"I am advised that representative sample testing of Navy personnel who may have been exposed on submarines to cadmium is scheduled to begin later this month. This will determine what further screening may be needed. "Further to this action, Defence is currently undertaking a program of baseline occupational hygiene surveys including the Collins Class Submarines.

"The surveys involve an occupational hygienist completing a comprehensive assessment of the presence of any hazardous substances. This will provide a baseline to mitigate risks associated with these substances.

RESIGNATION OF SIA PRESIDENT

Rear Admiral Briggs AO, CSC resigned from the position as President of the SIA on Friday

4th September in order to pursue other interests. In his letter of resignation Peter made the observation that he is "confident that he leaves the SIA 'on depth and in perfect trim' ".

Acting President Peter Horobin said "I think you will agree that is something of an understatement. During his period as President, the SIA has grown to a membership of some 267 people, it has established a sound financial base and it has developed a highly professional image and reputation.

However, it has been in pursuit of two SIA projects - the Future Submarine (SIA Project Submarine 2020) and the recognition and preservation of the submarine AE2 that Peter has made an enormous contribution to the SIA and to the Australian submarine community.

I am sure you will join me in thanking Peter for his outstanding contribution to the SIA and in wishing him well in his pursuit of his new interests."

CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING YOUR DOLPHINS

ABCKSM B.D. Key HMAS Collins
ABMTSM A. Rodway HMAS Waller



STOP PRESS

Len Meakin has been released from St Vincent's Hospital Toowoomba after the heart attack which he suffered last week. Len is in good spirits and recovering well, he was transferred to Greenslopes Hospital Brisbane for a 'medical procedure' that was a success and he has returned to Toowoomba. Len also has Emphysema and requires constant oxygen to assist with breathing. Len is aged 82.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Date & Time	State	Event	Remarks
17-18th October 2009	VIC	Social	Weekend in Holbrook - Presentation of the HMS Unsparing Jolly Roger
20th October 2009 1030	WA	Memorial Service	RN Submarines Association Service at Memorial Park, Fremantle
1st November 2009 1130	NSW	General Meeting	CANCELLED - SEE 8th November entry
4th November 2009 1100	WA	Executive Meeting	ANZAC Club. Contact Paul Meakin for details.
8th November 2009	NSW	General meeting and BBQ	Spectacle Island. Please advise your attendance to Geoff Anderson or Ken Norris.
8th November 2009 1030	WA	Remembrance Day	HMAS Ovens at WAMM Contact Paul Meakin for details.
11th November 2009 1100	WA	Remembrance Day	Kings Park. Contact Paul Meakin for details.

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START PLANNING NOW!!!
SM Friendly Coffs Harbour
11th - 14th June 2010

A gathering of the Australian submarine community

VETERANS' GET \$1.2 MILLION IN FUNDING TO SUPPORT 78 HEALTH AND WELLBEING INITIATIVES

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Alan Griffin today announced more than \$1.2 million in funding to support 78 health and wellbeing initiatives for veterans and their families across Australia in the latest round of the Veteran & Community Grants program.

Mr Griffin said the grants demonstrate the Australian Government's commitment to organisations that care for the veteran community, and encourage veterans, war widows and widowers and their families to become involved in local health and wellbeing activities. "Veteran & Community Grants help fund local initiatives that improve access to community care services and encourage social interaction through Day Clubs, Men's Sheds and social excursions," Mr Griffin said.

Veteran & Community Grants are available to ex-service and community organisations, veteran representative groups and private organisations that contribute to the health and welfare of the veteran community.

Local and community organisations interested in applying for funding are encouraged to visit www.dva.gov.au/grants or contact their nearest DVA office on 133 254 (for metropolitan callers) or 1800 555 254 (for non-metropolitan callers).

Internet Warning: If you get an e-mail titled - 'Nude photo of Julia Gillard', don't open it.... it contains a nude photo of Julia Gillard.

Peter Clarke reports "Nothing wrong with the Victorian legal system, it's taken 8 months for the coroner to decide how a bloke was killed in Melbourne, cause of death, he was run over by a tram !"

A man asked an American Indian what was his wife's name. He replied, "She called Four Horse".

The man said, "That's an unusual name for your wife. What does it mean?"

The Old Indian answered, "It old Indian Name. It mean, NAG, NAG, NAG, NAG!"