



The Bosun's Call

Vol 15 No 8

Each for All—All for Each

September 2010

CONMEN USE SCAMS TO TARGET ELDERLY

ACT Policing is encouraging elderly community members to be vigilant about their personal and home safety after reports of conmen using various scams to gain entry to homes.

ACT Policing have received numerous reports recently of suspicious behaviour in Canberra's inner city suburbs. The reports are of males offering to fix the residents plumbing or paint house numbers on the driveways for an amount of money. In some instances the males pretend to be working with police and show documents with police insignia. The victims targeted are elderly.

In the first situation the offender will claim to be a plumber, stating that due to recent rain the plumbing requires checking. The offender will enter, check the toilet by flushing it and informing the elderly resident that there is a problem and they can fix it for an amount of money. Once the money has been handed over the offender leaves the residence without carrying out any work.

The second situation is a male offering to paint house numbers on the curb of driveways. The offender advises the victim that he has 'special' paint that will not fade over time, even when the victim already has painted house numbers. A price is agreed upon however if more money is given the offender claims to have no change or increases the price if more than one number is painted.

The third situation is a male pretending to be working with police to gain entry to the residence. The offender is in plain clothes, carrying a folder with paperwork which has a police insignia on it, claiming he requires a signature from the victim. Upon entry the offender may assault the victim before leaving with a sum of money.

Superintendent Kylie Flower from ACT Policing Crime Prevention team said there are some home safety precautions the elderly can take to minimise this happening to them.

"Do not let a person you do not know into your home," Superintendent Flower said.

"Talk with them through the security screen door or open the door with the security chain still engaged. If you are expecting a service repairman or similar, check their identification. If in doubt, call their head office to verify their details. Use the number out of the phone book and not a phone number they provide to you. If the person is claiming to be a police officer then ask to see identification. If you are unsure, then call Police Operations on 131 444.

"If a person does illegally enter your home, comply with them if they ask for your wallet or handbag. If you think a neighbour or passerby will hear then shout or yell and consider carrying a personal alarm. Take note of the offender's appearance; clothing, features, vehicle, registration, direction of travel and anything you consider may assist police, although do not put yourself in danger to get this information.

"The most important thing to remember is that if something should happen to you, such as a robbery or attack, don't be embarrassed. It's important that you tell someone who can help you as soon as possible", Supt Flower added.

ACT Policing has recently launched its revised 'Home and Safety Booklet'. This new booklet provides community members with important safety information, including how to effectively secure your home, what to do when going away on holiday and how to protect your personal safety while out in public. Copies of the booklet can be obtained online at www.police.act.gov.au

Anyone who observes suspicious activity in their neighborhood should contact ACT Policing Operations on 131 444 or for further tips on home security, visit the ACT Policing website at

www.police.act.gov.au

Events coming up
**THURSDAY 2 September Meeting at
Kaleen Sports Club at 1330**



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia



Printed by The Sports Club Kaleen

Naval Association of Australia ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

Office Bearers 2010

President Peter Cooke-Russell 02 6258 6892
 Vice President Peter McNay 02 6282 2475
 Secretary Peter McNay 02 6282 2475
 Treasurer Sylvia Sinfield 02 6288 2350
 Assist Sec Pat McCabe 02 6291 9185

Committee Members

Welfare Alex. McGown 02 6258 6167
 Membership Peter Launder 02 6260 3843
 Alex Goodieson 02 6247 7306
 David Manolas 02 6265 1865
 Mike Hardwick 02 6453 6256
 John Small 02 6258 1216
 JJ Harrison 02 6258 4512
 Joe Slaats 02 6255 7872

H/Social Secs Judith McNay and Bev Joce

Charitable Fund

Chairman Harry Beardsell

Contact Details

The Secretary
 NAA ACT Section
 PO Bo 265
 CURTIN ACT 2605
 wgn@optusnet.com.au

President's Note

It has taken a while to resolve whether or not the September meeting will be held in the Eastlake Football Club in Kingston. An incorrect email address caused a weeks delay which was followed by a difficulty in then getting a response from the Football Club. Unfortunately the Eastlake Football Club rejected the application to have a meeting there. It would have been programmed had the ACT Section been prepared to pay \$150 for the hire of the meeting room. Thankfully our excellent relationship with the Kaleen Sports Club enabled arrangements for the meeting to be held in the Kaleen Sports Club.

The HMAS Canberra Memorial Service went off very well and I am very grateful for the support given to the Section by Andy Schroder CO HMAS Harman and by Matt Woods, CO TS Canberra. The service was reported in the WIN News on the following Monday.

I laid a package of books on the Vietnam Memorial on 18 August 2010. The books Cruiser and Arthur's War dealt with HMAS Perth's part in WWII. They were then donated to the Melba Copland Secondary School.

Cheers

Peter Cooke-Russell

**Executive meeting
 Kaleen Sports Club
 1200 Thursday 2 Sep 2010**

General Meeting Dates and Locations

2 Sep Kaleen Sports Club	1930	2011	
6 Oct <i>MV Southern Cross</i>	1930 Wed	3 Feb TBA	
4 Nov Kaleen Sports Club	1330	2 Mar <i>MV Southern Cross AGM</i>	1930 Wed
2 Dec TBA		7 Apr Kaleen Sports Club	1330
		5 May TBA	

NAA ACT Section Event/Social Diary

- 12 Sep BBQ at Peter Burn's CANCELLED due to family Health problems.
- 7 Oct **Naval Memorial Service at the Naval Memorial ANZAC Parade, Campbell Commences at 1100 Dress coat tie and medals Drinks/lunch in Olims Hotel Ainslie after the service.**
- 31 Oct Fish n Chips Grounds Canberra Yacht Club 5.00—7.00 pm approx BYO drinks or buy at CYC
- 21 Nov Sunday Christmas BBQ at Don & Bev's backyard 12.00—4.00 pm approx
- 28 Nov Fish n Chips Grounds Canberra Yacht Club 5.00—7.00 pm approx BVO drinks or buy at the CYC

**COMMODORE JIM DICKSON'S ADDRESS TO
J.R.T.E. REUNION AT EX-HMAS LEEUWIN
13 JULY 2010**

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU AND I KNOW THAT ALAN FERRIS, THE ONLY OTHER MEMBER OF THE 1960 JRTE STAFF PRESENT, FEELS LIKEWISE. AND I THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU TONIGHT. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THESE FEW DAYS FROM THE MOMENT I HEARD THERE WAS GOING TO BE A CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING. I FELT IT WOULD BE FUN TO SEE WHAT THE RAVAGES OF TIME AND NATURE HAVE DONE TO THOSE WIDE-EYED, ANGEL-FACED, EAGER BABY BOOMERS I MET AT THE GATES OF HMAS LEEUWIN 50 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH -AND TO SEE HOW THEY ARE FARING NOW AS THEY MARCH INEXORABLY TOWARDS THE RANKS OF SENILE DELINQUENCY WHICH SOME OF US HAVE ALREADY REACHED.

I WASN'T AWARE OF THE FACT UNTIL THIS REUNION WAS ANNOUNCED, BUT IT TURNS OUT TO BE THE CASE THAT I AM THE SENIOR SURVIVOR OF THE BRILLIANT JRTE STAFF WHICH GREETED, WELCOMED AND WET-NURSED THAT FIRST INTAKE OF JR'S IN JULY 1960 AND WEANED THEM GENTLY AND KINDLY INTO THE NAVY. BUT LET ME FIRST TAKE YOU BACK TO THE LEAD-UP TO THAT CELEBRATED DAY. I'D BEEN IN THE SERVICE ALREADY FOR TEN YEARS BY THEN AND I'D BECOME ACCLIMATISED TO THE USE OF ACRONYMS. BACK IN THE 50'S, BEFORE NAVY AND DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS MOVED FROM MELBOURNE TO MALFUNCTION JUNCTION IN CANBERRA WE TALKED ABOUT ACNB AND FOCAF AND CNO'S AND FND AND OD'S AND SO ON AND ONE QUICKLY GOT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT ALL THESE ABBREVIATIONS STOOD FOR. BUT IT WAS WHILE I WAS SERVING IN THE FAR EAST IN 1959 IN HMAS TOBRUK THAT I LEARNT I WAS TO BE POSTED TO JRTE IN EARLY 1960 AND JRTE WAS AN ACRONYM I'D NEVER HEARD OF. I ASKED A SENIOR OFFICER IN TOBRUK WHAT THE LETTERS STOOD FOR AND HE TOLD ME THAT JRTE WAS A NEW TRAINING SCHEME BEING INTRODUCED BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF 'JUNIORS RESPECTING THEIR ELDERS'. WELL I NEVER QUESTIONED WHAT MY SENIOR OFFICERS TOLD ME - NOT IN THOSE DAYS ANYWAY - SO I ACCEPTED THAT: IT SOUNDED A VERY SENSIBLE IDEA. TO MAKE SURE I WAS SUPER-FIT AND THEREFORE DESERVING OF EVEN MORE RESPECT THAN OTHERS I WENT AND DID THE SHORT PT OFFICERS COURSE AT FND BEFORE ARRIVING AT LEEUWIN BRIGHT-EYED, BUSHYTAILED AND RARIN' TO GO IN MARCH 1960. I WAS 24 YEARS YOUNG -TALL, DARK, UPRIGHT, PURE, VIRGINAL (AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER); I WAS A SEASONED SEA-FARER, HAD TWICE BEEN TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, - AND WAS THEREFORE DESERVING OF ALL THE RESPECT IN THE WORLD FROM THESE ACNE-FACED YOUTHS I'D BEEN SENT OVER TO TRAIN. WE WERE A MAGNIFICENT TEAM AND WE'D CLEARLY ALL BEEN HAND-PICKED FOR THE TASK BEFORE US.

LET ME JUST REMIND YOU THAT AUSTRALIA IN 1960 WAS VERY DIFFERENT FROM AUSTRALIA IN 2010. TELEVISION HAD JUST ARRIVED (BLACK & WHITE ONLY OF COURSE); IT WAS THE DAWN OF THE COMPUTER AGE; MOBILE PHONES, VCR'S, CD'S, DVD'S, IPAD'S, IPOD'S, GPS ETC WERE THE STUFF OF SCIENCE FICTION. PLAY STATIONS WERE EITHER SPORTS OVALS OR BEDROOMS; GAY MEANT COLOURFUL; SWINGERS WERE CIRCUS ACROBATS; WEDDINGS WERE MOSTLY CELEBRATED IN A CHURCH AND SENSITIVE, FORWARD-LOOKING WIVES PROMISED TO LOVE AND OBEY; DEFACIOS WERE FROWNED ON; AFFIRMATIVE ACTION MEANT SAYING 'YES'; DRUGS WERE SOMETHING YOU GOT AT A CHEMIST TO TRY TO HELP YOU SLEEP; AND WORST OF ALL, THE PILL HADN'T BEEN INVENTED, WHICH IS WHY YOUNG NAVAL OFFICERS LIKE ME WERE PURE AND UNBLEMISHED.

IT WAS IN THIS BY-GONE AGE THAT, ON 11 JULY 1960, THE FIRST BATCH OF STARRY-EYED JUNIOR RECRUITS ARRIVED IN FREMANTLE TO BEGIN THEIR ILLUSTRIOUS (OR IN SOME CASES LESS-THAN-ILLUSTRIOUS) NAVAL CAREERS. THERE WERE 155 OF THEM AND AS THEY SHAMBLED THROUGH THE GATES OF LEEUWIN IT BECAME PATENTLY CLEAR TO ME THAT MY EXPECTATION OF GREETING A SMART, OBEDIENT, RESPECTFUL, EASY-TO-MOULD CROSS SECTION OF YOUTHS FROM ALL STATES IN THE COMMONWEALTH WAS NOTHING BUT A DREAM. MY DAY OF DISILLUSIONMENT HAD ARRIVED!

THE ORIGINAL DIVISIONS WE PUT THEM INTO WERE CALLED WINIAN, MOKARE, NAKINA, KAIBER AND YAGAN -- ALL ABORIGINAL NAMES I'D FOUND WITH THE HELP OF A DELIGHTFUL BIRD I WAS DATING WHO WORKED IN THE STATE LIBRARY. THE FACT THAT THESE NAMES WERE ALL OF TRIBES WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE FOR TRIBAL INTERACTION BECAME A FEATURE OF DORMITORY LIFE AT LEEUWIN AND BATTLES WERE FOUGHT WITHOUT ANY REGARD FOR THE CONVENTIONS OF NAVAL WARFARE OR THE MARQUIS OF QUEENSBURY RULES. BUT THOSE DIVISIONAL NAMES DIDN'T LAST: WE WERE TOO FAR AHEAD OF OUR TIME. POLITICAL CORRECTNESS AND NAVAL TRADITION DICTATED THAT DIVISIONS BE CALLED AFTER FORMER SENIOR NAVAL OFFICERS AND THOSE INTERESTING INDIGENOUS NAMES WERE ALL-TOO-SOON DISCARDED. I THOUGHT THAT A GREAT SHAME - PARTICULARLY AFTER ALL THE WORK MY LIBRARIAN GIRLFRIEND AND I HAD PUT INTO RESEARCHING THEM.

THROUGHOUT 1960 AND 61 THE ESTABLISHMENT BUZZED WITH ADVENTURE AND EXCITEMENT AS WE, THE KINDLY, HELPFUL STAFF PAMPERED AND SPOON-FED THE LITTLE BLEEDERS AND MOLLY-CODDLED THEM INTO NAVAL WAYS. SOON THE WORD WENT OUT THAT THE SCHEME WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS AND IT BECAME GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT THE ACRONYM JRTE NOW STOOD FOR 'JUVENILES REVELLING IN TOTAL ENJOYMENT'.

BUT GOOD THINGS DON'T LAST FOREVER AND WE, THE 'COMMISSIONING CREW' WENT ON OUR WAY AFTER A COUPLE OF YEARS, SATISFIED THAT WE'D ESTABLISHED THE SYSTEM ON A SOUND FOOTING DESPITE THE DETERMINED ATTEMPTS OF THE FIRST INTAKE TO DERAIL OUR EFFORTS.

BY THE MID-1960'S THE FIRST OF THE BABY-BOOMER GENERATION WERE MOVING INTO THEIR 20'S AND THE WHEELS OF ORDERLY SOCIETY WERE BEGINNING TO FALL OFF. AROUND THE WORLD THERE WAS SOMETHING OF A REBELLION AGAINST LAW AND ORDER, REGIMENTATION AND DISCIPLINE. THOUGH THE NAVY HAS NEVER BEEN, (AND SHOULD



NEVER BE), A TEST-BED FOR SOCIAL CHANGE, IT MUST BE REACTIVE TO IT. DESPITE THE TENDER LOVING CARE BEING LAVISHED UPON THEM THE 1R'S AT LEEUWIN EMBRACED EVERY DAMAGING TREND THEY COULD FIND AND DID THEIR BEST TO DESTROY THE NAVY'S TIME HONOURED CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS. ULTIMATELY THIS LED TO THE PILLARS OF NAVAL JUSTICE, LAW AND ORDER COMING UNDER FIERCE ATTACK. THE LONG-STANDING NAVAL DISCIPLINE ACT WHICH MADE PROVISION FOR HANGING FROM THE YARD-ARM, KEELHAULING, OR SUCH- OTHER - PUNISHMENT-AS-IS-HEREINAFTER-MENTIONED, WAS ABANDONED IN FAVOUR OF LAX, GENTLE, WRIST-SLAPPING LAWS WHICH THE NAVAL TRAINEES IN FREMANTLE FOUND MUCH MORE TO THEIR LIKING. WHAT THE TRAINEES FAILED TO APPRECIATE WAS THE FACT THAT IT WAS ONLY THE JUDICIOUS USE OF THOSE OLD POWERS BY THE WELL-MEANING STAFF WHICH HAD PROTECTED AND SAFEGUARDED THEM FROM THE RAVAGING HORDES OF NUBILE SANDGROPER GIRLS WHO LINED UP AT THE GATES OF LEEUWIN SINGING THEIR SIGNATURE TUNE ' ALL THE NICE GIRLS LOVE A SAILOR' EVERY AFTER-NOON. GIVEN FREEDOMS PREVIOUSLY UNIMAGINABLE JR'S RAN AMOK. IT TOOK MONUMENTAL EFFORTS FROM THE CARING STAFF TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER AND PREVENT THE ACRONYM JRTE BECOMING BETTER KNOWN AS A PLACE HOUSING 'JINGOISTIC RATBAGS TRAUMATISING EVERYONE'.

BY THE 1970'S THE BABY-BOOMERS WORLD-WIDE, NOW APPROACHING THEIR 30'S, WERE CAUSING CHAOS AND CONSTERNATION EVERYWHERE. FREMANTLE WAS NO EXCEPTION. FREE LOVE, POT, SWINGING, LIVING TOGETHER WITHOUT BEING MARRIED, MEN WITH SHOULDER-LENGTH HAIR, GIRLS GOING BRA-LESS-THESE WERE JUST A FEW OF THE SIGNS OF THE DECADENCE OF THE TIMES WHICH SYMPTOMISED HOW CUSTOM AND CONVENTION WERE BEING CAST ASIDE AND THE ORDERLINESS OF SOCIETY DESTROYED. WE OF THE PREWAR GENERATION MAINTAINED A STIFF UPPER LIP OF COURSE AND CAST DISAPPROVING EYES ON THE GOINGS-ON OF THE YOUNG. SOCIETY'S ACCEPTANCE OF RELAXATION OF THE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT WITH MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX WAS PERHAPS THE ELEMENT WHICH CAUSED US MOST CONCERN, (AND ENVY). FROM STORIES REACHING THE FLEET IN THE 70'S THE IMPRESSION WAS GAINED THAT INSTEAD OF 'REVELLING IN TOTAL ENJOYMENT' AS THE CLASSES OF 60 AND 61 HAD DONE, JR'S OF THE 70'S WERE REALLY 'JACKS RELISHING TESTOSTERONE EXPERIMENTS'.

AS THE 80'S APPROACHED THINGS GOT WORSE. THOUGH GOUGH WHITLAM'S REIGN IN CANBERRA WAS TERMINATED IN 1975 IN ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS BRUTAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAN KEVIN RUDD'S WAS A GENERATION LATER, 'GREENS' AND 'PEACENIKS' AND THE 'PERMISSIVE', OR 'ANYTHING GOES', SOCIETY' HAD BECOME FIRMLY ESTABLISHED. THE RESULTING UNREST DID NOT SIT COMFORTABLY WITH THE FOUNDATIONS ON WHICH JRTE HAD BEEN BUILT AND PRESENTED CHALLENGES TO NAVAL TRAINING WHICH HAD NOT BEEN FORESEEN OR FORESEEABLE WHEN THE JR SCHEME WAS STARTED. ONCE QUESTIONS BEGAN TO BE RAISED ABOUT THE COST AND VIABILITY OF CONTINUATION OF THE SCHEME EVERYONE IN CANBERRA HAD AN OPINION TO OFFER. THE FACT THAT THEY WERE THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY TO THE EAST, THAT 90% OF THEM KNEW VIRTUALLY NOTHING ABOUT THE NAVY, THAT MOST OF THEM HAD NEVER VISITED W.A. - LET ALONE HMAS LEEUWIN -DID NOT PREVENT BUREAUCRATIC EXPERTS EXPRESSING AN OPINION ABOUT THE WORTH AND VALUE OF 1RTE. I OFTEN WONDER IF THEY REALLY KNEW WHAT THE ACRONYM JRTE STOOD FOR: IT SEEMED TO ME THAT EACH DEPARTMENT PUT ITS OWN INTERPRETATION ON WHAT THE LETTERS MEANT. I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT TREASURY'S VIEW WAS THAT IT WAS 'JUST RUINING THE ECONOMY'; THAT ASIO FEARED IT WAS A PLACE WHERE 'JIHADISTS RECEIVE TERRORIST EDUCATION' AND THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CONDEMNED IT AS A PLACE AT WHICH 'JUSTICE IS REFUSED TO EVERYBODY.

THE EARLY 80'S WERE DIFFICULT DAYS IN AUSTRALIA. THE NATION HAD BEEN THROUGH A DECADE OF POLITICAL TURMOIL AND SOCIAL UP-

HEAVAL. THE ECONOMY WAS IN A MESS; ANTI-WAR AND ANTI-MILITARY SENTIMENT WERE RAMPANT. CHANGE WAS HAPPENING EVERYWHERE. NAVY WAS NOT FARING WELL IN CANBERRA IN INTENSE COMPETITION WITH ARMY AND AIR FORCE AND TWO DECISIONS OF MONUMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE OF THE SERVICE WERE MADE, (IN MY OPINION) WITHOUT DUE CONSIDERATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR CONSEQUENCES. THESE WERE THE VIRTUAL ABOLITION OF THE FLEET AIR ARM AND THE CLOSURE OF JRTE.

IT WAS A SAD AND SUDDEN ENDING FOR A SCHEME WHICH, IN ALL SERIOUSNESS, HAD PRODUCED AMONG ITS NEARLY 11,000 GRADUATES, SOME OF THE BEST AND MOST DEDICATED PERSONNEL THE R.A.N.HAD IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY. MY REMARKS TONIGHT HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY LIGHT-HEARTED BUT IN A MORE SERIOUS VEIN I AM ACUTELY AWARE THAT FOR THOSE WHO WENT THROUGH THE SCHEME IN THOSE YEARS OF SOCIAL UPHEAVAL IT CANNOT HAVE BEEN EASY. ALTHOUGH NAVY STROVE TO ADJUST TO CHANGING SOCIAL ATTITUDES AND MORES IT REMAINED A RELATIVELY STRICT AND DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT AND DENIED YOU, AS TEENAGERS, MANY OF THE

FREEDOMS YOUR CIVILIAN CONTEMPORARIES ENJOYED. THAT SO MANY OF YOU STAYED THE COURSE AND WENT ON TO ENJOY SUCCESSFUL SERVICE CAREERS IS A TRIBUTE TO YOU AND THE FACT THAT ONE OF YOUR NUMBER, VICE ADMIRAL RUSS CRANE, IS NOW CHIEF OF NAVY IS IN MY OPINION THE ULTIMATE MANIFESTATION OF THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME. MANY ENTRANTS TO JRTE DID NOT COMPLETE THE COURSE BUT I DOUBT THAT THEY, OR OTHERS WHO LEFT EARLY, NOW REGARD THEIR TIME AT LEEUWIN AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A BENEFICIAL AND CHARACTER-BUILDING EXPERIENCE.

I BELIEVE THE DECISION TO CLOSE 1RTE WAS PRECIPITATE; I ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE WHEEL OF NAVAL LIFE WILL TURN AND THAT AGAIN, SOMEWHERE DOWN THE TRACK, THE CONCEPT OF TAKING JUNIORS INTO THE SERVICE AND LETTING THEM GROW UP IN IT WILL RE-EMERGE. I THINK THAT THE NUMBER WHO HAVE MADE THE EFFORT TO ASSEMBLE HERE FOR THIS REUNION BEAR TESTAMENT TO THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME AND ILLUSTRATES THE SPIRIT AND SENSE OF CAMERADERIE IT DEVELOPED. THAT ADMIRAL CRANE, IS NOW AT THE HELM AND IS SHAPING THE COURSE THE NEW GENERATION NAVY IS TAKING IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE NEW MILLENIUM IS, I'M SURE, A MATTER OF PRIDE TO YOU ALL AND THE FACT THAT HE'S FOUND TIME TO BE WITH YOU HERE TO PARTICIPATE TODAY AND TONIGHT ADDS LUSTRE TO THE OCCASION.

AND THERE I'LL STOP - BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL LOOKING JRTE - JADED & READY TO EAT.



DVA COMPLAINTS & FEEDBACK PROCESS

The following letter was received from DVA:

"I am writing to let you know that a new complaints and feedback management process has been implemented in DV A. For some time I had been concerned about the absence of an accessible feedback mechanism for our clients. Existing systems to manage complaints were not well understood or widely used.

In late 2009 a project team was formed to improve our complaints and feedback system. The Commonwealth Ombudsman's office was consulted and provided policy development and training assistance. The project team developed a comprehensive complaints and feedback management policy for DVA, a copy of which is attached for your information. A Complaints Management Team has been formed with responsibility for implementation and management of the policy.

The new policy, updated contact details for the Complaints Management Team, and suggestions

on how feedback may be sent to DVA, are now on the 'Complaints' page on the DVA website. We are currently developing a Fact Sheet that will also be posted on the website.

Complaints, compliments and suggestions for improvement are the most immediate and effective forms of feedback to assist us to improve our services. Our new process will help to ensure that DVA makes use of this feedback to both resolve individual concerns and to identify broader systems issues requiring attention.

If you would like further information about the complaints process please contact John Hall, Assistant Director, Complaints Management Team on (02) 9213 7175.

Yours sincerely

Ian Campbell

NO MEDAL FOR PNG SERVICE

The federal government has ruled out the award of a service medal to ADF personnel who served in Papua New Guinea after it gained independence in 1975.

The Defence and Honours Awards Tribunal said it accepted that conditions in PNG were arduous but it was not satisfied that this met the requirements for the award of the Australian Service Medal.

Some 700 ADF personnel served in PNG in the immediate post-independence period, providing training to the PNG military and performing engineering tasks.

Pictured are three generations of Australian patrol boats. On the left is HMAS Armidale and in the centre is the Fremantle Class Patrol Boat, HMAS Townsville. The Patrol Boat on the right of the picture is the Attack Class patrol boat, HMAS Advance.

Photo RAN



VIETNAM VETERANS' MEMORIAL WALK

Work commenced recently on a Vietnam Veterans' Commemorative Walk at Seymour, Victoria. Stage one of the project will be a full-sized replica of the Luscombe Bowl at Nui Dat.

Further stages will see a landscape reminiscent of a rice paddy and a rubber plantation, with other Vietnam War icons such as a M113 APC. The project is expected to be completed by 2013.

Quarterly Pension Supplement

From 1 July, if you receive a service pension, age pension or income support supplement, you will be able to register to receive the minimum portion of your pension supplement quarterly, rather the fortnightly. This will allow you to save that portion of your pension and receive it as a lump sum at the end of the quarter. You may want to receive these larger payments four times a year to assist with bills or other quarterly expenses. If you are a member of a couple, you can both make separate decisions about whether to receive part of the pension supplement quarterly.

Pension supplement is a daily entitlement, which is paid in arrears. This means that if you register to receive part of your pension supplement quarterly, your fortnightly pension payments will reduce. The reduction will be \$30.60 if you are single or illness separated and \$23.10 if you are paid at the partnered rate. If you elect to do so, these amounts will be saved for you and you will receive them on the next quarterly payment date. If you register for quarterly payments half way through a quarter, you will only receive half the quarterly amount at the end of the quarter.

The quarterly payments will be made on the first pension pay day after the 20th of March, June, September and December. The first quarterly pay day is 23 September 2010. Even if you register on 1 July you will not receive a full quarterly payment on 23 September, as the quarter begins on 20 June.

There is no financial advantage or disadvantage to switching between payment types. You will receive the minimum pension supplement for every day you are entitled. The only change is whether you want the minimum portion of your pension supplement paid quarterly, rather than fortnightly. If you wish to receive part of your pension supplement quarterly, you must notify DVA on 133 254 or 1800 555 254 (for regional callers).

Increased Lump Sum Payments

The system under which you can receive a Lump Sum Advance of your pension has been improved so that you can receive larger and more frequent advances. However, you will need to be careful to ensure you do not request an advance of more than you can afford to repay by deductions from your fortnightly pension.

From 1 July you will continue to be able to receive interest free advances of your pension, which are repaid over 13 fortnights. Under the new system there will be a maximum and minimum advance, depending on your rate of pension. You will also be able to receive multiple advances as long as you do not exceed the maximum amount in a 13 fortnight period.

There are several advantages to the new lump sum advance system:

- the maximum lump sum advance available to most people has increased, unless you are on a very low rate of pension;
- you will have increased flexibility about the timing and size of advances; and the value of advances is pegged to the rate of service pension and your rate of payment, so the value will be maintained overtime.

As you may now be able to access larger advances, it is important to ensure that you will be able to meet your living costs prior to requesting the advance. You can calculate your repayments by dividing the amount of your advance by 13. Your pension payment for the 13 fortnights following an advance will reduce by this amount. You could have to repay up to \$78 per fortnight if you receive the maximum advance.

It will depend on your own rate of pension as to whether you can receive the maximum advance. Any other advances you have received during the past 13 fortnights will be deducted from your maximum advance at the time DVA calculates your maximum lump sum advance.

Lump Sum Advance amounts

The maximum and minimum advances you can receive:

	Minimum	Maximum
Single	\$335.25	\$1005.75
Couples (each)	\$252.70	\$758.10
Illness separated (each)	\$335.25	\$1005.75

Reunions

RAN Battle Class Annual National Reunion

21-24 October 2010, Rydges Lakeside Hotel, London Circuit. Open invitation to all ex-naval personnel and family. Contact Geoff (Wiggy) Bennett, 7 Viola Crescent, Highett Vic 3190 (Tel: or fax: 03 9532 3672 or benhun@bigpond.net.au).

Korea War Veterans' Reunion 60th Anniversary.

22-24 October 2010, Canberra. 22 October – meet & greet; 23 October – Memorial Service and dinner; 24 October – sightseeing and dinner. Those involved, as well as family and friends all welcome. Contact Heather Wilson (02 4297 0921 or 0412 166 760).

HMAS *Arunta* Association Reunion.

28 November 2010, HMAS *Cerberus*, Westernport Bay Vic. 70th anniversary of the launching of HMAS *Arunta*. Transport (most likely bus) will be provided for those needing assistance and will leave and return to a central point in Melbourne. For further information contact Bruce Robertson, Secretary HMAS *Arunta* Association (secretary@arunta-assoc.com or 03 9764 0336).

HMAS QUIBERON Reunion 2011

Penrith NSW

7—9 October 2011

Contact Dean Sando 02 4732 3083

Email quiberon2011@optusnet.com.au

RAN Communications Branch Association

Adelaide SA
23 – 26 April 2011

808 NAVAL AIR SQUADRON

808 Squadron seeking past members.

The RAN will recommission 808 Naval Air Squadron in January 2011 with new MRH90 helicopters at Nowra NSW. The squadron was disbanded in December 1958. The RAN is seeking contact with any former squadron members who may be able to participate in the commissioning event. Past squadron members are requested to contact LCDR Col Cook on 02 4424 1940 or colin.cook@defence.gov.au for further details.

NAA (ACT Branch) Social Calendar 2010

Saturday 7th

HMAS Canberra Memorial Service (see the Bosuns Call for further details)

October

Thursday 7th Naval Memorial Service (see the Bosuns Call for further details)

Post ceremony drinks at Olims Hotel Ainslie

Sunday 31st Fish & Chips in the grounds of the Yacht Club. Yarralumla.

5.00pm to 7.00 pm approx.

You may need to bring a chair, you can BYO drinks or purchase them from the yacht club.

November

Sunday 21st Christmas BBQ in Don & Bev Joce's backyard in Dickson.

12.00 noon to 5.00 pm approx.

Sunday 28th Fish & Chips in the grounds of the Yacht Club. Yarralumla.

5.00 pm to 7.00 pm approx. You may need to bring a chair, you can BYO drinks or purchase them from the yacht club.

Unfortunately due to family ill
Health, the BBQ at Peter Burn's
home rescheduled for
September has had to be
cancelled

SURPLUS MAGAZINES?

Thank you for those who have, so far, contributed magazines as requested. As mentioned previously, this is an ongoing request. So, the request is reiterated here:

The Canberra Hospital's mobile library service is extremely short of magazines, especially men's, to loan to patients. Should any member have surplus magazines, would they please consider giving them to either Judith or Peter McNay?, when they will be gratefully received. Remember, you could be in hospital at some stage and would love to have a couple to while away your boring time there!

Many thanks - *Peter & Judith McNay*

Alteration to Meeting Location

Unfortunately due to circumstance beyond the Committee's control the General Meeting and Committee meetings planned to be held in the Eastlakes Football Club as stated in the minutes of the meetings above and page 10 will not be located at the Eastlake Club.

The Kaleen Sports Club has covered our predicament and the meetings will be held at the Kaleen Sports Club as follows

**Committee 1200 Thursday 2
September 2010**

**General Meeting 1330
Thursday 2 September 2010.**

My sincere thanks to the Kaleen Sports Club for its terrific support

*Peter Cooke-Russell
President*

JULY LUNCHEON

Beverley and I would like to thank those who attended the luncheon at The Lakes Gungahlin on 22 July. It was a very enjoyable, relaxed occasion with good food and drink with everyone enjoying themselves.

Next year, we intend to hold two more luncheons along the same lines, namely one north- and one south-side to make it easier for members to attend one or the other or, hopefully, both. After all, what else can one do on a cold winter's day? Spend it with friends over a good meal and good company, naturally!

If you have any ideas about where to hold future luncheons, please let either of us know, as we are always open to suggestions (of the right kind!).

(Judith)

RAFFLES, RAFFLES, RAFFLES

It appears that this is going to be a perennial plea, as we are desperately short of items to raffle at our General meetings. My thanks go to those few members who have donated previously, but if we are to continue to raise money for our coffers, we need more items to provide for future raffles, as the 'cupboard' is now bare!

So please, we are not asking you to break the bank, but just to donate something up to the value of about \$10-\$15 at the most. Your contributions will be gratefully received by me.

Thank you.

Five Minute Quizz

1. What is the capital of Angola?
2. In which country is acupuncture thought to have originated?
3. What is a baby alpaca, llama, vicuna or guanaco called?
4. Liechtenstein is bordered to the east by which country?
5. Which woodwind musical instrument was named after its inventor?
6. The Spanish word *burrito* literally translates as what?
7. Which Ancient Egyptian artefact was discovered in 1799 by a French officer of Napoleon's engineering corps?
8. What is the name of the biological sonar used by dolphins, bats and whales for navigation?
9. What is the art or science of being a teacher?
10. In 1789, who named the Hawkesbury River?

Answers on Page 13



Rivers Dining

At the Sports Club Kaleen
(sponsoring the printing of Bosun's Call)

...relax and enjoy yourself!!

Open 7 Day Lunch and Dinner

Lunch 12–2.00 pm (Fridays 11.30 am)

Dinner 6.00 –9.00 pm

**Daily Lunch Specials
\$7.50 Saturday to Thursday**

**Friday Lunches
Chicken Schnitzel, T. Bone, Rump or
Fish (crumbed or battered) \$9.50**

**Sunday Evening Roast
Adults \$13.50,
Children \$6.00**

The Sports Club Kaleen Your Function Venue

**Complimentary Room Hire (NPO)
Its an ideal venue to suit all
occasions.**

**Birthday, Engagements, Family
Reunions, Farewells and
Christmas Parties**

**For Bookings , Please call
Meighan or Liz on
02 6241 1560**

**Let us take the stress out of your
next Function**

ITEMS FOR SALE

NAA Ties	Now \$15.00	\$22.00
NAA Car Decals	\$	2.00
NAA Name Badges	\$	15.00
NAA Key Ring	\$	5.00
RAN Key Ring	\$	5.00

See Secretary Peter (6282 2475)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

A Happy Birthday to you all.

Harry Beardsell, Eddie Bell ,John Coombe,
Daryl Fox, Mike Hardwick, Gary Hayes, Ian
Holmes, Bruce Nockles, Edward Sandberg,
John Short, Dayle Stirton and Michael Taylor.



The NAA ACT Section is very grateful
for the support provided by the
Canberra Southern Cross Club

Answers to Five Minute Quiz:
11. Luanda; 2. China; 3. Cria; 4. Austria; 5. Saxophone
(patented by Adolphe Sax in 1846); 6. Little donkey;
7. Rosetta stone; 8. Echolocation; 9. Pedagogy;
10. Captain Arthur Phillip.