

# NOTICE TO MARINERS

Newsletter 32 Small Ship Squadron Association Incorporating RAE Tn

Patron: Colonel K L Duncan (RL)

## President's Message



**M**embers of the committee were saddened when informed by the Patron of the passing of Major Jim McFarlane. Jim's military career spanned from 1942 when he joined the Citizen Military Forces to January 1974. He was a veteran of World War II and Korea. Also in 1961 Jim held the position of OC, HQ 32 Small Ship Squadron. He was my OC when I did a short period in 30 Port Squadron before being posted to 32 in 1964.

Congratulations to Jack Peel and those involved with the 40th anniversary reunion celebrating the Squadron's commitment by 2 Troop AV1353 Harry Chauvel and 3 Troop AV1355 Vernon Sturdee with the involvement of Operation Granite in North Borneo. In my letter to the Dining President of the reunion Lt. Col. Mike Heal, OAM (Rtd.) my closing words were 'On behalf of the Patron and committee would you please toast those crew members who are no longer with you or cannot be with you as your participation in Operation Granite involving the confrontation with Indonesia is part of the history of the Corps.'

Members of the Association again supported Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces' Memorial Day on Sunday, 15 August at Springwood. 15 August is the anniversary of the ending of World War II in 1945 coinciding with the 38th Anniversary of the battle of Long Tan. This year's address was given by Air Vice Marshal Donald A. Tidd AM MBE (Rtd.). On behalf of the Association a copy of Royal Australian Engineers (Transportation) 32 Small Ship Squadron 1959-1971 was donated to Springwood High School.

All who attended enjoyed the hospitality of David Younan, licensee and manager of the Royal Hotel and an honorary member of the Association. Any member who is passing through Springwood would be most welcome at the Royal Hotel.

The committee received an application for a grant from Colin Symons on behalf of Bruce Wiltshire (Custodian of the 32 Small Ship Squadron section) for upgrading the anchor section at the RAE Memorial at Karrakatta. This has been granted to procure a marble base for the mounting of the stainless steel engraved plaque previously donated by the Association.

Regards to all

Ocka

## VIETNAM VETERANS AND ASSOCIATED FORCES MEMORIAL DAY

**O**n Sunday 15 August 2004, a large contingent of Vietnam and other veterans and their families attended the annual commemoration ceremony and march at Springwood NSW. Elsewhere in NSW it was cold and windy but Springwood put on a glorious sunny day for the occasion. As well as the veterans it looked like most of the town turned up to participate in this popular event. The Guest of Honour was Air Vice Marshall Donald Tidd, AM MBE (Rtd) who spoke about problems service men and women had with the aftermath of the Vietnam War, and drew parallels with it and the deployment of our forces to the Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan. A most interesting and relevant perspective from a very informed ex serviceman.

Our Association was represented by our Patron, Colonel Ken Duncan, President Ocka Murray, Cec Weekes from AWTA, Geoff Summergreene, Jacqueline Hardy, Brian and Val Waites, Glenn Daly, Ross McMurray and Ken Boyle (who now lives in Springwood and came over to see what the fuss was all about). Also helping to carry the banner were Neville Willingham and Peter Caradus, both ex 1 Field Squadron veterans. During the ceremony Ocka laid a book (in lieu of a wreath) which was later presented to Springwood High School. Afterwards we adjourned to David Younan's Royal Hotel for rehydration and a light lunch. A most enjoyable day.



**Patron Col. Ken Duncan,  
Cec Weekes AWTA Secretary,  
and  
Ocka Murray Pres. 32 Small Ship SqnAssoc.**

**Springwood march**



# WARNING NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
2004  
19th OCTOBER  
2000 Hrs  
HUNTERS HILL RSL HALL

Please try to attend so as to give your committee support as it is pretty disappointing when only 8 members came to **your** last AGM we sure could use some new blood, new ideas and help.



Brian Waites, Geoff Summergreene, Ocka Murray and Ken Duncan

## **A MESSAGE FROM A MICHAEL SCHULTZ ABOUT EMAILS AND HOW HIS MUM AND NORM HOLDSWORTH WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM JOINING THE ARMY.**

The following article was received from Michael Schultz after he was emailed the last edition of Notice to Mariners:

“Receiving the Notice to Mariners via e-mail is great, it saves our Association a lot of money, I enjoy getting it faster and the pictures are in colour to boot.

Many of us have been involved in some voluntary organisation at some stage of our lives and know full well what a thankless task it is . We are motivated by our own enthusiasm and interest in the particular activity. So I really appreciate the efforts of Graham Murray who has held the show together for many recent years along with his untiring committee, and Ken Duncan valiantly waving the flag at the top. There are many more working quietly in the background helping to further our Association - well done to you all.

The Notice to Mariners serves to refresh an important and happy part of my younger life and my association with the Australian Army. I enjoy reading the news, the articles and hearing what's going on with our members. It is always surprising how ruddy those Anzac day faces look.

My Army life over 22 years from 1958 to 1980 was all in the CMF in 33 and 32 Small Ship Squadrons, and 5 Water Transport Troop (the name changed from year to year, like greatcoats on and off again). There were many great times at sea and super exercises at port Stephens etc.

One happy memory was how I joined up in those informal days of the army. I was aged 17, just two months off my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and swimming at Clifton Gardens baths with my mum. I was watching the Army vessels doing circuits and bumps out of Chowder bay wharf and recognised my Scout Master, Brian Muir as CMF Master of the tug **Mollymawk**. I waved and soon alongside the baths was the Mollymawk and mum and I were invited on board for a ride. Both mum and I were barefoot and only in Speedos. I distinctly remember the ARA Master Norm Holdsworth's eyes roaming all over my mum (she used to be a model so I guess she had some pleasant bulges for Norm). Well, after that fun I joined up at the next Tuesday evening parade.

Well, once again to all involved in our Association - keep up the good and well appreciated work you all do.”

Thanks Michael, for your comments about Notice to Mariners and the wonderful story about how you joined the Army. I bet Norm Holdsworth would have had fond memories of your mum, sorry I meant your recruitment. Thanks also to other members who have commented on our email system for distributing the newsletter. If you have an email address but still get your newsletter by post, or if you change your address or ISP, please give me your details at

[rossmcmurray@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rossmcmurray@optusnet.com.au)



**AT 2383 MOLLYMAWK in Chowder Bay**

# Vale

## Major Jim McFarlane

Major Jim McFarlane (Rtd) passed away on 31 August 2004 after a long illness. Many members would remember Jim from their service in transportation and watercraft units. He had a colourful seagoing and military career that spanned nearly four decades, starting with him serving as a deckhand at age 15 on a Norwegian cargo vessel, seeing action in the Atlantic and Mediterranean before returning to Sydney just the day before the Japanese submarine attack on our harbour. He then went to Clifton Gardens and was subsequently posted to a watercraft unit as a Sapper, apparently without attending an Army recruit training course. Soon afterwards he was in the Torres Strait and Thursday Island area in Army small craft and also spent time at Meruke in Dutch New Guinea. He was based in Labuan and Borneo at the wars end, after which he returned to Sydney.

In 1947, following a two year posting in UK as a WO1, he returned to Australia and was commissioned as a Lieutenant. He then became an instructor in navigation and seamanship and was appointed a ship's Master before being posted to Korea and Japan with a joint British / Australian unit. In 1959 he again served in UK with a British Tn unit for another two years, returning to Australia as a Captain. On promotion to Major he served a period as OC 32 Small Ship Sqn. His final posting was to Port Moresby as the Commander, Joint Force Movements, Papua New Guinea Defence Force. He returned to Sydney in 1974 and retired that same year. In retirement he maintained close contact with his many comrades and actively supported the Army Water Transport Association, becoming the Patron of the Association in 1993 and only standing down because of ill health in 2001.

As you can see, Major Jim McFarlane had a unique career and was a dedicated Australian who served the Corps, the Army and the Nation with commitment and dedication.

(This is an edited version of a Eulogy given by our Patron, Colonel Ken Duncan, at Jim's funeral service. Thanks Ken. Our sympathy goes to June and her family).

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### **AGENDA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 19 OCT 2004**

**Opening  
Departed Comrades  
Minutes of Previous Meeting  
Business Arising from the Minutes  
Correspondence  
President's report  
Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Welfare Officer's report  
Social Member's Report  
Property Member's Report  
Draft Constitution  
General Business  
Closure**

### **POSITIONS VACANT**

**Hon. Secretary  
Hon.Asst. / Sec Treasurer  
Welfare Officer  
Social Member  
Apply at the AGM 19th Oct.**

# 33 Terminal Squadron Reunion Dinner

Hi All,

This is a mixed function so please bring your partners along

If you have any past unit photos that you would like included in the slide show please send them to me at **10 Pomona Rd Empire Bay NSW 2257**. Scanned pictures burned onto a CD would be ideal (and save a lot of scanning at this end) but if you don't have the facilities just send the photos.

If you do send photographs could you please include a stamped self-addressed return envelope. This will ensure their return and help us to reduce costs.

For any further information please Email ([bobsmith@idl.com.au](mailto:bobsmith@idl.com.au)) or call (H)02 4363 1898 (W)02 43258579

Kind Regards,  
Bob Smith



## 33 Terminal Squadron RACT Reunion Dinner

Saturday 6 Nov 2004  
7 pm for 7:30pm

Gosford RSL Club, West Gosford

**\$35.00 per Head**  
**3 Course Carvery Meal**  
Drinks at bar prices

Please send payment with bookings

If required, accommodation may be available on site at RSL Galaxy Motel  
Ph: 4323 1711 but book early as this is a busy time of the year

**Please Return this Section with payment**  
**Don't Delay - Book Now! (bookings must be made prior to 6 Oct 04)**  
**33 Terminal Squadron Reunion Dinner 6 Nov 04**

Name..... Partners Name.....

Address..... Phone.....

Please Tick One  I will Be Attending (\$35)  
 My Partner & I will be Attending (\$70)

I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ and will see you on the night  
Make cheques payable to: **33 Terminal Squadron**

Send to: **Bob Smith, 10 Pomona Road, Empire Bay 2257**  
For further info Ph: (H) 02 4363 1898 (W) 02 4325 8579  
Email [bobsmith@idl.com.au](mailto:bobsmith@idl.com.au)

## 40th Anniversary Dinner of our Borneo Deployment 1964

**W**hen two or three Sappers gather for a beer anything is possible. Whilst sharing a cleansing ale at Coopernook, Geoff Freeland and Robbie Robinson conceived the idea of a gathering of crew members to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our deployment to Borneo in 1964. The idea quickly took on momentum when the CO/CI SME, Lt Col David Luhrs offered the facilities of the School of Military Engineering for a three day gathering. The successful reunification of two LSM crews, some of whom only did the one trip has now passed into history. It is fitting to recall the welcome of RSM Russ Parrish who created and maintained the wonderful feeling of being completely at home in the "Home of the Sappers". The mutual respect of Sappers was self evident and enhanced this magnificent occasion, which could not have been successful without the hospitality of the Officers and Senior NCOs messes, the Museum and Garrison Chapel staff, the Transport WO and John Pendergast. Their hospitality had to be experienced to be believed. We wish to acknowledge the generous donations from Mick Parkes and John Leishman who could not attend but did not wish to see their shipmates thirsty. Thanks to 32 Small Ship Sqn RAE Association for their donations and the loan of the banner. We appreciated the message from the Minister for Veteran's Affairs and the DVA donation under the "Saluting their Service" grants but their real contribution was in contacting former crew members who had "disappeared". There were a surprising number of anonymous donations, which really helped in keeping cost to the minimum. A special thanks to our generous unidentified donors.

Lt Col Mike Heal , OAM, our longest serving Skipper and Master of *Vernon Sturdee* in Borneo occupied the chair as Dining President. Highly respected Mike was Master of *Vernon Sturdee* four years earlier on her delivery voyage from Japan. A loud cheer arose when the Australian War Memorial video screened showing a very young Captain Heal on the Bridge of *Vernon Sturdee* in Borneo. Messages read at the dinner from the Governor General, the Head of Corps RAE, and President Ocka, are included for your pleasure and deserve reading. Brigadier P.J. Greville, CBE, BE, who was Director Transportation during our deployment, delivered an enlightened address, a message for all LSMers and well worth a read. The Brigadier and June travelled from Brisbane only days before his scheduled surgery. We all wish him well for a speedy recovery. I saw nothing but smiles, encouragement and good fellowship the entire time we were together although some were moved to tears on more than one occasion. In the case of **Blue Atkinson** it was due to dislocated fingers which will be long remembered by SME Duty Officer Lt. Ellison, who conveyed us first to the Military Hospital and then to Liverpool Hospital in the early hours of Friday morning. Of course Blue soldiered on. A moving and fitting Memorial Service on Saturday concluded our activities. Conducted by Chaplain Aitken with prayers read by Les Hockings and Jack Peel, our departed comrades were honoured by Lt Col Mike Heal, OAM.

I hope you have enjoyed sharing our reunion. For our mates who are ill or infirm, your contribution is not forgotten; our thoughts and prayers are with you. War service is not necessarily the criteria in my opinion for reunification, as each sea going voyage was unique and as members of the RAE Tn Service, we all have much to be proud of, as we discovered at SME. Today's Sappers are interested and hold us in high regard and as we grow older and bolder the importance of such gatherings can not be underestimated.

God bless you all.

**Jack Peel ( fitter engines & pumps Harry Chauvel 1964 )**

**Passing through Morpeth in the Hunter Valley ?  
Drop in and say Hi ! to Charles Watson at the  
Morpeth RSL.**



His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd)  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

As a former infantryman and now Commander-in-Chief of the Australian Defence Force, I am delighted to extend my best wishes to everyone taking part in the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion of the Army Engineer Deployment to Borneo in 1964.

The contribution of the sappers during Indonesian Confrontation is not widely known, but was nonetheless significant. In particular the contribution of the Army Vessels; *AV 1353 Harry Chauvel* and *AV 1355 Vernon Sturdee*, the Landing Ships Medium of 32 Small Ship Squadron Royal Australian Engineers, and the professionalism with which they provided a beach landing capability and logistics support was invaluable to the overall campaign effort.

Your service was suitably acknowledged with the award of the British General Service Medal 1962 with the clasp, 'Borneo'. I congratulate you on the way you lived up to your unit motto *JAMIS ETRE REMORQUE* (never to be towed).

I extend a warm welcome to those sappers who have travelled from many parts of Australia to be here for the reunion; in particular former crew members of 2 and 3 Troop, 32 Small Ship Squadron RAE and former members of the RAN minesweeper escort to the sappers. The fact that some have come from as far away as Darwin indicates the ongoing sense of camaraderie and operational commitment of our sappers, not just to the Borneo campaign but to many conflicts before and since.

I acknowledge with pleasure the attendance of Brigadier P.J. Greville, CBE who played a key role as Director of Transportation during the Borneo deployment, as well as Lieutenant Colonel M.G. Heal, OAM, the Troop Commander and Master of *Vernon Sturdee*.

I commend the Reunion Committee on their dedication and for the excellent work they have done to coordinate your activities and for bringing together twenty-one of sixty-one former crew members to mark your 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Marlena and I trust that you have enjoyed the reunion thus far and will continue to enjoy the hospitality extended by the members of the RAE Sergeants Mess tonight during the dinner.

Congratulations to you all and every good wish for the future.

**(Michael Jeffery)**





A message from Colonel Bill Sowry  
Land Commander Engineers  
Head of Corps Royal Australian Engineers



**Dining President, Lt Col Heal, Guests of Honour Brigadier and Mrs Greville, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure as Head of Corps Royal Australian Engineers to send this message of congratulations to you on this important day.**

**This day 40 years ago, 2 and 3 Troop, (AV1353 Harry Chauvel and AV1355 Vernon Sturdee), of 32 Small Ship Squadron RAE, are between Tawau, North Borneo and Wewak, Papua New Guinea, returning home from Operation Granite.**

**I can only imagine how proud Jimmy Wilson (OC 32 Small Ship Sqn) would be feeling. Not only did you successfully Transport and put ashore The Engineer Field Squadron Group in North Borneo, without the loss of men or equipment (except the generator on Harry Chauvel), but also survived claims of insubordination and mutiny by our own navy.**

**The history books may not publicly reflect the contribution that you made as part of the Indonesian Confrontation, but that's what we Sappers have always prided ourselves on –The job done, with minimal fuss and only those that know, count. History will later show that your distinguished service was not only for your ship-to-shore operations, but for the tactical mobility that you brought to the Army in Vietnam.**

**For you and other men who served in the Squadron, your motto *Jamais etre Remorque* (Never to be Towed) and the RAE motto *Ubique* (Everywhere) reflect the way in which you successfully performed your tasks as part of our corps history.**

**On behalf of the Corps, as you gather here tonight may I wish you all the very best for an enjoyable evening. May I also express our thanks for providing us with a very colourful part of our Corps history.**

**No doubt after forty years the lies are getting bigger, perhaps the beer is a bit colder and as friends you are greyer and bolder but you remain Sappers one and all and for that we are grateful.**

**Congratulations and I wish you all the best for the future.**



## Speech by Brigadier Greville, CBE

TO 40TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE DEPLOYMENT OF 7 FD  
SQN GP TO BORNEO BY SUBUNITS OF 32 SSS

COLONEL HEAL, COLONEL LUHRS, RSM PARISH, MR AND MRS PENDERGAST LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. IT WAS VERY KIND OF YOU TO INVITE JUNE AND ME TO PARTAKE IN THIS CELEBRATION OF YOUR DEEDS OF FORTY YEARS AGO. I CONGRATULATE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ITS ORGANISATION, INCLUDING JACK PEEL.

I AM REMINDED OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE FRONT OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF LIAISON LETTER NO 56 OF 1 AUGUST 1964. IT SHOWS THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF, BRIGADIER EDDIE LOGAN AND ME AS DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION PAYING A VISIT TO VERNON STURDEE BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE ON 5 MAY THAT YEAR. I AM NOT SURE IF EDDIE IS STILL ALIVE, BUT THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM, HE HAD JUST HAD A SECOND LEG AMPUTATED, BUT HE WAS STILL HIS CHEERFUL AND, MAY I SAY, DANGEROUS SELF.

40 YEARS AGO HE ADDRESSED THE MEMBERS OF 32 SMALL SHIP SQUADRON AND 1 TERMINAL GROUP, STATING I AM IMPRESSED WITH THE WAY IN WHICH YOU HAVE PREPARED YOURSELVES, YOUR EQUIPMENT AND YOUR SHIPS FOR THE TASK.

YOU HAVE SHOWN IN THE PAST THAT YOU CAN DO YOUR JOB WELL AT SHORT NOTICE. YOU HAVE A LONG AND ARDUOUS VOYAGE BEFORE YOU IN WHICH I HOPE THERE WILL BE MANY COMPENSATIONS FOR THE HARD WORK AND SEPARATION FROM FAMILIES THAT IT INVOLVES."

HE CONCLUDED BY WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE VOYAGE THERE AND AN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE PERIOD IN THE AREA AS WELL AS A HAPPY RETURN.

FOR MY PART I HAD GREAT FAITH IN THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER, JIMMY WILSON, AND THE MASTERS OF THE TWO SMALL SHIPS HARRY CHAUVELL AND VERNON STURDEE AND THEIR CREWS, AS WELL AS THE MEMBERS OF 30 TERMINAL SQUADRON WHO ACCOMPANIED YOU.

IN THE FOUR AND A HALF YEARS IN WHICH I WAS DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION, YOU AND YOUR SHIPS NEVER LET THE SIDE DOWN, DESPITE SOME INCREDIBLE DIFFICULTIES SUCH AS POORLY MAINTAINED SHIPS AND MANNING DIFFICULTIES. I REMEMBER ONE OFFICER JOINING ONE OF THE TWO SHIPS NOT LONG BEFORE SAILING STILL IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING WITH HIS FIRST ISSUE OF UNIFORM CLUTCHED UNDER ONE ARM. HIS CHEERFUL MEIN A COMFORT FOR ME, BUT NOT FOR THE LATE ADMIRAL BECHER, WHO WAS UNIMPRESSED BY MANY FEATURES OF THE PREPARADNESS OF THE SHIPS, WHICH WERE TO COME UNDER HIS OPERATIONAL CONTROL ONCE CLEARING THE WHARF.

I DO NOT THINK HE, UNDERSTOOD THE DIFFICULTIES IN LOADING SUCH AN AWKWARD CARGO AND ITS SUBSEQUENT SECURING FOR A LONG SEA VOYAGE. LITTLE JIMMY WILSON WAS QUITE PATIENT WITH HIM AT FIRST, BUT EVENTUALLY LOST HIS COOL AND DRAWING HIMSELF UP TO HIS FULL HEIGHT OF 5 FEET SOMETHING, POINTED HIS FINGER AT THE ADMIRAL'S NOSE AND SAID WORDS TO THIS EFFECT

"ADMIRAL I RESPECT YOUR VIEWS ON MILITARY MATTERS BUT WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN TO SEA AS MANY YEARS AS I HAVE BEEN MASTER OF A SHIP AT SEA IN WAR AND PEACE, I WILL REPECT YOUR VIEWS ON MY SHIPS AND CREWS."

THEY WERE INTERESTING DAYS. THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT SOME GENERALS OVERLY IMPRESSED WITH WHITE CLAD SAILORS LINING

THE DECKS OF WAR SHIPS, WITH BELLS RINGING AND WHISTLES BLOWING WERE NOT SO IMPRESSED WITH CREWS IN WORKING CLOTHES GOING ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS IN A PROSAIC FASHION. NOR DID THEY UNDERSTAND THE PRESSURES THEY PLACED ON 32 SMALL SHIP SQUADRON BY NOT PROVIDING THE MANPOWER TO FULLY CREW EACH SHIP.

THERE WERE SIGNS THAT THEY HAD BEGUN TO APPRECIATE THE FLEXIBILITY AND BARGAINING POWER PROVIDED THEM BY THE LSM IN VIETNAM. ONE SUCH GENERAL KEN MACKAY RECENTLY DECEASED, WAS MOVED TO SEND A MESSAGE TO THE E IN C ON THE RETURN OF VERNON STURDEE FROM ITS FIRST TOUR OF VIETNAM STATED, "I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW WHAT A MAGNIFICANT JOB LSM VERNON STURDEE HAS DONE DURING ITS TOUR OF DUTY HERE. THE CREW WORKED VERY HARD OVER LONG HOURS AND WE GOT MORE VALUE OUT OF LSM THAN WE THOUGHT POSSIBLE".

THIS 'MORE VALUE' REFERRED TO, STEMMED FROM THE FACT THAT THE AUSTRALIAN FORCES IN VIETNAM WAS FORCED TO BEG FROM THE AMERICANS THE SUPPORT SERVICES THAT MACKAY IN HIS PLANNING FOR VIETNAM FAILED TO PROVIDE. ONE OF THE ONLY SERVICES HE COULD SUPPLY TO THE US FORCES IN RETURN WERE THOSE OF THE LSM.

AS I LOOK AROUND THE ROOM, I AM REMINDED OF OTHER EPIC JOURNEYS, SUCH AS THAT OF WALLY BLUMENFELD AND THE CREW OF BRUDENELL WHITE TRAVELLING 350 MILES UP THE SEPIK RIVER TO ITS JUNCTION WITH THE MAY RIVER. A PIONEERING VOYAGE IN SUPPORT OF SURVEYING THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN PNG AND IRYAN JAYA.

HOWEVER WHEN IT CAME TO THE PINCH AT THE END OF THE VIETNAM

WAR, NEITHER MACKAY NOR OTHER SENIOR RANKS FOUGHT TO RETAIN THE SEA GOING CAPABILITY THAT YOU AND I KNOW WILL BE NEEDED SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE. THE CURRENT SQUABBLE OVER WHETHER TO GIVE NAVY TWO LARGE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS OR FOUR

SMALLER ONES TO REPLACE THE TWO AGEING LST, FOR THE SMALL PRICE OF 5900M MUST AMUSE YOU. YOU CAN BE PROUD THAT DESPITE SO MANY DIFFICULTIES NOT ONLY DID YOU MAINTAIN THAT SUPPORT CAPABILITY YOU DEMONSTRATED HOW USEFUL IT COULD BE, IN PEACE AROUND PNG AND AUSTRALIA, BUT ALSO IN WAR IN BORNEO AND THEN IN VIETNAM.

I AM CERTAINLY PROUD OF YOUR DEEDS. I AM PROUD TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH YOU IN WAR AND IN PEACE. TIME OF COURSE HAS REDUCED YOUR NUMBERS, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE GIVEN MESSAGE TO NOT ONLY YOU WHO COULD GET HERE TO THIS CELEBRATION, BUT TO THE MANY WHO COULD NOT FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS AND WITH YOUR DINING PRESIDENTS APPROVAL, I WISH TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED THIS MORTAL COIL AND TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT MAKE IT HERE TONIGHT. FOR OTHER REASONS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN ABSENT FRIENDS



**At the Anniversary Dinner Official Guests and Dining President ( seated )  
LSM crews ( except for the ladies and Les Hockings son ) standing.**



**Gathering outside the RAE Chapel at SME.**



**Brig. Greville, CBE addresses the 40th Anniversary Dinner**



**Lt. Col. Mike Heal, OAM addresses the Dinner**



**Peter Morgan reads the Governor General's message**



**Peter Caskey reads greeting from The Minister of Veterans' Affairs with the approval of Helen Blumenfeld and Max Lockwood**



**Peter Atkinson reads a message from the President of 32 Small Ship Sqn RAE Assoc.**

**Arthur Jackson, Brian Standen and Jim McMahon enjoy a pre dinner drink.**



**The voyages of 2 and 3 troop 32 Small Ship Squadron RAE in the  
Malaysian and New Guinea waters during the Indonesian Confrontation  
of 1964.**

**Army Landing Ship Medium AV1353 Harry Chauvel**

DEPART	DATE	ARRIVE	DEPART	Approx Nmiles
Sydney	5th May	Manus Island	16th May	2073
Manus Island	17th May	Labuan	25th May	1890
Labuan	30th May	Jesselton	25th May	66
Jesselton	13th June	Labuan	14th June	66
Labuan	14th June	Singapore	17th June	742
Singapore	27th June	Labuan	30th June	742
Labuan	30th June	Jesselton	30th June	66
Jesselton	1st July	Sandakan	2nd July	182
Sandakan	9th July	Tawau	10th July	219
Tawau	13th July	Wewak	19th July	1560
Wewak	20th July	Port Moresby	24th July	977
Port Moresby	25th July	Herron Island	30th July	1015
Herron Island	30th July	Tin Can Bay	31st July	196
Tin Can Bay	31st July	Brisbane	1st August	106
Brisbane	1st August	Sydney	3rd August	464

Total Nmiles 10364

**Army Landing Ship Medium AV1355 Vernon Sturdee**

DEPART	DATE	ARRIVE	DEPART	Approx Nmiles
Sydney	5th May	Manus Island	16th May	2073
Manus Island	17th May	Labuan	25th May	1890
Labuan	28th May	Brunei	28th May	29
Brunei	30th May	Jesselton		93
Jesselton	5th June	Singapore	8th June	791
Singapore	13th June	Butterworth		359
Butterworth	18th June	Singapore	19th June	359
Singapore	30th June	Kuching		420
Kuching	9th July	Tawau	12th July	841
Tawau	13th July	Wewak		1560
Wewak	20th July	Rabual	22nd July	523

Total Nmiles 8938

Log book details are illegible from 22nd July onwards.

# Crew Lists for Borneo Deployment 1964

## 2 Troop 32 Small Ship Sqn.

### AV 1353 HARRY CHAUVEL

## 3 Troop 32 Small Ship Sqn.

### AV 1355 VERNON STURDEE

Appointment	Name	Rank	Appointment	Name	Rank
<b>Master</b>	J.S. Wilson	Major	<b>Master</b>	M.G. Heal	Captain
<b>Trainee Master</b>	W.A. Blumenfeld	Captain	<b>Trainee Master</b>	P. O'connor	Captain
<b>Chief Engineer</b>	I.R.M. McLean	Lieutenant	<b>Chief Engineer</b>	M. Lockwood	Lieutenant
<b>1st Mate</b>	P. Morgan	Lieutenant	<b>1st Mate</b>	P. Caskey	Lieutenant
<b>2nd Mate</b>	K. Maggs	WO1	<b>2nd Mate</b>	D. Iffla	WO1
<b>2nd Engineer</b>	J.R. Campbell	WO2	<b>2nd Engineer</b>	L. Hockings	WO1
<b>SQMS</b>	J. Pioli	Ssgt	<b>SQMS</b>	J. Bradford	SSgt
<b>3rd Mate</b>	J.A. Kerr	WO2	<b>3rd Mate</b>	J. McMahan	Sgt
<b>3rd Engineer</b>	A.O. Burrows	Sgt	<b>3rd Engineer</b>	K. Doig	Sgt
<b>4th Engineer</b>	E.D. Mercer	Cpl	<b>4th Engineer</b>	B. Wilcock	Sgt
<b>Medical Orderly</b>	D.W. Blackford	Sgt	<b>Medical Orderly</b>	B. Broad	Sgt
<b>Bosun</b>	H.R. Parkes	Cpl	<b>Bosun</b>	D. Flanigan	Sgt
<b>1st Signalman</b>	B.J. Borland	Sgt	<b>1st Signalman</b>	A. D. A. Knight	Sgt
<b>1st Cook</b>	L.L. Donaghey	Pte	<b>1st Cook</b>	K.D. Johnsen	Cpl
<b>Storeman Tech.</b>	D.A. Kerr	Sgt	<b>Storeman Tech.</b>	W.B. Gallagher	Cpl
<b>Elect. Con Eqt.</b>	T. Evans	Cfn	<b>Elect. Con Eqt.</b>	Morton	Cpl
<b>Clerk</b>	T.M. Payne	Spr	<b>Clerk</b>	A. Jackson	Cpl
<b>Seaman</b>	J.V. Gadd	Cpl	<b>Seaman</b>	Hese	Cpl
	J.B. Lawson	Cpl		C. Crassweller	Cpl
	R.J. Gunn	LCpl		M. Flyn	Cpl
	P.H. Allen	L Cpl		Ray	L Cpl
	A.J. Rix	Spr		E. Joseph	Spr
	G.J. Freeland	Spr		E. Hubbard	Spr
	R.L. Modystack	Spr		V. Fitzsimmons	Spr
	T.D. Quinlan	Spr		J. Leishman	Spr
	G. Reynolds	Spr		R. Fewster	Spr
	R.W. Robinson	Spr		Evans	Spr
	D.P. Minogue	Spr		Williams	Spr
	J.M. Nightingale	Spr		C.C. Blazely	Spr
<b>Craft Engineer</b>	J. Oliver	LCpl	<b>Craft Engineer</b>	Gustafson	Spr
	A.G. Sullivan	Spr		M. Lock	Spr
	I.D. Graham	Spr		K.D. Brown	LCpl
<b>Fitters E&amp;P</b>	J.R. Peel	Spr	<b>Fitters E&amp;P</b>	P.E. Akinson	Spr
	A.D. van Leeuwen	Spr		B.J. Newton	Spr
	C.C. Dunlop	Spr		A. van Arkel	Spr
<b>1st Electrician</b>	T. Upson	Cpl	<b>1st Electrician</b>	T.J. Hughes	Spr
<b>2nd Electrician</b>	B.J. Standen	LCpl	<b>2nd Electrician</b>	I. Shanks	Spr
<b>2nd Signalman</b>	F.H. Thom	Cpl	<b>2nd Signalman</b>	L. Johnson	Sig
<b>2nd Cook</b>	W.R. Irvine	Pte	<b>2nd Cook</b>	S. McLean	Pte
<b>Welder</b>	J. Murley	Spr	<b>Steward</b>	M.O'Keefe	Spr

Harry Chauvel with Vernon Sturdee ( line astern )



Minesweeper HMAS Hawk delivers mail enroute to Borneo



L to R  
Bosun  
Mick Parkes,  
Joe Joseph,  
Bob Modystack,  
Nobby Graham,  
unknown, ?  
also unknown  
and Bob Gunn

### ATTENTION !!!!

Any member who receives their Notice To Mariners by email and would also like a hard copy please contact Ocka Murray to be placed on the mailing list.  
Back copies are also available.  
Changed your email address ?  
Let Ross McMurray know.

### Disclaimer

Thoughts expressed in this newsletter are those held by the writers and contributors and are NOT necessarily those of the editor or the Association Committee or members.

## Committee Members

This committee of the Association meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Hunters Hill R.S.L. Memorial Hall at 8 pm.

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### Property for Sale

Ties.....	\$18.00	LSM Badge.....	\$12.00
32 Small Ship Sqn. Book.....	\$30.00	Collar Badges.....	\$6.00
Assc. Aniversary Plaque.....	\$25.00	Flag Army Afloat.....	\$50.00
Assc. Patches.....	\$8.00	Ass. Caps (navy).....	\$12.00
LSM Badges .....	\$12.00	Assc. Polo Shirts, White, Red And Navy To Order.	\$25.00

Contact Ken Shannon 02 9871 4667





**Yours AYE ! Jack Peel**