

BAYSIDE BUZZ

Bayside Sub-Section
June 2020 – December 2020
Editor: Col Saxby



Welcome to Edition 8 of the Bayside Buzz

Goodday all as we head into February 2021.

In this edition I will cover the period June-December 2020 and include functions, news, and points of interest from members participation and upcoming events and proposed activities (maybe) for 2021.

Life goes on under Covid19 restrictions including the occasional lock down, and border closes etc. and is feeling like the norm now as we approach the 12-month anniversary.

Noting the above as such if you do require help, assistance or just someone to have a chat to please use our executive committee and wellbeing officers offer of assistance and where we can we are here to help. We hope that you and your family stay safe.

Despite the restrictions imposed by Covid19 our Bayside Sub-section membership has increased during 2020 and the meetings, functions, catch ups that were conducted in accordance with Covid safe requirements were well patronized.

A big thanks to those that have contributed to this edition however still looking for anything interesting (or not) for inclusion as your stories are sure to be of interest to someone in our association.

Congratulations Jim and Sue Cairns - 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Jim and Sue Kearns celebrated their golden wedding anniversary under covid lock-down conditions at the Colmslie Hotel, Cannon Hill on 27th June. Jim and Sue were married on 27th June 1970 in the medieval East Sussex town of Battle so named after the famous Battle of Hastings of 1066 which took place but a stone's throw from the very registry office where

they tied the knot all those years ago. Thereafter, unlike the Battle of Hastings, it was fifty years of marital bliss and happiness.



So here we are on Brisbane lock down on our 50th golden wedding anniversary and obeying all the social distance rules but we had a really great time. *Sue and Jim*



Q: How do you keep your husband from reading your e-mail?

A: Rename the email folder 'Instruction Manuals'

History HMAS Jeparit - 50 years ago

09 June 1970

HMAS JEPARIT arrived at Vung Tau with supplies for 7 RAR, and support forces.



Females at Sea

30 May 1990

The Minister of Defence, The Honourable G. N. Bilney, announced that female members of the RAN were now able to serve in all Australian warships, except for submarines.

Within 10 years, even this restriction would be lifted so that women could serve in any RAN warship.



Recently, as part of our COVID-19 support, a desktop review was conducted to examine the current financial health of Sub Branches.

Thanks to all members who worked with their District President to participate in this process – it was an important first step in identifying the challenges that exist and understanding how we can best support Sub Branches to thrive into the future.

Another vital step in improving Sub Branch support has been establishing the Membership and Network team, headed up by General Manager Lisa McIlroy. Over the next six months, this team will continue analysing the situation and developing resources to address the current and emerging challenges facing our Sub branches. We will continue to keep you updated as this work unfolds.

Members dining out night

Top in Town Indian restaurant, food was great, and a good night where a group of members got together for a meal and catchup well done all.



FIRST STEP TO IMPROVING SUBBRANCH SUPPORT

One of the goals of RSL Queensland's 2025 Strategy is to grow our membership and ensure our Subbranch network's financial sustainability.



Happy Birthday Ken Fuller - turns 99

KENNETH. E. FULLER, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

This year marks the 99th birthday of Ken Fuller the most senior member of the Bayside Naval Association of Australia and a proud member of Cleveland RSL. The Presidents and members of both organisations join in offering warmest congratulations on achieving such a notable life milestone.

Ken Fuller was born in the Great Depression on 18 August 1921 in Gladesville, NSW. He attended Petersham Primary before going on to Trinity Grammar. He was a physically active scholar with a gift for music, especially the pianoforte which culminated in him becoming an Associate of the Royal London College of Music.

On completion of schooling Ken worked for the Breville and Escada companies in the communications field and with Australian Telephone and Cables. He later worked with NSW Railways as a clerk while learning shorthand and typing and attended Charters Business School to study accounting.

After the outbreak of WW2, Ken's early attempts to join the Australian Air Force were regularly thwarted by his proud and caring mother. Ken's pressure ultimately caused Mrs. Fuller to give way and she agreed to let Ken enlist for the war if he joined the Navy and if he did not get a job with one of those silly round hats.

Ken proudly joined the RAN on 30 December 1940 at HMAS Rushcutter as a Writer (without that round hat). He worked in the recruiting office at Rushcutter for twelve months, during which time he and Irene were married. After persistently complaining about not being sent to sea he was drafted to Cerberus for a crash training course that ultimately lasted for only five days and consisted solely of his swimming test.

On completion of his Cerberus training, he was sent to Garden Island to work in the Pay Office but remained restless to go to sea and fight for Australia. Such an opportunity arose when HMAS Australia berthed at Garden Island. Ken was drafted to Australia on 15 February 1943, serving initially in the Captains Office. The ship was operationally active and commenced patrols along multiple East Coast anchorages. Australia then sailed South and West to escort the Queen Mary, Ile de France and New Amsterdam returning the Ninth Division to Australia in February 1943. Ken Fuller now an integral part of the crew of HMAS Australia.

His ship returned to the East Coast and continued patrolling. Soon afterwards Ken suffered acute appendicitis onboard. The offending part was removed, and he was sent to Sydney to recover. Health restored; Ken transited on the



Members enjoy a drink with Ken to celebrate



Warramunga to re-join Australia off the east coast for operational patrols stretching from Port Moresby across to the Solomon Islands where large scale Japanese landings by towed barges were being reported. Australia conducted searches in company with Hobart and squadron destroyers. The barges were not located but Hobart returned with a large hole from a submarine launched torpedo.

Ken then transferred across the passageway to the office of the commander of the Australian Squadron, at that time Rear Admiral Victor Crutchley VC. DSC. RN and was promoted to Leading Writer on 1 October 1943.

The war progressed and Australia was dispatched to carry out a heavy bombardment on Cape Gloucester to create allied space in the approaches to New Britain before moving on to the Admiralty Islands. Here the entrances to Seeadler Harbour were heavily fortified. Following a two-to-three-hour bombardment by Australian and USN ships the island was invaded and taken. Australia then went on to support the Allied Army in New Guinea where the Japanese were actively retreating. This included the over the mountain bombardment of Hollandia (now the Papuan provincial capital of Jayapura) in April 1944.

Mission again accomplished Australia was tasked to attack the island of Biak on 27 May 1944, as part of MacArthur's grand plan to retake the Philippines. While bombarding and patrolling off Biak, Australia came under heavy aerial attack and endured torpedo attacks during the night, while the Japanese continued to land via barges out of Borneo.

On 13 June, Commodore John Collins, CB became the first RAN officer to command the Australian Squadron. Ken continued to serve on the Squadron Commanders staff in operations in Australia off Northern New Guinea and in the same area in HMS Shropshire while Australia was in refit. Commodore Collins and his staff returned to Australia on 3 September and the ship led our national contribution to the force of some 600 allied ships assembled for the invasion of Leyte Island. Australia bombarded the Japanese shore defences particularly the airfield, with great effect.

At dawn on 21 October 1944 the ships weighed anchor at Leyte Gulf and shortly after a small squadron of VAL Japanese bombers attacked the Fleet. Ken Fuller was at his action station between the Compass Platform and the Starboard lookout position, as the action recorder, messenger, and writer for Commodore Collins. Most of the aircraft were hit and destroyed but one lone plane, already on fire, powered towards Australia and struck the main mast aft of the bridge. The resultant fuel fire from the plane's tanks killed or seriously wounded many of Australia's Bridge

crew. Thirty crew including Australia's Captain, Emile Dechaineux, were killed and 59 were seriously wounded. Amongst the wounded were Commodore Collins and Leading Writer Ken Fuller who had received significant fuel burns to the left side of his body.

Australia limped back to the Admiralty Islands and the wounded were landed on Manus Island for care in a USN hospital. After a week they were then transported to Sydney on the USS Calamares to be re-united with their families.

Ken was posted to HMAS Penguin while he recovered and then re-joined the Squadron Commander's staff ashore, being posted to HMAS Kuttabul until he was discharged from Rushcutter on 7 March 1946. He then worked in the retail clothing industry and was a successful business owner.

Ken retained his enthusiasm for active sports and attributes his longevity and good health to violent exercise and expanding his lungs. He had a great love for squash and tennis and won the NSW North Coast squash final at the age of fifty.

Ever mindful of his previous desire to join the RAAF, Ken went on to gain his own pilot's licence and took much pride in owning his own light aircraft for many years.

Now in his late nineties Ken continues with his love of fishing and is ever eager to expand and embellish on his success with the rod and reel.



My doctor said now that I'm older
I need to install a bar in the shower

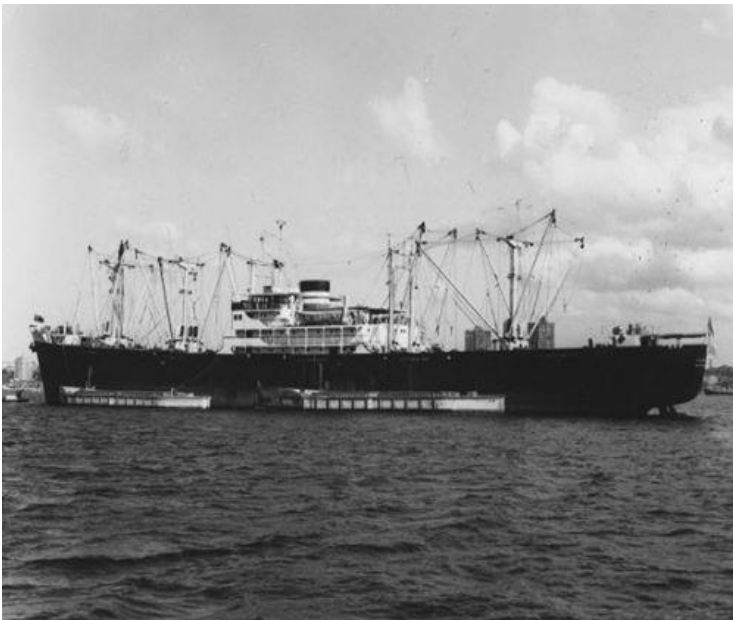


History

HMAS Boonaroo

The First RAN ship to commission under the new
Australian White Ensign

On Wednesday 1 March 1967 HMAS Boonaroo (ammunition supply ship) was the first ship of the Royal Australian Navy to commission under the new Australian White Ensign. On the 8 May 1967 HMAS BOONAROO was paid off and returned to her owners.



Captain Cook Graving Dock

21 May 1940 the Australian Government approved the building of the Captain Cook Graving Dock between Potts Point and Garden Island Navy Base, Sydney.



Long Service Medals 29 May 1980

Queen Elizabeth II approved three new long service medals, (15 years' service), for members of the Australian Defence Force.

These were.

- the Defence Force Service Medal, (DFSM), for all regular personnel regardless of rank.
- the Reserve Force Decoration, (RFD), for Reserve Force officers only; and
- the Reserve Force Medal, (RFM), for all other Reserve Force personnel.

The first medals were issued in 1982, and replaced the National Medal, which had been the ADF Long Service Medal from 1975 until 1982.

The DFSM, RFD, and RFM, were themselves replaced in 1999-2000 by the Defence Long Service Medal, (DLSM), which was for both regular and reserve personnel who had completed 15 years' service.



October Meeting - Redlands Museum

The October meeting was held at the Redlands Museum under a Covid Safe Plan. This was our first formal meeting since the March meeting. During the meeting apart from normal business several Badge presentations and awards were made, the award to our sub-section for most new members during 2020 and Noel Chidgey was also presented with his 15-year service award. A BBQ lunch and refreshments were enjoyed following the meeting.

Ray Sanford, Jo Lambert and Glenn Williams with the Shield



Noel Chidgey and Mr Vice, Ian Cuthbertson



Thanks for a great Steak Mick Hamilton



A pleasant Saturday afternoon Just enjoying a Steak sanga and a beer



Members out and about

The Cuthbertson's and the Cairns

Ian, Kay, Jim, and Sue hit the historical trail enjoying a visit to the Caboolture Historical Village and a few beers at the Dayboro Pub.

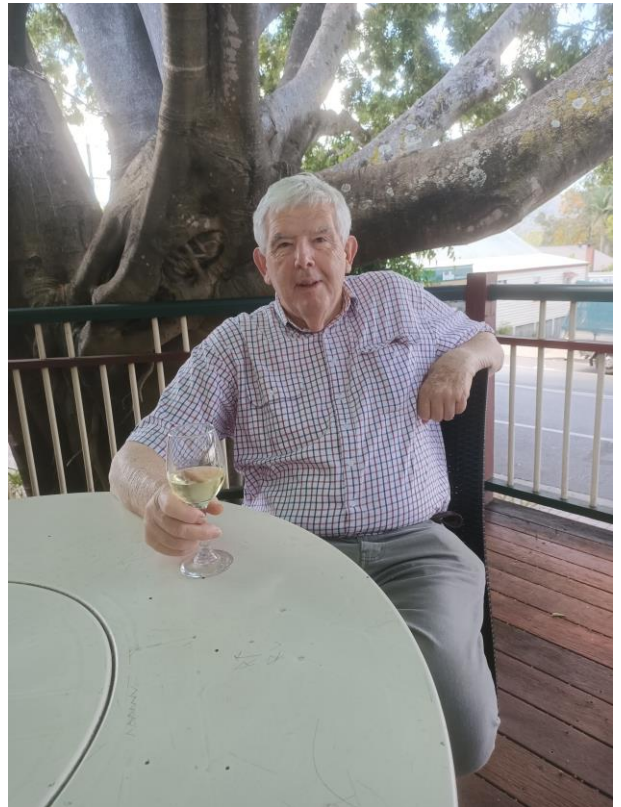
**Ian (temporary) behind bars
if only, an opportunity missed here**



Kay in her Ned Kelly disguise



Jim Cairns relaxes with a nice glass of white wine



**That is just before he has been told there is no
desert, he is about to Karate this table**



Sue and Kay, enjoy another beer



being successful with the grant application. Following our sausage sanga across the road a few of the male contingent headed to the RSL dining room with the expectation of expending the left-over dollars from the ladies' lunch only to discover there were none. All good reports from the luncheon.

December Meeting and Christmas Party Redlands Memorial Hall Cleveland

12 December saw a quick formal meeting followed by an enjoyable Christmas Party by all accounts. The function was conducted at the Redlands Memorial Hall to comply with Covid safe requirements. Well done all, especially to the organisers and those that helped. The Christmas tree, the decorations and Christmas attire all adding to once again a successful end of year celebration.

Bayside lovely ladies



The Lamberts and the Evans

Rod, Jo, Evan and Del managed to catch up a couple of times during their travels around the Queensland outback last year. Rod looks like he is ready to eat this burger by himself, Evan is thinking OMG.



Bayside the old and bold below



November Meeting - Redlands RSL Museum

The November meeting was a split location affair where our male members met in the RSL Museum meeting room and the Lady members were treated to a free lunch in the RSL dining room. The lunch came from a \$750 DVA grant in support of Veterans Health Week. Well done Rod Lambert

Sylvia and Carolina looking good and having a good time



NAA Bayside Sub-section AGM February 6, 2021 RSL and then lunch at the Museum

The AGM will be conducted 6 February 2021. For information, our current Office bearers are:

- **President:** *Graham Hargreaves.*
- **Vice President 1:** *Ian Cuthbertson*
- **Vice President 2:** *Chris McKay*
- **Secretary:** *Rod Lambert*
- **Membership Officer:** *Jo Lambert*
- **Treasurer:** *Col Saxby*

You need to be financial to vote

They found it Ian, Davey Jones Locker



Tables set up to comply with Covid Safe



Protect yourself against cyber-attacks

As you are likely aware, Australian organisations are being targeted by a sophisticated foreign cyber-attack. These attacks often target individuals, so remember these important steps to protect yourself:

1. Check the correctness of a person's email addresses - look for spelling errors, ensure the contact name matches the email name and whether the domain name looks wrong (e.g. microsoftsupport-info.biz).

2. Be vigilant when an email prompts you to click on a link or open an attachment. Check the URL by hovering your cursor over the hyperlink to check its origin. Do not open unknown attachments.
3. Never provide your personal information via email or unsolicited phone calls, or via a website you do not know or trust.
4. Never share your passwords.
5. If you have been a victim of a cybercrime, go to ReportCyber and report it.

Recipe by Ian Cuthbertson

PUSSERS Kai

Navy-style hot chocolate ('Kai') this recipe is enough for two people

1. Break a small bar of plain dark chocolate into pieces.
2. Place pieces in a saucepan with one mug of hot water (boiled from the kettle).
3. Heat up until the chocolate has melted.
4. Add one tin of condensed milk.
5. Bring to the boil and serve in mugs!

Shut your eyes and think of those freezing nights at sea after the middle watch standing on 1 deck aft trying to keep awake!

DATE CLAIMERS AND HEADS UP 2021

Please note, we are all hopeful our planned functions can go ahead in 2021. However, they are all subject to confirmation at the time pending the status of Covid19.

Ladies Lunch

Saturday July 3 – Redlands RSL

ANZAC Day

Sunday 25 April

Redlands RSL Service in Cleveland, and other Redlands sites, check your local club news for service times and details.

Bayside Dinning Inn Night

Saturday August 14 Redlands RSL

Remembrance Day

November 11

Redlands RSL Service in Cleveland, and other Redlands sites, check your local club news for service times and details.

Ballina All Ships Reunion

Friday 19 November to Sunday November 21

The current plan is to proceed with this year's function. As information becomes available it will be provided to members.

Bayside Christmas Party

Saturday 4 December

The December meeting and Christmas will be held on Saturday 4 December. Venue is yet to be decided. The Christmas party will follow the (short) meeting which commences at 1100.