

Royal Australian Navy Band Association



Quarterly Magazine. January to March 2022

2022 RANBA Ballina
Reunion

17th to the 19th of August

Details inside.



A magazine for association members and serving band members of the RAN

From the Editor's desk.

2021 will be a year that I will not miss at all and that also goes for 2020. I'm sure we all look forward to something normal for 2022

This magazine has been created from archived emails and memory to some extent. For those that were not up to date with where the mag has been, I lost my computer to a thunder storm the week before Christmas and have since then been trying to recover files from a backup disc that was also corrupted and my email service supplier in providing past emails.

Reliance on a PC becomes a stark reality when you are confronted with the dreaded black screen with a cursor flashing in the corner. The magazine is still our main information source for our association and you have been very patient in waiting for its release.

One of the other unfortunate things to happen was the loss of my email address book, another essential tool for keeping in touch. So, I would like you to take a minute and send me a confirmation email to

admin@ranbandassoc.net with your name and also your mobile. This will help me confirm you are back on my list.

So what has been happening within our association?. Looking at our online media, facebook and website, not a lot. Musically there is a definite return to band and ensemble playing. Here in Melbourne the open venue scene is improving with local and State run festivals returning. I have just completed a 3 week Music in the Park program in our local area that was sanctioned by the local council to get communities back into parks. The Star Wars concerts with the Casey Philharmonic orchestra, finally got the chance to perform after a 10 month delay at the incredible Rochford

Winery in the Yarra Glen here in Victoria. With more concerts next month, it is a welcome return.

Our reunion in August is even more exciting with restrictions being lifted further making it an event to look forward to. Inside we have updated information for you and now is the time to start making your decision to attend this long awaited reunion.

I had to update the executive listing below and felt that I was typing the same names into positions that have been doing it for years now. Fresh blood is vitally important to give an association like ours directions to satisfy new members to join. I would like you to think seriously about joining the team to take our association forward.

All positions will be open at the coming AGM and if you feel you have something to contribute please put your hand in the ring

After nearly 8 years of producing this mag even my creative juices are wavering and if you can provide a fresh feel, look and directions to our media outlets the position is also available.

Enjoy the read.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Errol.

Your Executive:

All Editorial to:

Att: Errol Hatch

RAN Band Association.

PO Box 69 Lynbrook. VIC 3975

Mobile: 0400 706 503

Email: admin@ranbandassoc.net

Bank: ANZ

BSB: 013232

Account No: 290164678

Account Name: Royal Australian Navy Band Association.

All Secretary Correspondence:

Attn: Ralph Daines.

1 Howell Ave, Port Maquarie.

NSW 2444

Phone: 0405 380 751

Email: xranband@bigpond.net.au

Your Executive and Committee

Association Patron:

Rear Admiral Mark Campbell (Rtd)

President:

Ralph Daines

Vice President:

John Widdicombe

Treasurer:

Ralph Daines, Errol Hatch

Committee:

Bill Farrell, Errol Hatch, Robert Bedwell

State Representatives:

NSW: Robert Bedwell

VIC: Terry Ekin

QLD: John Lennon (Rtd Secretary)

SA: Doug Drysdale (Rtd State Rep)

TAS: David Hardstaff

WA: Bill Farrell

RAN Veterans Band/Events Manager:

Ralph Daines

Registered Address:

Royal Australian Navy Band Association Inc;

1 Howell Ave, Port Maquarie. NSW 2444

Web: www.ranbandassoc.net

Our Financial Situation Continues to Grow Report by Assistant Treasurer Errol Hatch

The past 2 years has been disappointing in the social sense but with your commitment to paying subscriptions our bank balance continued to grow. Receipts for the last financial grew to be \$11,519.19 and with few outgoings apart from the mag, postage and fees this is a strong balance. This year we will have our long awaited reunion so deposits will be on the rise with outgoings for the event happening later in the year. The following graph gives you an insight to where it has come from and where it went for the 20/21 year.

Regards,

Errol.

Assistant Treasurer.



Royal Australian Navy Band Financials 2020/2021

Brought Forward:	ANZ	2020/2021	2019/2020
		\$8,449.47	\$7,005.01
Income			
Subscriptions		\$4,077.00	\$4,116.00
Donations		\$500.00	\$305.00
2020 Ballina Reunion Reunion		\$1,794.00	\$0.00
Merchandise		\$0.00	\$93.85
Vets Band (Inc Donations)		\$100.00	\$0.00
Sub Total			\$4,514.85
TOTAL		\$14,920.47	\$11,519.86
Expenses			
Bank Fees/Gov Corporates		\$682.83	\$403.00
Printing & Setup		\$1,715.70	\$1,279.59
Post		\$528.00	\$772.35
Stationery		\$224.75	\$171.85
Merch Purchases		\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer/Internet/Website		\$250.00	\$443.60
Veterans Band		\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$3,401.28	\$3,070.39
Closing Bank Balance		\$11,519.19	\$8,449.47
(Veterans Band Contribution)		\$4,548.47	\$4,448.47
Balance as of 30/6/2021		\$11,519.19	\$8,449.47



PRESIDENTS REPORT Ralph Daines



WOW, another year has gone by and nothing has happened, we haven't been anywhere but, another word has been added to the Dictionary, COVID. Let us put this all behind and start afresh with 2022. Ballina is back on in August, we can sit together and play music, we can visit aunt Mary and all the kids at one time, YIPPEE!

One thing that I noted with all the time to do nothing but look at Facebook etcetera and saw on a number of occasions, "Who Is Ralph?". Firstly I was a little miffed, but realized that a majority of our newer members wouldn't have a clue as I was long gone from NAVY when they were members, so I have put together a little of who Ralph was:

January 1962, I joined as a Junior Musician and spent 3 years in HMAS Cerberus at the School and Depot Band. 1965, I was at sea on HMAS Melbourne, 66/68 HMAS Albatross and 69/70, HMAS Melbourne, 1971, I would have preferred to sign on again but my future was not rosy so I was offered a place in a new RAAF Band being put together in Richmond but that only lasted 3 years as the Band was disbanded with Defence cuts. I became a civilian, played in Club Bands in Sydney, eventually becoming a Vocalist on the Club Circuit. 1982 I returned to the RAAF Air Command Band and stayed until my 20 years were up, I was a Band's vocalist, my final performance was at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney 1990, performing with a Navy & Army bandy, sorry, can't remember names, Still Call Australia Home. I once again became a civilian and for the next 15 years worked in the Wine Industry in Sales and State Manager and continued gigging.

Since the last Magazine the Association has lost a couple of members to the Big Cloud Band, Lindsay Mungovan, Len Nurse and Max Beeson. I have enjoyed a close relationship with all of these truly gentle Men, Len since School of Music days and 1965 on HMAS Melbourne and Lindsay, with Central Coast Concert Band, But in the past 10 years with the Veterans Band in all performances we have done and Max as one of our senior members of our association. I must put to rest that Len was a fuddy duddy, whilst in Ipoh with Len's daughter Karen, as his carer, Cheryle and I were having dinner at the Royal Ipoh Club with them. During the evening the party got heated up and the dance floor was jumping, with a bit of prodding Len joined in and the floor became a large ring of people, with people jumping in the middle showing off their dance skills, with not a lot of prodding, Len took to the middle and became a John Travolta. I think the near empty bottle of Red Wine on the table maybe had a little to do with it. Guys I am going to miss you both, as friends and as supporters of the Association. Rest in Peace.

The coming year will be very important to the future of the Association. Our Membership has grown to a healthy size, but we are regularly losing our older members and will continue to do so. Our older members are also in the majority in the Management of the Association and that needs to be balanced out or we will fall into the same trap of so many other Associations who have folded or merged. I have been on the Management Committee for over 15 years and the time to go is quickly emerging. It is very noticeable that we have to have some of our newer younger members step up to the plate. I am pleased to see that during the past year I have had conversations with some of our members and convinced Geoff Bunce and Roger Downton to join the Committee and assist us When the Annual General Meeting is held in August their names will go forward for approval. Please have a think and become a Committee member or a State Representative.

Information for the Reunion Ballina this year is in the Magazine and I hope we will have a bumper one.

See you all in the next Magazine.

Ralph, normal to you.



Editorial, Letters and Comments

Congratulations to Warrant Officer Dale Granger.

Tuesday 26 May 2020 marked an exceptional achievement for Dale completing 45 years service in the Royal Australian Navy and the award of his Second Federation Star.

Chief of Navy VADM Noonan presented Dale today with his award and personally thanked and sincerely appreciated him for his long and loyal service over these many years.

During his 45 years Dale has contributed to maintaining the security of Australia through his professional expertise, significant personal sacrifice and devotion to duty which are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Royal Australian Navy.



Email from Graeme Beeson

Afternoon Team.

My father Maxwell George Beeson has passed peacefully away on 14 Jan 2022. I have some photos from his service years available to the Association but I need to know the official postal address.

If you can provide me that I will forward these photos forthwith. I had the privilege of marching with him and the band at the 2006 ANZAC Day march in Canberra. This was the last time Dad was able to march. He died at the ripe old age of 94yrs.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Graeme Beeson

Photo's are now in our possession and feature through the magazine and will be on our website. Ed

From our Association facebook page.

Jim Hawkins wrote:

I was speaking to John 'Melody' Pleass today and he asked me if I had heard how Jim McDonough was going. I had to tell Melody that I hadn't heard from Jim for years so if anyone knows how things are, please let me know and I will pass any information on. Melody thought that Jim had gone into 'care' as he is well into his 90's (as is Melody) and I think they share the same birthday.

Jim had responses from members then posted the following.

I just spoke with Jim McDonough and he is in good spirits, but the nursing home is in lockdown and he can't visit Nancye who is in another area. He asked me to give out his mobile and would love to hear from former shipmates. Phone him on 0438773644.

Communication through our facebook pages has been informative. It's a shame that we can't rely on what facebook was originally designed for so more of our members would use it. Ed

A great post from our facebook page by Gordon Jackson

A few memories of Sydney in the 1960s:

Not far from Johnnies, the navy hangout then, was the Newcastle Hotel in George St. It was the place the journalists of the day would frequent, it was a pub full of character. It was a big old house with lots of rooms and pictures hanging on the walls like an art gallery.

We would drop in there every now and then and it got very crowded around 5 pm, a little short french guy would go from room to room playing requests on his scratchy violin, great atmosphere (Sadly the place was pulled down many years ago).

A little further down George street towards the Key was the Brooklyn Hotel (i think its still there) and it was known for the trad band behind the bar, Sousaphone and all. Sydney was great then if you liked Jazz.

My first night out in 1963 was starting at the Adams Jazz room and hearing the Ray Price Quartet with John Sangster playing trumpet, big bushy beard and all, you can imagine my surprise when later that night at the El Rocco at kings cross he was there again playing vibes.

I later read he shared a little flat above the el rocco with Col Nolan (Piano, Organ player), very handy for the job.

Don Burrows at the time was playing at El Rocco and the supper club at the Wentworth Hotel. Just across from the navy bands watering hole at the time (the Winsor hotel) was the Criterion, we would stroll across and listen to Merv Atcheson (tenor with a lot of vibrato), his little group played on a high stage just inside the bar door.

The Musicians Club was a good place to finish up at night. I first heard the Daly Wilson big band there, big sound in a small club, a very exiting band.

Editorial, Letters and Comments

There is a photo of Warren Daley dressed in navy uniform with a navy side drum slung on his shoulder taken at Osaka Japan at the Expo 70, where we played.

After the El Rocco closed in 1969, the Basement took over as the main Jazz venue which I got to a few times to listen to Galapogus Duck, a very popular band and resident there.

My teenage years in Sydney are gold to me and its a city I will always love, Gordon Jackson.

From mid February to today (early March) the floods in Queensland and now New South Wales have been devastating and our thoughts go out to members affected. Beautiful Lismore and surrounds is one of those severely affected and I received an email from Jim updating us to his plight. Ed.

Hi Friends,

To those who we haven't been in contact with.

We are safe and well and back at Bill's Ballina house where we were evacuated last Tuesday evening to Lennox Head Sport and Recreation Centre. It was very traumatic having to ensure we had enough oxygen cylinders for Bill which we had to take in our van and car. The staff and volunteers were wonderful organising a special bed for Bill and supplying food and other things for us all.

We were there 3 nights and are now back in his house safe and well. Ballina flooded in parts (first time ever) but his unit was spared. Our biggest worry was oxygen for Bill but our supplier from Lismore whose base was underwater drove to Labrador on the Gold Coast and delivered us enough for 5 days.

It is hoped this is nearly over. Lismore is ruined and the body count via the media is way below those who were lost. I do hope the truth comes out soon so the rest of Australia knows the horrible facts.

I hope you understand that we are all very tired. Daughter Mandie was stranded at Iluka for a week, so chartered a helicopter back to Ballina last Friday to help us look after Bill. Both Lindy and our other carer were exhausted and Mandie jumped in and did the overnight shift. Some (paid) carers from Lismore got through to Ballina today, so things are improving.

I hope you are all safe and well as we are.

All the best,

Jim (Lindy & Bill)

The following photos were sent to me by Graeme Beeson after the passing of his father Max. All will be loaded onto our website shortly.

Ed.



Coral Sea Parade 1950, boarding the train at Port Melbourne. Members are from HMAS Sydney. Interesting that they had to climb up so high to get onboard, and 1st class. Musn Hogan, Clarinet, Musn Beeson BB Tuba and Musn Widdison, Drums.



HMAS Sydney III, 23rd of May 1954. Max was onboard from June 1949 to November 1950. Photo was of Sydney in Sydney Harbour.

Editorial, Letters and Comments



Flinders Naval Depot Band combined with HMAS Shropshire Band. February 1949 in Bourke street, Melbourne.

Email received 8th March 2022

Good Morning Errol,

I am not sure if the association has a Pensions Officer but I am a qualified Compensation Advocate and am happy to help anyone with their DVA claims.

If the association does not have any one, my details are below and I am happy for you to add them in the newsletters

I am working out of the Hervey Bay RSL Pension Office.

Regards,
Kuni Wendel.

Mobile: 0409 840 679

Pension2@herveybayrsl.org.au

The link to see more details.
<https://www.herveybayrslsubbranch.com.au/pensions/>

Kuni is a association member and it is great that he is offering his services. Hervey Bay seems to be the location many are heading to at the moment.

Ed

Hunter Valley Custom Pens
WWW.HUNTERVALLEYCUSTOMPENS.COM

**BALLPOINT PENS - FOUNTAIN PENS - BULLET PENS - CROCHET HOOKS
 SEAM RIPPERS - CUTLERY**

At Hunter Valley Hand Made Custom Pens we create quality handcrafted pens, Clocks and other items just for you. Custom designs are usually made to order for our customers. Each item is unique, as all our items are hand made from slightly different timbers. The pens are stylish and luxurious. Each pen is designed and crafted from either a variety of unique and unusual timbers (mostly recycled), or acrylics or resins.

We spend hours carefully shaping and polishing each pen to create a work of art. The range of pens includes Fountain Pens, Rollerball Pens and Ballpoint Pens. The pens are designed and handcrafted to feel comfortable to hold, look spectacular and write beautifully.

A large range of Burl wall clocks are also available for those who are looking for a special present for that special occasion

In a world where a lot of items are mass produced, manufactured goods, just imagine how good it would be to hold your own unique, individually and beautifully crafted, polished, wooden or acrylic, fountain, rollerball or ballpoint pen. Each pen writes smoothly and feels wonderful to hold. Most of the pens accommodate standard refills making them easy to get, you will end up writing instrument that will last a lifetime.

Hand Made By Ian Dorney
ian@huntervalleycustompens.com

Museum News

HMAS Cerberus Museum

As the year begins we have a new management team heading up the Cerberus museum and also the Navy's museums nationally. LCDR Helen Ward has been appointed by the out going manager LCDR John Goss who retired. Volunteers are still getting their head around the new requirements and future directions management are currently taking. What does that mean for our branch. At the moment we have retained our space in the museum and I will continue to state our case that our branch has significant history to tell using the museum as our vehicle. I'm lucky to now be supported by ex-bandie Sharon Jarvis who has moved to the reserves and taken up a administrative role at the museum a couple days a week. From my last visit the museum precinct has been removed of more trees and some modifications (renovations) to buildings has taken place. Visits still have not commenced by the general public as there is still the Covid restrictions curtailing this to some extent. Recruits are continuing to visit and have an induction to the navy as it was. I will continue to keep you posted as to where we are at and will eventually get to update our display.

There is a bit of a void in the administration of the Navy's history at the moment and this is leading to questions of what should be displayed at a particular museum by people not qualified to make that decision. Everything displayed at Cerberus has a story be it very old or not so and might not be directly associated with Cerberus. A misconception at the moment is if it doesn't have Cerberus on it then it shouldn't be there and this is not sitting well with



Photos show (those who remember) that all the large trees around the museum (above) and the school of music (right) have now been removed. It now reveals the renovated buildings to their former glory and once the gardens and new trees have been planted and landscaped a new life for the old precinct will begin,

the volunteers that have put years of work into creating what we have today. Every ex-pusser went through Cerberus at one point and then moved on to other postings but always felt a belonging to Cerberus. I think that is why we have such a diverse collection of artifacts from different ships and branches and Cerberus is the only place to display these. As I said previously, I will defend our section to maintain our position in the museum.

If you have any memorabilia you would like to give to our museum please contact me and I will organize how to collect it. I received uniforms and memorabilia from Tony Buddle, Dot Crompton and Jan Atkins in the last year and are very appreciative that you have placed it in the museums care.

For Now.

Errol.



From the Western Front: By Bill Farrell

Members with some historical knowledge will recognize the date, 8th of December as the 80th anniversary of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbour, catapulting America into World War 11. During that attack many ships of the US Pacific Fleet were sunk at their moorings, including the battleship USS ARIZONA, which is now a national monument.

It was rather auspicious that the WA Chapter of the RAN Band Association should hold their annual Xmas luncheon on this day, although it was not even thought of when the booking was made some 12 months ago. To commence this contribution of our News, it must be said that we here in the West we have not had as much rain as our Eastern States brothers, but our big claim to fame is that November's total rainfall, in fact more than the total, fell in less than 24 hours.

Another claim to fame is that we had the 2021 AFL Grand Final here, won by the team who won in 1964 at the MCG when the RAN Band performed during half-time, That team of course being the Demons. Our proceedings commenced with the usual In Memoriam to those of our membership who have passed away during the year, these being Lindsay Mungovan, Marty Gillespie and Len Nurse. The Oath was recited followed by Silence and the normal Lest We Forget.

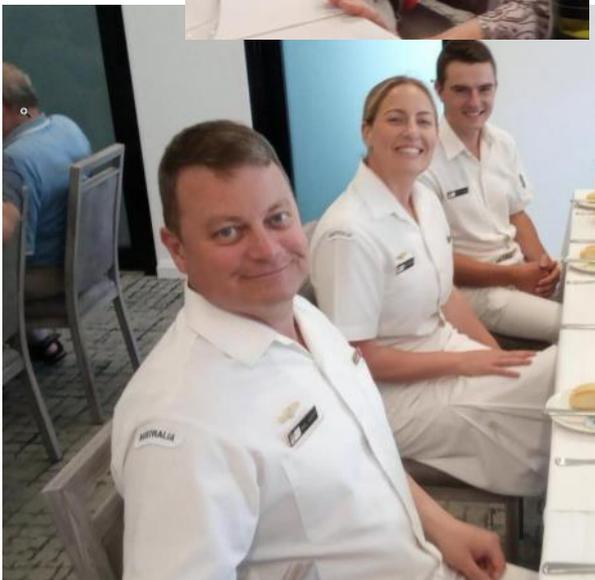
On our home-front, Ted Lincoln was back in hospital suffering from a bad shoulder complaint about which the medical fraternity is uncertain. Because of this hospitalization he and Shirley were unable to attend the luncheon but their apologies were tendered and for the first time it has to be added. But they were there in spirit.

Unfortunately, there was rather a poor attendance but a trio of members of the RAN Band WA assisted in making them up, but as the clientele ages, it is natural that numbers will decrease.

The presentation of the Farrell – Lincoln Award went smoothly (see separate article) and it must be stated that Brody, the recipient, had no idea why he was at the function. He was so overawed by the occasion that he left his individual trophy behind when he left, but it was returned to him before he had left the venue.

There is not much else to write about except to send best wishes from West to East, particularly from your correspondent and his Lady, Maxine, who is not travelling too well, with the sincere hope that 2022 brings brightness and the hope that a Band Reunion will be in the offing.

Bill Farrell.



Images of some of the members and guests of the 2021 RANBA WA Christmas lunch.

FARRELL - LINCOLN AWARD: By Bill Farrell

FARRELL - LINCOLN AWARD: This is awarded to the member of the RAN Band Western Australia whose performance shows professional excellence in all facets, including self improvement, maintenance and expansion of their musical knowledge, practical expertise and their value to the RAN Band WA.

This year's winner is Able Seaman Musician Brody Manson who joined as a Reservist on the 10th April, 2019. Acting Bandmaster Leading Seaman Musician Kirsten Robinson, in her summary, says that Brody is an extremely professional musician who brings the joy of music to all his performances. He performs mostly on the bass guitar and string bass in the Big Band, Covers Band and Jazz Ensembles. He also treats his drum corps responsibilities with a high level of respect, being either a side drummer or on the cymbals.

His love of playing is infectious and he is highly encouraging to other members of the band. As a critical member of the jazz ensemble, he has been central to this group's success, especially as the demand for this smaller ensemble increased during the COVID – 19 restrictions. He is eager to assist with whatever is required especially during setup and back downs and often volunteers to unload the truck. Brody is highly regarded for his hard work, musical skills and friendliness, treating all team members with respect while he is respected by his peers and the chain of command.

With the Band committed to 2 performances on the same day (Exmouth and HMAS Stirling), there was a serious driver shortage and Brody stepped up at the last minute to undertake and successfully complete the heavy transport training course and the subsequent examination for bus and truck. He completed these within a very short deadline to complete the Exmouth airport run and the HMAS STIRLING Covers Band commitment.

More recently, Brody provided an exemplary additional capability to the RAN Band during the HMAS SYDNEY 1 memorial events in Denham. Due to limited personnel availa-

bility, the group did not have a critical rhythm section to make up the Covers Band engagement. Brody stepped up to the challenge by learning the keyboard parts for the event and for such a short turnaround he is highly commended on his efforts.

Brody has made an exceptional contribution to the RAN BAND WA. He is an outstanding musician who is meticulous in producing quality musical performances in all his ensembles.

Congratulations, Brody, on this well deserved award.



LCDR Bill Farrell (Retired)
ABMUSN Brody Manson
LSMUSN Kirsten Robinson, Acting Bandmaster
RANBWA
Photo by POMUSN Nigel Barrett

The "Farrell-Lincoln" Award

The Royal Australian Navy Band's Farrell-Lincoln Award is presented annually to a member of RAN BAND WA. This award is sponsored by the RAN Band Association from a fund set up through a donation from a former WA Navy Band member and Bandmaster at HMAS LEEUWIN, Michael "Smokey" Dawson who passed away in 2015.

The award carries the name 'Farrell-Lincoln Award', named after two long term tireless WA supporters of the RAN Band Association, former Director of Music LCDR Bill Farrell and CPO Ted Lincoln who were two of the first Junior Musicians at the School of Music HMAS CERBERUS.

The Farrell-Lincoln award is presented to a member of the Royal Australian Navy Band Western Australia who has performed professional excellence by self improvement, maintaining and expanding their Service knowledge and Music expertise to add value and capability to RAN Band WA.

Queensland News

Brisbane City Pops Orchestra

The following photos are from a recent concert by the Brisbane City Pops Orchestra conducted by Adrian Head MMus and with a fair sprinkling of other familiar ex-Bandie members. A very popular orchestra and with a 2022 program of concerts starting with "A Whole New World" this month it is good to see performances happening nationally.



Left: Adrian in conducting mode.

Below Left: Adrian Head, Gary Searle, Alan Williamson and John Lennon.

Right: Gary Searle doing what he does best.

Below Right: The Trumpet section, with John Lennon

Bottom: The Pops Orchestra.



Victorian Report: By Terry Ekin

As 2021 drew to a close, it was a year that many of us from south of the border will be happy to see behind us. Those of us in the metropolitan area can now venture from the confines of our homes and look at the sunshine-lit world beyond 5 kilometres from our fence lines. Those who didn't live it will find it difficult or bemusing to understand how to travel beyond that distance, or even to go into a shop other than a supermarket, could be a source of joy. Melbourne was once given the title as the most livable city but these past couple of years has seen it become the most unlive-in city where even the old phrase of firing a cannon down the street etc was a glaring truth in the CBD. Melbourne achieved 3 disreputable records - highest days in lockdown in the world, highest number of daily cases in Australia, and highest number people lost attributed to the virus in Australia.

In the midst of this, after the last newsletter, there was a fleeting opportunity to get together for lunch with many of us happily discarding our red silks and donning western clothes to meet up at the Seaford RSL. There was a good turn out, which was clearly enjoyed by those attending to be able to see real faces that weren't on a mobile phone or computer screen.

Other than this, there is virtually no news to speak of. Community bands and orchestras are still working out how

they'll get back together, with some having had 1, maybe 2 rehearsals and only very recently. Those with control of rehearsal and performing venues are still hesitant and nervous, especially now the omicron (an anagram of moronic) variant has appeared, but hopefully a new year will also deliver a new outlook.

This year has sadly seen the loss of more of our local members, the most recent being Len Nurse. He was the Victorian rep until just before the last Melbourne reunion and was still an active member of the Cranbourne Lion's Concert Band. The Frankston Music Society and Symphony Orchestra, still hold Len with high regard, describing him as being very responsible for the success of the orchestra, not just as a musician but as a member of the committee and repertoire team. He was known by, and a friend to, so many, both in the association and the local community music world, and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Our condolences and thoughts go to Maree and the family at this difficult time.

To all readers, no matter where you are, who you are with, and whatever your circumstances, may the new year return to the freedom and sense we knew before 2020.

Cheers.

Terry



The Victorian membership got the opportunity to hold a rare lunch in mid 2021 at the Seaford RSL and had a good turn-out. It had been over 12 months since our last and we had only been out of lock down for a short period. Not long after this event we entered the longest Covid lockdown Victoria has ever had, breaking all records. Sadly this was the last time some members socialized with the late Len Nurse.



Vale:

Since our last edition of our magazine we have unfortunately lost more of our members to the rehearsal room above. We will remember them. RIP



**MARTYN "DIZZY" GILLESPIE
MAY 2021**



**LINDSAY MUNGOVAN
SEPTEMBER 2021**



**RICK WATSON
MAY 2021**



**LEN NURSE
DECEMBER 2021**



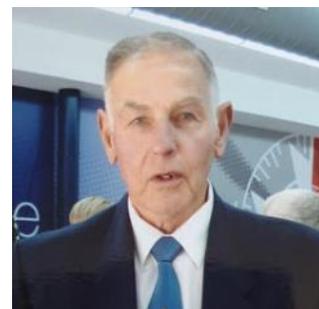
We Remember
LENNIS WILLIAM NURSE
8 May 1958 - 5 December 2021



**KEN "KIPPER" SUMMERSON
JUNE 2021**



**MAX BEESON
JAN 2022**



RANBA Ballina 2022 Reunion

Wednesday the 17th to
Friday the 19th of August.





Reunion Overview

This will be our 3rd attempt to hold our reunion in Ballina and I feel we will get there this year. With the “3rd time lucky” feeling, now is the time to get your bookings in to us and get your accommodation locked in. As with past mags, we have given you comprehensive listings of motels close to the Ballina RSL which will be our official venue for the duration of the event.

Getting to Ballina

Driving from the south or north is a pleasant trip and I’m sure all the caravanners have travelled that road extensively. For us southerners, we have the options of flying in, training to Casino and bussing over or as previously stated, motoring up the highway.

Whichever way, we need you there and you need to be there as too much time has passed and we need get together.

The program is as previously indicated in our mag but with date changes.

Wednesday the 17th of August

10.00am– 3.00pm Veterans Band Rehearsal

The rehearsal will take place in the auditorium of the RSL, we need to be ready to start at 10am as we have the concert and the Vietnam service music to re-acquaint ourselves with. Ralph will be following up on all players to make sure you have all of your parts. The other most important thing is to let him know you are playing. 2 years have passed so your playing may have improved with lockdowns. A lunch will be provided for playing members but if any non playing or partners want lunch there is a surcharge.

Lunch Price per head for non playing members \$TBA

6.00pm—8.00pm Meet & Greet

The Meet & Greet has been booked for Wednesday evening in the Craft Bar at the RSL. It will be an informal gathering and a mixed selection of hot and cold finger food will be available.

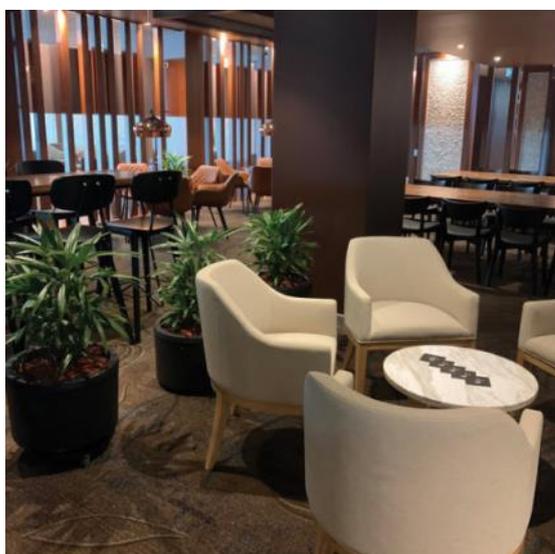
Price per Head \$TBA

Thursday the 18th of August

11.00am Vietnam Veterans Memorial Service

Adjacent to the RSL. The band members will need to pickup music stands from the auditorium and be in place at the Cenotaph, ready to play by 10.45am. The service will be completed by 11.45. The band will return to the auditorium to setup and do a sound check. There will be a light lunch provided to band members and partners and friends can join for lunch at a small cost.

Lunch Price per head for non playing members \$TBA



1.30pm to 2pm Sound Check

Important part of the day for all playing members. Those players not at the service need to be at the sound check.

3.00pm to 5pm Vietnam Veterans Concert

Doors will open at 2.30 and seats are first in first served basis so don't be late as this concert will be a popular event with Vets and their partners and friends.

Evening free for socialising

The organising committee has left the evening open so you can enjoy Ballina's surrounds and the many restaurants.

Friday 19th of August

10.00am RANBA Special General Meeting & AGM

The meeting will be held at the Ballina RSL and we encourage all members to attend. Nomination form, for committee positions, is on the back of the magazine. All positions will be vacated so think about becoming part of the team to take the association forward.

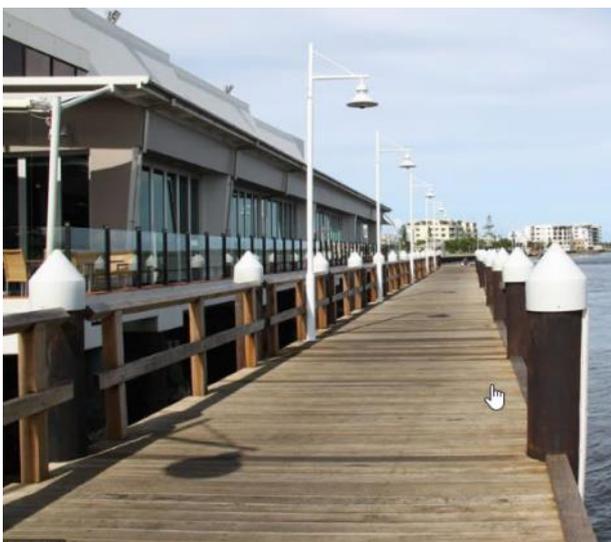
1.00pm RANBA Official Luncheon. Spinners Ballina RSL

A two course, sit down meal will be provided in a relaxed atmosphere and bookings will be essential. Use our complete reunion booking form to select the functions you would like to attend.

Price per Head \$TBA

The luncheon will be the last official engagement and we welcome members to stay and take in the sights and surrounds of Ballina.

See following pages for booking form and AGM nomination form.



VETERANS BAND

It seems to have been forever that we have played as the Veterans Band but I am as certain as I can be that we will be together for the Ballina Reunion in August, details will be the same as before and I am hoping we get the same players or more.

As this Association has been one to buck the trend of amalgamation or shutting down, we have been innovative in having a successful Band that gives members a chance to keep playing to an older age. This has not been wasted on former musicians from other Service Bands and they enjoy being invited to play with the RANVB from its inception, also not forgetting the civilians who play with many members of the Association and have filled vacancies over the years. The Management Team have had the thought that we should invite all former Service Band players to become part of the Royal Australian Navy Band Association as Associate Members and the same invitation to the long serving civilian members of the Veterans Band to the same invitation. This will be voted on prior to the Annual General Meeting in August, in Ballina.

I have included a list of the Band players who had put up their hand to play last year if they are still happy to be part of the Band this year and any other players also, please contact me on xranband@bigpond.net.au or 0405 380 751.

The attached booking form is to get numbers attending only. We will follow up With final pricing in our next edition or directly to you, so get your bookings in.



BALLINA BAND AUGUST 2021

CONDUCTOR: Roger Downton

FLUTES: Kathy Butcher, Jim Hawkins **OBOE:** Christina Cherry

CLARINETS: Ralph Daines, Clive Smith, Rob Bedwell, Peter Martin, Ken Lincoln, John Widdicombe, Ned Kellas

BASS CLARINET: Vic Knowles **BASSOON:** Trevor Williamson, Malcolm Ezzy

SAXOPHONES: Viki Skerman, Geoff Dawson, Peter Bauers, Arnis Tillers

FRENCH HORNS: David O'Mera, David Hardstaff, Diane Wills, Allan Lanham, Ann-Marie Lukic, Bill Farrell

TRUMPETS: Doug Drysdale, Rex Campbell, Neil Goodacre, Laurie Green, Jim Henshaw, Chris Nash

TROMBONES: Geoff Bunce, Ivan Cocking, Greg Butcher, Kevin Crow, Kevin Brown

ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE—2022

We currently have Polo Shirts and Caps available for purchasing. Orders are to be sent to Ralph at xranband@bigpond.net.au or ring him on 0405 380 751

Payments are made via direct deposit after you have contacted Ralph with final shipping pricing.

Bank Details: BSB: 013232 Account No: 290164678
 Bank: ANZ, Royal Australian Navy Band Association.
 Include your name as a reference.

T-Shirt



Latest T-Shirt design is a Blue & White easy wear fabric with Crest.

Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, 2X-Large and 3X-Large.

Official Association Cap



Official Association Cap 2022

Perfect for that Ballina sun. Great looking fit all size cap with Association Crest

One size fits all.

\$18.00 plus \$9.95 postage.



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND ASSOCIATION INC

1400700

NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE POSITION

POSITION

CANDIDATE

PRESIDENT

.....

VICE PRESIDENT

.....

TREASURER

.....

SECRETARY

.....

COMMITTEE

.....

SIGNATORIES OF:

PROPOSER

.....

SECONDER

.....

CANDIDATE

.....

Nominations to be sent to: admin@ranbandassoc.net Nominations are to arrive no later than the 12th of August 2022.

2022 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND ASSOCIATION REUNION, BALLINA. BOOKING FORM



*If paying by Cheque please return form with cheque to Address listed below

*If paying by Direct Deposit return this form by email or just advise your requirements and you will be issued an invoice number for payment into our account

*The association now have credit Card facilities and payments can be made by, Ringing Errol on 0400 706 503

NAME: _____ **PARTNERS NAME** _____

CONTACT NUMBER: _____

STAYING AT: _____ If not Known, Please advise once booked

WEDNESDAY THE 17TH OF AUGUST

10.00am to 3.00pm rehearsal

Lunch non playing members & partners only **TBA** **Number Attending** Total \$ _____

or

11.00am Partners and members High Tea **TBA** Total \$ _____

A sumptuous High Tea specially organised for our partners and members.

6.00pm Association Meet & Greet **TBA** Total \$ _____

Special Dietary requirements

For: _____ Special Requirements _____

THURSDAY THE 18TH OF AUGUST

11.00am Vietnam Vets Memorial Service

Lunch non playing members & partners **TBA** Total \$ _____

1.30pm Soundcheck. Auditorium doors open for public at 2.30pm

3.00pm to 5.00pm Vietnam Veterans Concert

This is a free concert. First in best dressed for seats.

FRIDAY THE 19TH OF AUGUST

10.00am RANBA General meeting

1.00pm RANBA Official reunion luncheon **TBA** Total \$ _____

Special Dietary requirements

For: _____ Special Requirements _____

Grand Total \$ _____

If you have not already advised the us of your interest in being a member of the Concert Band.

Please indicate here.

YES, I would like to Play Instrument _____ No Thanks

Bank Details: BSB 013232 **Account No:** 290164678 **Bank:** ANZ **Account Name:** Royal Australian Navy Band Association

Postal Address: RAN BAND ASSOCIATION, PO BOX 69. LYNBROOK. VIC 3975

Contact: ERROL: Mobile, 0400 706 503 **Email:** admin@ranbandassoc.net