



THE POSTING

ISSUE NO 4, APRIL 2024

EDITORIAL: Errol Hatch



How many of us are still playing? Age in our association is catching up with us and making it more difficult to get numbers into the veterans band. Younger members are slowly finding us but deceased members are far out weighing new members. This reunion will probably be my last time I will take the chair up the back, the old wrists are suffering and not doing what my brain wants then to do, so the younger brigade needs to be encouraged to be a part of this great association and the veterans band.

On another matter.

A good friend of mine (you don't know him but know his work) retired the other day and it hit home that I have relied on him to get me what I needed to progress to today. His name is Simon Beraux and he is the designer and instigator of our website. He turned a very complicated (if you remember back) off the shelf website into something manageable for our association. We paid a small amount for what he actually did for us, creating image files, audio files and layouts that we could easily maneuver around.

I met Simon in the 80's at Allans/Brash's where we both were in the computer software game especially written to suit a specific market. I went the musical route and he the Corporate way. Simon since then has always provided support and a solution and when I went to him for advise on what we wanted to achieve with the association he went out of his way to create what we have today.

It cost us peanuts and since then he has always tweaked it to meet our needs. Our future is now with a company that know software and support but will not do it for free or the fees that Simon charged us.

I haven't had the chance to speak to him since his announcement but I would like to thank him on behalf of the association for getting us to where we are today with our site. He has been telling me constantly over the last year we need to

re-visit our site as support is an issue going forward and it is aging like us.

Now I know.

Thanks to those that are enjoying the new way in which our association receives its information. Getting it to you in a timely manner is the answer and we will keep it coming, A suggestion from one member was for you our members to drop me a line with your "Remember When" story. Would love to hear from them.

The newsletter relies on your input. I can create content till the cows come home but you our members are the ones with all the snippets of information to make it a worthwhile read.

Ed.

WAY BACK (PAST NEWSLETTERS)

September Issue No 4 1994

The newsletter reports on the national reunion at surfers with over 150 in attendance over the Friday and Saturday. The dinner was covered extensively with MC Blue McNally holding it all together. The entertainment was from the Qld Naval Band with association members taking to the stage to play the night away.

The first AGM took place on the Saturday morning and 80 (yes 80) were in attendance. Patron George Hooker, President Rob Bedwell and Secretary Jim Hawkins welcomed them to the meeting where correspondence and apologies' were tabled. Ron Henry gave his report on the finances of the association which had a balance of \$884.33

Future reunions were to be every 2 years with Melbourne in 1996 to be the next host.

Issue 4 has a lot of correspondence from states and members and the complete edition is available on our website under Past Newsletters. Have a read.

Ed.

2024 REUNION LAUNCESTON

Here is an update of current members who have confirmed their attendance to the reunion. Time is now marching on and we need to seriously get the booking forms in for those that have committed to travelling to Tassie.

Errol & Sharon Hatch

Ralph & Cheryle Daines

Doug & Lyn Drysdale

Gary Searle

Paul & Mary Jo Cottier

Iain & Sheila Morrison

Gabe & Sue Kicsak

Terry & Lorraine Ekin

Steven & Karen Cottier

Ned & Chrisi Kellas

Peter & Lorraine Martin

Mel (Taffy) Thatcher

John & Leywah Lennon

Jim Hawkins

Ray Mills

Rob & Anne Bull

The veterans band is still looking for players and the concert rehearsal is still on the Saturday afternoon.

Following is the proposed playlist for the concert.

PROPOSED MUSIC FOR LAUNCESTON CONCERT

You Can't Stop the Beat

Once Navy Always Navy

Jersey Boys

Save The Last Dance for Me (Vocal)

Stranger on the Shore

Blues Brothers

Shrek

On the Quarter Deck / Heart of Oak /Life on the Ocean Wave

Sway (Vocal)

Elton John

Sinatra in Concert

American Patrol (James Last)

Instant Concert

World in Union

I Am Australian

Still Call Australian Home

Voices

Conquest of Paradise

Beatles Collection

Benny Goodman

Regards

Ralph.

THE POSTING

WHATS HAPPENING ON SOCIAL MEDIA

ANZAC DAY

Well my question was well answered regarding are we still playing. Anzac day saw plenty of ex's playing playing for their local RSL's and in bands marching in their respective towns and suburbs, it is pleasing to see.

The following photo's were just a few of the many that were posted on social media over the week.



Left: Peter Mcleod was with the Bega District Band.

Below: Blue McNally was at the Ballina dawn service.



Left: Mike Johnson celebrated Anzac day at the Kingscliff RSL service.

Below: A few of our Veterans Band Honorary members were at the Shrine in Melbourne with the Anzac Community Band, Jac Jenner, Leigh Morgan, Diane Boxall-Hudson and Christina Cirnigliargo (forefront).



AROUND THE TRAPS

Nothing special has cropped up since our last newsletter from the states. Our AGM in Tassie needs to address the role of state reps and discuss if they are a necessary thing. Do we let individuals from around the country organize there own get togethers or report on visits to members through our newsletter.

We are lucky here in Melbourne that a majority of ex's are in the southeast so a function will draw a good response. Some members live over the west and have made the trek to the south which we appreciate.

New South Wales has such a spread of members from the south coast to the north with fewer in the Sydney suburbs. But someone with a bit of pull can call a social gathering every now and then surely.

WA, Queensland and South Australia have a close member relationship so again not overly difficult to meet up occasionally (No pressure)

A few thoughts.

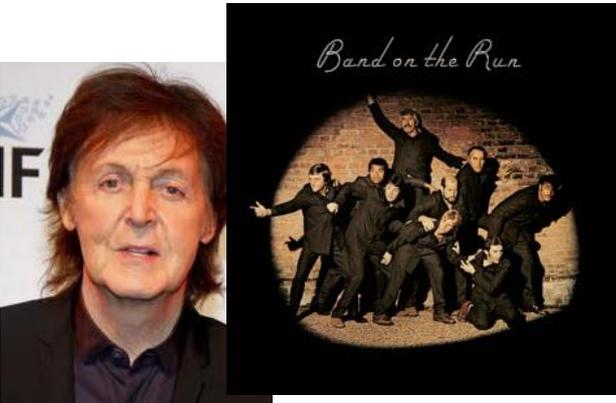
Editor.

THIS TIME 50 YEARS AGO

Musically there was plenty happening in April of 1974 and the Navy Band were there in a big way.

Some significant releases were:

Paul McCartney & Wings released **“Band on the Run”**



ABBA won the Eurovision song contest with the song **“WATERLOO”**



THE POSTING

The Royal Australian Navy Band released the album **“LEST WE FORGET”** with Don Coxon . All the ceremonial pieces were on the album but no mention of the performers except for Blue McNally on Bugle.



Glenda Jackson and Jack Lemmon win the 46th Academy Awards with **“THE STING”**



Royal Australian Navy Band release a 45RPM of **“Advance Australia Fair”** and **“Song of Australia”**.



The purpose of this EP was for it to be distributed to schools and councils around Australia. Vic Knowles was acknowledged as the arranger of **“Song of Australia”** and Ken Brown for **“Advance Australia Fair”**

ranbandassoc.net

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Vice President:

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Secretary:

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Bill Farrell, Geoff Dawson, Doug Drysdale

State Representatives:

NSW: Ralph Daines
VIC: Terry Ekin
QLD: John Lennon
SA: Doug Drysdale
TAS: David Hardstaff
WA: Bill Farrell

RAN Veterans Band/Events Manager:

Ralph Daines

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Royal Australian Navy Band Association Inc;
 1 Howell Ave, Port Macquarie. NSW 2444

Web: www.ranbandassoc.net**WHO ARE WE**

This column highlights a committee or executive member with a brief history in the Band Branch.

GEOFF BUNCE: Vice President**JOINED:**

November 1976 Junior Musician

INSTRUMENT:

Joined on Trombone and stayed on it.

SHIPS/DEPOT's SERVED ON:

HMAS Cerberus, HMAS Penguin, HMAS Melbourne, HMAS Stalwart.

MATES WHO JOINED ABOUT THE SAME TIME:

David Hardstaff. Greg Reid, Peter McNeill.

INDELIBLE MEMORIES:

- First tour on HMAS Melbourne in 1981
- The Royal Tournament Earls Court 1987 with the Tri Service Band.
- Many Concerts and Tours over the years. Always learning.

**ONGOING**

We now highlight members of our association with a brief history of their service in the RAN Band

KEVIN HILLIER OAM**JOINED:**

1968 Junior Musician

INSTRUMENT:

Euphonium and Trombone

SHIPS/DEPOT's SERVED ON:

HMAS Cerberus, HMAS Melbourne, HMAS Stalwart, HMAS Sydney, HMAS Jervis Bay, HMAS Carpenteria, HMAS Lonsdale, USS Bryce Canyon.

MATES WHO JOINED ABOUT THE SAME TIME:

John Lennon, John/George (Squeaky) Evans

INDELIBLE MEMORIES:

- HMAS Sydney Vietnam Tours
- HMAS Sydney San Diego trip (Disneyland)
- Study with the Royal Marines
- 1995 Australia Remembers
- Initial Staff @ the Defence Force School of Music.

**Cover Art:**

The 1970 Freedom of entry of Melbourne with massed bands and the whole of HMAS Cerberus and HMAS Melbourne contingents.

