

Copy of Original FESR Visitors Log (2002)

The Visitors Log first came on-line in 2000 when the original Dashmark website was created. In 2001 entries from the original Log were transferred to a new Bravenet Services format. This was subsequently replaced with a new multi functional Visitors Forum in late January 2003. All entries from the Bravenet Log are now archived below. Please note that dates appearing within the messages are listed in US format. Archive headings are in the Australian format of day/month/year.

12/30/02 09:21:43 PM

Name: Gordon Love
Comments: The National Executive Committee send New Year Greetings to all FESR members and their Families. May peace and good health be with you all throughout the year ahead. Hope to see you all in Adelaide for the 2003 Reunion

12/30/02 09:09:56 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Hi gang, I'm back, licened to kill with a brand new computer, old one karked it; what a great time was had by everyone at the well organized annual All Ship's 'Ballina Bash' on the last week-end in November. We NSW types held our quarterly meeting in their Sub-Branch rooms on the Saturday morning with a good rollup of local members and Queenslanders, great way to start the day. Next NSW meeting to be held after lunch at 1300 hours on the 2nd Saturday & Sunday in March 2003 at Bomaderry Bowling Club on the NSW South Coast, details in Dec Newsletter, regards, Irish.

12/28/02 02:32:13 PM

Name: Col Nash
Comments: Looking forward to meeting some of you fellows at the National Re-union in Adelaide in April.

12/28/02 01:09:52 PM

Name: bryan (wings) burdett
Comments: Seeking help for an old mate. Anybody knowing the whereabouts of A/B Gordon Barnes ex Arunta(46-48, BECOF), Anzac? 57-58 and living, we think, around north Qld. tell him Ray "Nicki" Cruikshanks would like to contact him (03) 97728007 of via me on email burdettbryan@yahoo.com

12/28/02 10:19:20 AM

Name: Paul Rawson
Comments: Thank you for the information on the Gulf War. It has assisted my Pre-Course Study Assignment for my 1/2003 CUO Course January 4-10. Unfortunately at this late stage, I am still having some difficulty finding information for my brief: 'The Battle and Commanders leadership style in that Battle'. Could you assist me further with Commanders Leadership Style? Regards Paul Rawson

12/28/02 02:23:32 AM

Name: Ern Sinfield (ex Stoker, R50194)
Comments: I hhope that all had a good Christmas, and wish you all a Happy New Year for 2003. Unfortunately I missed the Ballina Reunion this year, but hope to catch up with some of you in 2003. Regards Ern

12/25/02 09:43:48 PM

Name: Mal Hughes
Comments: As I input this message. I am at the close of a wonderful

Christmas Day with my Family. I am sure that most of my shipmates have had a similar day... I joined in 1958 and, at that time I was told by my GI that their was know way that my Navy would ever do the job.... In due course, sailors were subjected to my training, and I said to them.....your Navy will never do the job..... My point is , quite apart from having a fair bit of Christmas Cheer..... Navy is and shall always be Navy..... Our Navy is now more committed than it has been since WW2 Our boys, (and girls), are doing what we did..... Think about when you were their, on the front line, doing your bit..... Think now about our Navy... Merry Christmas to all.....sorry if this appears a little pissy.....after all

12/25/02 09:05:11 AM

Name: Raymond Evans

Comments: Re-assessment is in progress for all DVA clients who have 70%, 80%, 90% and 100% disability, and are still employed. I think the point DVA is making is, if you are between 70% and 100% disabled, you shouldn't be employed. (I hope I am wrong) Seventy percent disability is the start point of the Gold Card & Service pension. Only TPI's that have been found to be working, have been re-assessed.

12/24/02 06:32:35 AM

Name: Bob May

Comments: I notice a few posting about the mysterious workings of DVA and how they have affected some of you. May I offer a bit of advise that I have learned the hard way when dealing with DVA and pensions. NEVER do your own claims, either initial or for increase. GO to and ESO who has pensions officers and get them to do it for you. Two of the better ESOs on this are VVAA and VFA and they will do claims for anyone, no matter where you served. the other point was in relation to a review being done that you knew nothing about, but ended in a condition being accepted. When there are changes to the documents put out by the RMA that change the rules on how and under what conditions a claim is to be assessed and accepted, DVA are bound to review all claims that they have REJECTED in the past on this condition. hope this, not necessarily helps, but explains some of these mysterious happenings bob

12/24/02 06:03:18 AM

Name: Bob May

Comments: Bob you are 100% correct if you put in an application, either for an increase in rate or to have another condition accepted all conditions are up for re-assesment under the rules at the time of your application. If you are TPI, your right, best left alone, unless you are going overseas and have a heavy medication/service needs by the extra condition bob

12/23/02 05:20:05 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: It would only be a conjecture as to why if we don't have the individual case study re the loss of the gold card.I have heard that if you apply for an increase they review all your claims again. In some cases its better to let sleeping dogs lie. It is wrong and hard on the recipient but then we have never had it easy. Enough of the gloom, may I take this opportunity to wish all and their families A Very Merry Xmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

12/22/02 06:39:53 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Shirley & I would like to wish you and your family's a Merry Christmas & a Happy & Prosperous New Year. Mostly, we hope that 2003 is full of Joy & Peace especially all those kids who are serving their country overseas.

12/22/02 03:04:55 PM

Name: Ern Dait

Comments: Merry Christmas to All, and may all have a prosperous new year for 2003. I must say its quite concerning and worrying hearing ex pussers fesr mates having pensions reduced or taken away after 40 odd years of betrayal and denial by the same mob thats handling our pensions now? Does anyone know why these pensions have been reduced or taken away and the reasons?. I have just had a decision reversed with out going to appeals which I thought odd! they just reversed an accepted my asbestosis as war related and have granted me that but did not grant me an increase in disability pension, it remains the same regardless..strange eh? Where else could I have got it from as I was with them from 17 years old for 7 years? Regards to All...Ernie Dait R50721

12/22/02 02:49:51 PM

Name: Jack Thompson

Comments: Merry Xmas and a Healthy Prosperus New Year To all. Jack Thompson. Vengeance, Melbourne,Gascoyne, Sydney, Hobart.

12/22/02 10:37:41 AM

Name: David Appleton

Comments: Happy Christmas to all. David Appleton Queenborough '54 - '57

12/19/02 06:49:37 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: ATTENTION ALL BIRDIE HANDLERS. IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE NEW HANDLERS NEWSLETTER, "HANDS TO FLYING STATIONS" THEN CONTACT GLEN HARTIG, WHO WILL PUT YOU ON THE MAILING LIST. GLEN CAN BE FOUND AT, bgrc@iprimus.com.au THERE IS ALSO A NEW WEBSITE FOR HANDLERS, . . . www.users.bigpond.net.au/Ven_13/ GO AND CHECK IT OUT!

12/19/02 09:36:55 AM

Name: Ron Hobba

Comments: That last message originate from me re Dioxins Ron

12/19/02 09:34:58 AM

Name: ron

Comments: For those who were too lousy to buy todays' Courier Mail and are waiting for someone to leave a copy of it in the "heads" so that they can read it, headline on the front page..DIOXINS IN WATER DRUNK BY VETERANS. This was the result of a study carried out and which has just been released..To quote a few paras from the article....Thousands of Navy and Army Viet Vets drank distilled sea water contaminated with deadly chemicals.....The Govt has ordered authorities to immediately review all compo claims for exposure to the cancer-causing chemicals. For those like me who served in our ships in Vietnam waters and who caught the old "donna & dancer", this is a significant breakthrough. Merry Christmas and hopefully successful claims to all those entitled! Winners are Grinners!! Ron

12/18/02 03:34:15 PM

Name: Bruce Blain
Comments: Monty Brown, ex Birdie, Vengeance, Melbourne, will be having a few amber fluids with me over the Festive Season, here at wonderful Victor Harbor in SA. Are there any of his "old mates" out there who would like to send him a surprise message ? Have a SAFE and HEALTHY 2003 everyone. Bruce Blain ex stoker R51440.

12/17/02 10:48:39 PM

Name: Philip Steele
Comments: I visit your site not as often as I would like but have noticed the entries in the visitors log about the Navy blokes loosing the Gold Card, how can this happen, which maybe a dumb question I know and would there be a good reason that DVA would need to re evaluate pensions? Phil Steele TPI Gulf War 1990 1991

12/17/02 12:38:36 PM

Name: Paul Reid
Comments: To all, may you have a great Christmas. To everyone in hospital or doing it a bit tough may 2003 be all you want it to be and that the New Year brings health and happiness. If anyone is around the Mid North Coast of NSW and feeling the Xmas 'blues' and you feel like having a drink with someone or even just a visit from someone - email me. Paul - FESR 61' - 62 (Melbourne)

12/15/02 06:11:18 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: With all these problems with DVA taking back some Navy veterans gold card, I hope that some one from the FESR National Executive are taking notice, maybe it's time to put the 'spurs' back on.

12/14/02 10:58:34 AM

Name: Les Sheppard
Comments: Merry Xmas and a happy new year to all and good luck to all those who are having trouble with dva and I hope all your claims are successful best wishes Shep

12/12/02 08:03:53 PM

Name: Ian McClure
Comments: It certainly seems that way Bob. Have a good Xmas any way. We'll get em back one day. Regards Ian

12/12/02 05:39:17 PM

Name: Bob(Porky) Aitken
Comments: Ian and Garry, don't know if it right or not but I hear it's only Navy vets. affected Porky.

12/12/02 05:35:58 AM

Name: Ian McClure
Comments: Just like to wish everyone a vey Merry Xmas & a Prosperous New Year. I too have just lost my gold card,sounds to me like they are trying to do away with it. Regards Ian

12/11/02 12:31:14 PM

Name: Garry Slattery
Comments: I agree Porky, I think the Gold Card is for 50% or more, I am now on 20%. They, after much bickering allowed me three weeks grace with the Card so as I could complete some

treatment I was receiving, I'm now without Medical Cover for the first time since 1961, but the medals section did send me some medals the week after. May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one a wonderful Xmas and peaceful new year -- -- ...

12/10/02 06:27:45 PM

Name: Bob(Porky) Aitken

Comments: Garry Slattery, as I mentioned in my last note, I was informed today, my pension is being reduced from 100% to 60% they have overturned PTSD and alcohol dependency and peripheral neuropathy decisions nothing has been said about the gold card yet. Man ain't you glad you gave your all for pussers. This Veterans minister got up at the Canberra re-dedication service and said how the department was all out to aid and assist veterans. Christ she wants to take a good look at what the department is doing especially to old sailors. I also heard second hand that she made a comment that no serviceman under the age of 18 was involved in the Vietnam conflict. (Garbage) I was 16 on my first trip and 17 on my second. Enough whinging all the best Porky.

12/10/02 11:16:12 AM

Name: Bob Witt - QLD President

Comments: One of our members Stanley Ward, is seeking help from anyone that may have been involved or witnessed the following incident. During the Vampire trip to the Far East Strategic Reserve deployment between 17/2/1966 to 13/8/1966 in the Borneo area during a gunnery practice. Some ratings with permission from Damage Control were sent forward to dinner. When I (one of the party sent forward) stepped out on the deck directly under X turret it began firing and the blast caused me some distress and the sickbay was notified. If anyone who was on Vampire for that cruise and remembers the incident he would appreciate it if you could contact him. (phone (07)5486 2676). As he has no computer any assistance can be forward via my email address and I will pass on the message.

12/09/02 06:12:00 PM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: Well the page has gone quite again, never mind it will pick up. May I take this opportunity to wish all a very MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2003. Many thanks to the team that helped me in the past (R.A.N in Vietnam China Hammal) for my entitlements etc GOD BLESS YOU ALL. 54345

12/06/02 12:31:10 PM

Name: Jim Bullen

Comments: Thanks for the thought Ernie Sinfield. Tony Daniel copied the book about Quiberon put out about 1999 and sent me a copy. However, the magazine about Quiberon 1958-59 doesn't ring a bell with me. If you've got the time could you copy it and send it to me at 3/222 New South Head Road, Edgecliff 2027 and I'll reimburse you your costs. Tks and cheers, Ernie, Bull

12/05/02 07:07:39 AM

Name: Ron Hobba

Comments: What happened to the couple of entries after 30.11.02?. They have seemed to have disappeared during yesterday's maintenance of the web page while it was off the air!

11/30/02 02:18:04 AM

Name: Garry Slattery
Comments: Thanks Bob I will make the call on Monday its the principle of the matter and the absolute lack of communication that irks me, one incident I mentioned was the Torpedo firing it occurred 14/5/59 we were allotted for duty 26 mar to 28 apr re-allocated again 19/5 and the Hogue and Mysore 25/8 we were allotted 14/6/ to 21/8 strange coincidence that we just happened to out of allocation when these events occurred, maybe the Historian who supplies the info to DVA had a Robbie Waterhouse(prior knowledge) Ill leave it to the cynics amongst us You can see by the submission Ive been and insomniac since Pussers days -- -- ...

11/28/02 01:52:55 PM

Name: Ern Sinfield
Comments: TO Jim Bullen I have a crew photo of Quiberon which was on the cover of the ships magazine 1958/59. maybe Derek Tite or Tony Daniel might have an actual photo of the ship. Like yours, mine seems to have disappeared somewhere.
Regards, Ern

11/27/02 05:52:35 PM

Name: Bob(Porky) Aitken
Comments: Garry Slattery, I think I am about to be in the same position as you find yourself.I suggest you might get intouch with Liz, Cathy or Adam at Veterans lagal aid advocacy in Sydney who may be able to take out an injunction while your case is appealed.I have been lead to believe that there are a number of vets this is being applied to and from what I hear they all or mostly EX RAN vets. Phone 0292195148 Regards Porky.

11/27/02 03:46:23 PM

Name: Jim Bullen
Comments: John Sandaver. 'Sydney' was my first and last ship. I joined it to do my training in early '57 and paid off while it was doing its refit in '62. I never did get a photo of the old girl, so I will take you up on your offer to e-mail a photo. You can get me at jimbullen@hotmail.com. Cheers, John. Also, I have lost a lot of photos over the years and my one of 'Quiberon' went missing years ago. If an old "Quiberon" tar has got one and can e-mail it to me, Ill be most grateful. Best wishes to all and sundry. Jim Bullen

11/25/02 05:16:07 PM

Name: K Markey 50972
Comments: Hi to all !! Happy to say I attended my first FESR assoc. meeting at Sandgate on Sunday 24th. Renewed a few recently made acquaintances, and some from many years ago, well over 40 yrs in one case. Well worth it all. The present stress seems to be on Ballina, next weekend, and Adelaide reunion next year. Circumstances prevent me from planning for either, but I am determined not to miss the monthly meetings. Eager to hear from anone who can fill in gaps in Voyager history, I was aboard for the first three trips "up top". Best to all, Keith (ex A/CEA(C)*)

11/24/02 11:23:09 AM

Name: Garry Slattery
Comments: Just a little information re DVA. I was granted a increase from 20% to 50% relating to alcoholism in Feb this year, a DVA officer suggested I apply for an increase for Depression,listed in my narrative I mentioned some incidents that occurred during service in Tobruk in 1959 this was accepted , however after a considerable time. I decided to phone DVA to see how

my claim was progressing, reply oh yes but we have bad news we are revoking our previous decision and your gold card entitlement will cease, the paperwork is in the mail, it is all to do with dates these incidents occurred, because I still need continuing medical care and have appointments arranged in advance and having cancelled my private health insurance when the gold card was issued I will be out of pocket until I can re arrange cover. I post this for information and comment rgds Garry -- -- ...

11/24/02 10:14:33 AM

Name: Ern Sinfield

Comments: To Richmond Derham There does seem to be a lull in contacts at the moment, but I for one still check the guestbook every couple of days. I hope to see some feedback after the Ballina Navy weekend, which I attended last year, but am unable to do so this year. It is also a meeting of the Naval Association as well as the FESR (NSW Div). so should be interesting Ern Sinfield R50194 ..Tobruk 55/56, Quiberon 58/59

11/24/02 12:56:35 AM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: What has happened, i look forward to the comments that appear. But it seems that nobody wants to use this medium???? Why? Am still looking for ex shipmates from Anzac times....FESR 59 R54345

11/15/02 08:52:38 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: Hello to all, A few years ago (In 1959) a bloke by the name of John Watson and I served aboard the Queenbee, he is a West Aussie, but I believe that he settled in Victoria and is/was a lecturer with the TAFE/UNI system. I would really like to make contact....so, over to you Mal H

11/13/02 06:17:56 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Hi John Sandaver whay did you think of my theory Sydney or Vengeance have looked at it a couple of times since stick my decision

11/13/02 04:14:23 PM

Name: JOHN SANDAVER

Comments: I have just been loaned several photo albums mainly of HMAS Sydney and her trip out from the UK I will sacn the best ones and if anyone is intrested i will send some by email. just borrowed the book UP TOP by Jeffery Grey about the RAN where else but UP TOP FESR plus Regards John FESR R63501

11/13/02 06:25:35 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Denis, Originally the concept was a get together for a couple of drinks for old Handler mates, no one visualised so many would turn up. Though distance is a curse in this great country of ours our shipmates past or present are never far from our thoughts Cheers Bob

11/12/02 08:21:40 PM

Name: Denis(Bodgie)Sefton

Comments: If you blokes want to make this a really national ESO organisation. think of your shiomates on the other side of the

"Rabbit proof fence" Through the tyranny of distance we can't attend your functions as much as we would like to

11/11/02 03:58:58 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Sadly unable to attend last Saturday's turnout at Goodna RSL, all the best to former Birdies, it must have been one hell of a reunion, no doubt the club president, Vivvien Stanbury saw to your needs, regards, Irish.

11/10/02 06:35:53 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Could not agree with you more Bob, What a great day, the Birdie's certainly know how to put on these re-unions they are obviously the envy of the General Service types when it comes to reunions.

11/10/02 05:48:58 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: To all in Birdie land, the Premier Branch's mainstays the Handlers converged on the Goodna RSL for a mini reunion Saturday 9th November. Over a hundred turned up from far and wide. Glory days were relived over quite a few sherbets! To the organisers and the staff of the Goodna RSL a big well done. It could well be another date to add to our yearly calander.

11/08/02 02:34:04 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Thats OK Irish pleased to hear your young bloke going along well wont be long now and we head West so have a mighty good Xmas and see you in the New Year I will be clearing my mail while away so please advise when anything is decided re March Trip

11/06/02 06:16:11 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Hi George, Good to hear from you after all these years, pity you weren't in Brisbane this weekend (Sat 9th) There is a Handlers Mini-reunion on with many of your old mates in attendance. Keep in touch mate.

11/05/02 06:12:50 PM

Name: George Mills ex LAAH R55545

Comments: This is a general hello to all my old ex navy mates who served with me in Albatross and Melbourne, best wishes and good luck, if heading west let me know i live 7km south of Fremantle and it would be great to catch up.

11/04/02 11:24:43 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Thanks Buck and "The Crystal Cracker" for your kind thoughts, our son Mark is up and running on all cylinders once again, he was home from St Vincent's in just six days. The NSW Newsletter [editor Ken Staff] has been sent out to all NSW and ACT members, see you all at Ballina last weekend in November, regards, Irish.

10/30/02 05:50:19 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Good Day All seems to have gone very quiet doesn't it. Has anyone had much involvement with the latest VEA review - anv out feelinas ? I saw a Vietnam Vets set of notes of the

submissions by other Government Departments which appeared to tie the hands of the Review Committee. I sincerely hope it was not the case - too many heart rending stories in the submissions from TPI's, Viet vets, BCOF and so many more for it to be ignored. It appears Gov depts just wish we would hurry up and die as we cost money. Hope that's not too cynical but we'll see. best regards to all - How is Wakka going these days ? Ross J in the warm North - 47deg last wednesday then 45 for four days. beer o'clock time. review Committee up tight sueu

10/25/02 09:22:38 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)
Comments: Denis Thanks for the well wishes Denis. I wasn't like all you 'AE's' who sunbaked on the Goofers and who sunbaked all the time and who had their tourist ticket punched on each trip . I was one of the workers who also assisted in folding and spreading and who helped in setting and balancing the Wessex blades even though I was Radio. I also tell lies too! Catch up with you later old mate and my regards to all those in Nowra & District. Makes you wonder about the kerfuffle going on about the Di-oxin and residues left in the evaporators of the ships on the Vietnam service. There has to be something in it that is making the cancer stats so high. regrds Ron

10/24/02 10:49:34 PM

Name: Denis C Mulvihill
Comments: Ron Hobba, great to hear that everything is OK. Haven't been on this site for a month or so, didn't know about your situation. Once again, glad to hear you will be up on the flight deck again (and not on the goofers sponson) Regards, Mulvi

10/23/02 07:59:21 AM

Name: Erwin [Canada] Hodikin
Comments: Seeking info. As a Pensions Officer I submitted a claim for a sailor on 06-07-01. The claim was based on an Instrument signed by Bronwyn Bishop, Min. for Def. on 23 Dec. /97 stating the Parramatta was allotted for duty, Op's area for the purposes of the VEA 1986, from 26 Oct. 1970-16 Sept. 1971. The claim failed at VRB because it is said the Instrument was rescinded but no one can tell us by whom and when. Can anyone help resolve this? Thanks.

10/22/02 04:47:56 PM

Name: Jeff Barclay
Comments: Looking for shipmates who were on board the HMAS Queenborough in January/February 1963 when we went up the Saigon River.

10/22/02 11:39:23 AM

Name: Doug Buchanan
Comments: Hi Irish Understand your circumstances but if you happen to be in site look in slops blazer pocket the size as is, looks good for what we discussed at last meeting not blazer size it does not have FESR on it but that would be easy to add.Hope your Son is up and about and making good progress catch up Doug Buchanan

10/19/02 09:39:57 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)
Comments: Hi All Many thanks for the well wishes Mal & Irish. I hope your son fares well during his op Irish. My thoughts are with him and you all. With the open heart surgerv I have heard of

persons coming home three days after the op. They must be tough old nuts. Regards Ron

10/18/02 09:15:44 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: Hello Ron (Hobba), I had exactly the same condition and operation in 1983, and I am here today and expect to be for quite some time....you will be experiencing many emotions (as will your loved ones)mate, give me a call..... Mal Hughes

10/18/02 04:28:24 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Hi Irish Hope all goes well with your Sons op all the best and our thoughts are with you From all of us Newcastle Shipmates

10/18/02 03:25:08 PM

Name: laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: To the 'Crystal Cracker', great to see your'e up and about old son after your no doubt scary tussle with the 'Big C'. My wife and I have just returned from Redlands and are currently staying in Sydney as Mark, our eldest lad [aged 43]is undergoing open heart surgery in St Vincents,no unforeseen problems but a nervous moment for us all, hope to see a big rollup at Ballina at the end of next month, regards, Irish.

10/16/02 09:05:33 AM

Name: Russell Hutchison

Comments: I recently heard bits and pieces of a conversation that it is possible that someone maybe the government is looking at paying compensation or something to members who served on HMA Ships in vietnam because of the agent orange being in our drinking water... can anyone inform me as to whether or not this is correct.. I have looked for information in most places but cannot find anything,so any info would be greatly appreciated.. thanks to anyone who can assist regards Russell Hutchison

10/15/02 03:12:25 PM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)

Comments: To All Thanks mates. No more heavy landings for me now. The wings have been unfolded and spread, its away chocks in a couple of weeks and I will pick up No 2 wire on landing instead of making a few touch and goes. regards Ron [:D][:D][:D]

10/15/02 10:24:43 AM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Good one, Ron. It's hard to keep a good "Birdie" down.

10/14/02 09:55:42 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Glad to see you got a clean bill of health Ron and are up and about without restriction will look forward to seeing you at the meetings

10/14/02 02:27:24 PM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)

Comments: Hi All I am now back on deck after being admitted to Greenslopes Sick Bay 3 weeks ago. Examined me, gave me three units of blood and opened up the gut a few days later. Found I had 'donna & dancer of the bowel where the cancer crew on to the bowel & bladder. I was a bit crook. The

Specialist managed to get all the cancer out with the assistance of an urologist. Lashed me back up like a well stowed hammock with no Irish pendants,(Not meaning you Irish me old mate!), hanging from my stomach such as colostomy etc. Do not require chemo. or radium treatment. On no pills tablets or medication whatsoever and just about back to my old self except I dropped a bit in weight. They tested 38 of my glands and not sign of any cancers. I have won "the gold lotto" so will not be buying a ticket for next Sat. big draw of 17 million. I have had my win so I shall let someone else win! Cheers to all, and I shall catch up with you all on the net of Nov. meeting at Sandgate. Regards Ron

10/10/02 03:52:01 PM

Name: Bill Paxman

Comments: I recently returned from a six week holiday to West Aust, whilst there I visited the memorial for HMAS SYDNEY sunk off the coast of WA. on the 19th Nov 1941. The memorial is located at Mt. Scott in Geraldton and features a spectacular silver dome of 645 Gulls, one for each member of the crew. All the names of the crew are listed plus information about the Sydney, it is very well done. I also purchased a CD called FINAL VOYAGE- A SONG FOR THE SYDNEY, produced and recorded in Geraldton by two of the locals, James Robinson and John Saunders, if anyone would like a copy of the CD Please contact JOHN SAUNDERS 31b Conus Way, Sunset Beach, WEST AUST. 6530. TELEPHONE 0409 880389. CD-\$12 POSTAGE \$3-95.

10/10/02 12:55:11 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Has anyone heard of an FESR Medal issued by the Government was talking to fellow the other day assures me he has one showed him my FESR Medal put out by HMAS Sydney & VLSAA and he said his was different to that and was issued by government look forward to remembrance day will see it and compare

10/09/02 07:20:53 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: ONLY ONE MONTH TO GO TO THE "BIRDIE' HANDLERS MINI RE-UNION AT GOODNA RSL. SO COME ON ALL YOU HANDLERS OUT THERE, LET'S ALL MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND AND MAKE A GREAT DAY OF IT. DATE: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9. TIME: FROM 10 AM. (EST) VENUE: GOODNA RSL CLUB, GOODNA QLD. DRESS: NEAT CASUAL. DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR PARTNERS ALONG!

10/09/02 03:31:28 PM

Name: Joe Linaker

Comments: Message: Am searching for crewmembers of HMAS Mildura circa '52-58, in particular the Monte Bello operations. Names include Brian Fitzgerald, Paddy Stack, Ian Pinkus, Shorty Freeney, Ben Waters, and Col Danielson. Some may be RAAF chappies seconded to Mildura, and/or associates of LAC Kelvin Brown A112033, a plant operator during the Monte Bello exercises. Kelvin's family are planning a surprise for him, and seek details and any contact available on the personnel included in this message.

10/08/02 04:38:16 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Back on line after few weeks convalescence to Ernie Sinfield

the answer is yes probably after the Sunday Memorial Service if you read this Irish please and any further info was there last year had a great time unfortunately wont be there have committments in WA the boys form Newcastle ex Anzac would be pleased to renew freindships and also go along to FESR meeting great bunch of people and can all recall the same era maybe we will meet up one day our March meeting we intend to hold in Nowra any further info re this can be obtained from our great Secretary Irish Shaw whose address appears in these columns Will cath up at a later date

10/05/02 09:28:06 AM

Name: Sinin, gosele

Comments: God bless all those who saved us in Borneo during the Konfrontasi..for without you guys..I wonder what would we will be today. From Kuching Sarawak Malaysia

10/04/02 11:16:58 AM

Name: Les Church

Comments: Could you add the "Vampire" Associations website to your link it is www.hmasvampireassociation.com/ Thanks

10/03/02 03:32:41 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: All you sickbay tiffies out there, I got a phone call this morning from former CPO SBA Ken O'Brian [1947-64] who hails from out Campbelltown way, shipped out on the six inch cruiser HMAS Australia, Wagga, etc. Ken sends his regards to former shipmates especially FESR NSW members, he was a great mate of ex-Chief Cook Alan Bamford from WA. Due to inclement health Ken couldn't make it to our September 14th meeting but is is up and firing on all cyliders and is looking forward to the all ships noshup at Ballina on the last weekend in November, good onya old son, hope to see you all there, regards, Irish.

09/30/02 04:49:13 PM

Name: Drew

Comments: good job on your site! We link to sites that have new information and entertainment. Hopefully, we can exchange links! Please visit <http://www.ChangingLINKS.com> suggest your link.

09/28/02 11:12:37 AM

Name: david powell

Comments: I found this site just today. Would be great to catch up with any crew of the Tobruk 1955/56 Far East trip. F'rd Port mess deck with "happy" Florance, Budgie, Ron Currie, Allan Smith, Jack Murray and plenty others too. Would really like an email if you were there. Dave Powell.

09/20/02 09:47:03 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: A great day was had by all at Woy Woy leagues Club on Saturday 14th [My birthday]with the Central Coast Branch of the NAA meeting being held in the morning closely followed by the FESR bunch; State Vice President John and Joan Trindall won the raffle. Meeting up with god mates old and new over an excellent lunch in the Club's Bistro washed down with a few obligitory blasts, both groups chatted on long into the afternoon. Some like myself and the lady wife Carol continued on well into the wee small hours at Wyong RSL. a beaut dav was had bv all. look forward to manv. manv

more, next one to be held in the last weekend in November at Ballina, exact date to be announced, regards, Irish.

09/20/02 06:43:42 PM

Name: Ernie Sinfield

Comments: Doug Buchanan, Read your comment re FESR meeting which unfortunately I did not attend as I was in W A. Re your comment about the next meeting in Ballina, is that to be held at the same time as the Ballina Naval Reunion at the end of November. I attende the lat one and met a few blokes from Newcastle (ex Anzac) and enjoyed it. I might even try to go again

09/20/02 04:46:19 PM

Name: Doug (Buck) Buchanan R49630

Comments: Well the NSW branch has has another very succesful meeting and considering some of the distances travelled to get there makes one feel proud.Next meeting Ballina so come on all you Northern NSW guys this is for you I was in Ballina last year for reunion with quite a few Newcastle FESR guys they are going back this year last year was a great show unfortunately this year will have to miss am going back to WA catch up with family so have a great time

09/17/02 05:06:49 PM

Name: Ern Dait

Comments: Bob Witt I left you a message on your message board on your Great Site...not in a hurry for the answer, just when it suits you mate..Well done Bob..A cherio to Ross Jennings in the West hope everything going right for you mate..Ern Dait R50721

09/16/02 09:15:19 PM

Name: K Markey 50972

Comments: Re messages on incorporation: In another "Inc body" I belong to, the rules as I understand them,the books must be audited asap after the close of the financial year: and the AGM must be held within three months of that close. Membership in this case, is due at the conclusion of the AGM: if not it is likely that some may not renew in time to attend that "meeting". Just a thought !!! KJM.

09/14/02 07:14:53 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: ATTENTION ALL BIRDIE "HANDLERS" A reminder about the Mini Re-union for Birdie Handlers. A Mini re-union for Birdie Handlers is to be held at the Goodna RSL Qld. Saturday November 9, 2002, commencing at 10 am Dress is informal. Partners most welcome, there are many of you travelling from interstate and might require accomodation, contact Doug Murray on (07) 3281 3428 and he will make suitable arrangements. See all you Birdie Handlers there!

09/12/02 09:57:40 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Ernie Sinfield, All the best on your birthday old son, have a few for me and the lads at the Shoalhaven pub, regards, Irish.

09/11/02 09:29:23 PM

Name: ken Sanders

Comments: Paul Reid, YES there is assistance, as you have suggested, go to ASAC. the Armed Services Assistance Centre Inc. -

www.asacaustralia.com or email: info@asacaustralia.com - Presently we have offices in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast, servicing all areas in Queensland and Northern New South Wales, but have the ability to refer to qualified FREE assistance in all states. Thank you for your enquiry, so please follow up and ask any questions you may. Be assured you'll receive a satisfactory Answer. Cheers, Ken Sanders.

09/10/02 08:19:55 PM

Name: Paul Reid

Comments: Does anyone know if there is any information available on the number of vets from the 50's - 70's, in fact any era, who may be doing it tough. There might be a way to help them out - nothing fantastic, but certainly a help - just need the necessary information so that we could apply some sort of criteria. I got out in '68 and was reasonably lucky with the direction I took but I know that some of the blokes were less fortunate. As I said, it's nothing fantastic but it may be able to put a few dollars/meals whatever on the table and hopefully could be administered by our Association (FESR) the Vietnam Vets or whomever. Rgds - Paul

09/09/02 10:56:32 PM

Name: Noel P Muller

Comments: Joined 16 Jan '61 Served Vendetta 62-64 Kuttabal 64-65 and Melbourne 65-66 Discharged Medical. FESR 1962 Malaysia, Borneo, Indonesia, 62-63-64(replaced Voyager) Vietnam 1966, twice Communications (Signalman) Ships Diver (CABA) Helmsman Marksman, would love to hear from anyone who cares to write about those days of yore, best regards to everyone, Noel.

09/08/02 12:17:29 PM

Name: Tony (Slim) Smith

Comments: Can anybody tell me the whereabouts or how to locate ex Aircraft Handler Ron (Burri) Levis.

09/08/02 11:44:54 AM

Name: Lionel Amos

Comments: I am an ex mobi EA R42252 on Yarra and Swan. I am seeking information on some incidents during Indonesian confrontation, the first is when the Yarra met a darkened warship. I think off Borneo, Yarra went to action stations. The ship proved to be Phillipine. The next is shelling parts of Borneo near Tawau any details of that incident and the name of the regional australian newspaper that reportet (accurately) that Yarra had shelled inside Indonesia and that there had been as official diplomatic complaint. regards to all This is a Good site

09/06/02 10:09:43 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: OK you blokes....here is something you can get your teeth into... The Rockingham Sub Section of the Naval Association will be staging an exhibition of Naval Memorabilia at the Club in Jan 2003. We are supported by the West Aust Maritime Museum and the RAN at Stirling, the State Section of the NAA and the Perth Sub Section.... The local Shire has listed it as a major event for the year, and we expect to have many visitors.... Challenge #1....to all WA readers, if you have something that you would like to see exhibited (on a LOAN basis)...please contact me. Challenge #2.....if you want to be involved....please contact me. Challenge #3...the WA Maritime Museum has a 262 Radar Director !!!!! complete

with all electronic units. Together we would like to "make it work".....we need the contents of the Local Maintenance Annexe, we also need handbooks.... I have sent e-mail to the RN Museum at Portsmouth, but I would not be the least surprised to hear that somebody right here in OZ has something "in their backyard"... Well, their we are.....I am looking forward to LOTS CONTACTS... Mal Hughes

08/31/02 11:26:24 PM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: Keep up the pressure boys, lets not give in it seems that when we all start whinging the govt backs down on what we should be getting.....OUR ENTITLEMENTS..."we fought them on the beaches" they didnt give up ...54345

08/31/02 08:37:24 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)

Comments: Mal I have been in the same boat as you re the Govt. replies. Received letters from PM and Vet Aff Minister informing me the gongs are only issued for warlike conditions etc. Then they stopped responding to me. I think it is a metter for our now Nat. Executive to take up with each State and make a concentrated effort in doing something about it as well as those who have served a period of 2 years in the services. If the State Ex. do this it may give the members a bit more incentive to participate, as occurred in the "Sea Review" instead of them having no direction to go which seems to be the case now. I notice that at our monthly meetings held here in Brisbane the numbers seemed to have dropped off of members probably due to lack of interest now that they have received their benifits. Most conversations seem to be about the Sth Aust Re-union and everyone shall not be attending that function. I feel the Association needs a strong direction to follow rather than rest on our laurels. What about raising money to train a guide dog, like we used to do in pussers' and things like that! Cheers to all and I hope my comments may spark a bit more interest on the site.

08/30/02 05:17:55 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: Your dead right Mal and anytime is the right time to fight for your rights not sure fully what your case is maybe let State branches know all about it anything to do with ex service guys getting their dues you will find everyone behind it and yes it sure is great to see this site opnce more generating interest among members come lets get active again

08/30/02 05:03:38 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: This is a message for Ron Hobba.... Ron, I started writing letters to the Government in April 1995 re Melbourne/Voyager (and subsequently the Blackhawks and then Westralia). At first I received replies, but after a while they stopped responding.... The sentiments you express coincide with my own. Now may be an opportune time for a "concerted" effort to be made by our Association and kindred organisations to right what I and others see as an injustice. I will be interested to see others comments...please feel free to email me.. Mal Hughes

08/29/02 11:05:49 PM

Name: John Symonds

Comments: Notice to All Tassie Members.. The Inaugural Meeting of the Tasmanian Division Will be Held at the Man-O-Ross Hotel.

Ross on Wednesday 18th September at 11.30a.m. contact:
Joe Charton chjoemon@southcom.com.au or above e.
cheers John

08/29/02 02:42:50 PM

Name: bryan (wings) burdett
Comments: H.M.A.S Quickmatch Association 1942-72 A.G.M. and 60th annual reunion to be held at Waverley R.S.L. Glen Waverley 10.30 am Monday 16th September 2002. All details Mick Given (sec.) 039317 9772. Good turnout for the 56/60 reunion, see if we can do it again. If you want a copy of the meeting ring me 0398774443. Wings

08/27/02 08:54:57 PM

Name: Joe Linaker
Comments: Saddened to report the passing of Norman Farquhar 62, after a long battle with emphysema. Normie, from the class 0f57 was a flight deck warrior from the "Carrier Navy" who did his bit for FESR with tours of duty in HMAS Melbourne. A tenacious Aircraft Handler at both work and play, Normie was a pretty handy Aussie Rules footballer who loved a drink on a hot day. I enjoyed some good times both ashore and afloat with little "No Legs" and I am sure many old Handlers did too. Norm pursued his chosen vocation as a butcher after he paid off and settled at Mount Pleasant, Victoria. He is survived by his wife Kath, their 3 Children and 3 Great Grandchildren. "Away Chocks" Old mate, Godspeed and Good Sailing - Lest We Forget.

08/27/02 04:00:22 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Good to see the comments coming in, the Woy Woy meeting is on the 14th September, not the 15th, after consultation with Windy I sent a letter to Danna Vale re a service medal as outlined earlier on this site. As for separate State Websites, although in agreement in principle I'm not so sure that there'd be enough "Traffic" generated to make them viable, of course then again I could be wrong, regards, Irish

08/27/02 09:05:40 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio) (VK4AVK)
Comments: Great to see the comments beginning to roll in once again from the regulars. I also received (and I accepted from the Govt (I'll take anything that they offer to me after the way we were all treated in the past) my National Service Medal from the 50's. It does not mean that I agreed with the principle in which it was given but I have been writing to the MP's for recognition of service for a defence medal for all ex-servos who had served a min of 2 years of for those who have been killed/wounded on duty or on exercise such as the Voyager/Blackhawk etc incidents. A lot of the families of those personnel have nothing to show that those persons gave their lives in defence of our Country. Because they were not on active service and had not qualified in service time for a long service gong the relatives have nothing to show and wear with pride for the sacrifice given. They also deserve recognition.

08/26/02 09:33:11 PM

Name: Ross Jennings
Comments: Totally agree with all the comments of you more senior guys (in service that is) I was starting to get a little - well 'chokers' as the comments slowed down - let's go defence medal - what about some of mv mates - the atomic testina

recognition arena has been 'muddied' to some extent by people thinking they are more important than the cause. I have mates and God knows I could be there too who have serious problems - let's push out with the FESR strength this boat too.. Regards to VK2ERN , Colin Simpson (where are you ?)and all of the Moran 43 and etc. groups - Ross J R54950 all the best

08/26/02 10:48:30 AM

Name: Doug Buchanan R49630

Comments: I agree all your comments are right on and there is one issue dear to my heart that is our shipmates names on War Memorial I believe when this happens we should have a mass gathering and dedication service.In the case of Defense Medal we will not get it we do not bring pressure to bear little Johnny got Nashos on side forget the rest I got my Nashos medal but still think it stinks but then I am not out to catch votes.So maybe with our views & comments we may generate some life back into this site.Bob dont believe the interest has waned because of local autonomy because for one we dont have a website like this to talk thru down the track we may come on guys lets get together once more and demand our due rights

08/25/02 07:00:01 PM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: I agree with your comments as well,this site can still be utilised for the betterment of the ex service persons. I am still waiting to receive my medals, some 12 months down the track.It took a stroke of a pen to send people into action but it takes a lifetime to award those some 40 years on. Any comments! thanks

08/25/02 10:07:48 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio)

Comments: Thank you Doug & Bob for your constructive comments. I guess there are a lot of others who feel the same. Let us not rest on our laurels now we have achieved recognition and medals. Let us look forward and become involved in the Defence Medal issue and other current matters which affect all ex-servos and not just leave it to the select few who are always involved on our behalf. Lets us all become involved and bring those issues to the forefront to the benefit of all.

08/25/02 07:19:27 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Both Doug and Ron are right there hasn't been much activity in recent times, but with any site and ours is no different it goes through a quite time.Maybe it is because all the States are concentrating on getting the autonomy up and running, I believe that we have lost the plot a little. In the past we have had a battle on our hands to achieve recognition which created interest, what we want now is to renew that interest in a new cause such as a Aust. Volunteer Defense Medal or getting involved in Welfare, there are a lot of Veterans still out there who do not know or have their entitlements lets talk to our State Executives and get a project we can all get our teeth into and by doing so create an interest which will bring this forum back to what it was.

08/24/02 12:00:24 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan

Comments: I am like you Ron prepared to take some blame but you are right I used to visit this page Daily as there was always

something going on now only come in about once a week is it that we believe we have most of our achievements and have nothing further to say or just total disinterest! suppose in my case have not had much to say but come on Guys lets talk You West Aussie guys give me some info will be over there this coming November to late January staying Sisters place Leeming and my sons place in Dunsborough hope to catch up NSW guys remember WOY WOY Sept 15th see you there

08/24/02 08:38:11 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio)

Comments: I am to blame as much as everyone else but what has happened to the comments, information and and activity from members and visitors to the site. I obtained a wealth of info from the forum that came from members all over Australia and now most have disappeared into the wild blue yonder and the site appears to be in its dying throes. Let's get back om air nationally.

08/20/02 03:57:03 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Yes, the day was all I expected and more saddened somewhat by news of the passing of ex-digger, top soldier and Vietnam Veteran, Col Davies of Springwood. Col was a Private in my CMF unit, 6Pit B Company 17 RNSWR at Katoomba before going to Vietnam, many a sherbet and laugh we shared, he would have enjoyed the day as we did, he was only about 55, too young. regards, Irish.

08/16/02 03:50:10 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Hope to see all you NSW Division members of the FESR Association at the "Horizontal" and Royal Hotels or the Springwood Bowling Club after the Vietnam Veteran's annual Long Tahn Day march down Macquarie Road. Of course it's being held at my old stomping ground of Springwood in the glorious Blue Mountains next Sunday the 18th August, should be a top day as I hear the organisers have gone to a great deal of trouble in the preparation, personally I'm looking forward to the day and renewing acquaintances, regards, Irish.

08/08/02 10:48:56 PM

Name: Ron McLaren

Comments: Amazing site fellas. I got sore eyes trying to read all the pages of postings....had to do it in 2 watches....with kai in between. BZ. I'll be surfing in regularly.

08/01/02 02:36:11 PM

Name: John Lynch

Comments: Congratulations on a great web site. Any ex QUADRANT crew 1955 - 57 residing within the mid north coast area can give me a call. Now residing in beautiful down town Forster NSW John Lynch ex scribe

08/01/02 08:39:52 AM

Name: harry goodall

Comments: The fifty anniversary of the f e s r is nearly on us the government awarded a 50th anniversary medal for the national servicemen should not a medal be issued to mark the anniversary of the f e s r

07/31/02 04:22:47 PM

Name: Ron Chenhall ex E.R.A. 48099

Comments: To all N.S.W. members who intend to march in Springwood on the 18th. I have just received the monthly news from Blue Mtns.Viet Vets which states. "S.R.A.,City Rail and State Transit agree to allow all personel in uniform or wearing awarded service decorations free travel to and from Springwood on Viet Vets Memorial day."

07/29/02 04:54:59 PM

Name: Jim McFerran

Comments: Bathurst and District Vietnam Veterans Association. Vietnam Veterans Dinner/Dance 17th August @ Bathurst RSL Club 7.00pm cost of tickets \$25.00 P/H. All are invited Service at Bathurst & District Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park on Sunday 18th August @ 11.00am, Cnr Boundary & Cowra Road Bathurst. All are invited. The B&DVVA have established the Park on Bathurst Council land and has brick entry gates. Vietnam Vets and their families can purchase bricks showing (name and serial number) on them which are then inserted into the brickwork replacing an existing brick. The cost of the brick is \$25.00 and this can be paid to B & DVVA P.O.Box 616 Bathurst NSW 2795. To have your name added to the wall you must come from this area. If anyone from Bathurst and District would like me to send them a digital photo of the Gates please send me an e mail and I will send them to you. Regards Jim McFerran Honorary Secretary Bathurst RSL Sub Branch

07/27/02 07:08:29 AM

Name: Garry Slattery

Comments: John Sandaver... Mate I somehow deleted yr address from my list, pse send a short note no I can re-enter. met Naomi and Michael last night, enroute to your area... small world rgds odat

07/26/02 10:25:50 AM

Name: Ern Dait

Comments: Just been to the Queensland division of the FESR web site and it has been well presented it should turn out to be a great site. Are the NSW division of the association going to do the Same? If so,about when would that be? Hello to Ross Jennings in the west, thanks for the call shipmate.Ern Dait ex RAN R50721.

07/25/02 03:53:14 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: NSW FESR members have been graciously invited to march with the Vietnam Veteran's during their big day on the 18th August next at Springwood in the Blue Mountains, they'll be stepping off at 1130 hours next to the fire station which is near the subway in Macquarie Rd Springwood. Trains leave Central at 1002 then Strathfield at 1014 arriving Springwood at approximately 1118, then a short five minute walk west down Macquarie Rd to the assembly point. [past the Royal Hotel]; let's have a big turnout on the day, dress No1's with medals of course, regards in unity,Irish.

07/25/02 03:32:37 PM

Name: Garry Slattery

Comments: I notice a reference to PNG Voyager visited Milne Bay in 61 or 62 is that to be included in application for medals etc thanks

07/24/02 03:54:26 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

FESR Archive (www.fesrassociation.com)

Documents appear as originally posted (i.e. unedited)

Comments: Those members interested in the fate of the former carrier HMAS Vengeance can log on to the relevant website by punching in <http://www.fleetairarmarchive.net/vengeance/> on their favourite search engine, you'll be delighted to know that she's still around, tenders to decide her fate will be opened to-morrow 25th July 2002, regards, Irish.

07/24/02 09:33:11 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio)

Comments: Bob Many thanks. Site accessed OK. I saw the website logo and did not open that. I thought it was your own website. See you on Sunday. Ron

07/23/02 07:54:01 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Ron, The link to the QLD Homepage can be found in the State Association Section of this website. The weblink below will also take you there. Divisional homepages are optional and run by the States themselves, they are not part of the National Website. updated web link: 11/08/2002

07/23/02 07:04:25 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862

Comments: CONGRATULATIONS Queensland on getting your site up and running. Its great to see all these Navy sites in operation. Its beaut after all these years to keep in touch with the pusser family

07/23/02 09:30:41 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio)

Comments: Bob Where do we find the Qld home page? Is it a separate web site or what? Couldn't get to it on this site. Regards Ron

07/19/02 06:08:51 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Just wanted to let everyone know that the FESR QLD Divisional homepage is up and running. QLD members will find local news and information posted. Other States are invited to stop by. The Message Board on the QLD homepage is now available and your thoughts are always welcome. Note that the Message Board is open to all. Those wanting to receive a copy of the QLD minutes be sure to submit your email address. Email addresses can be submitted on-line via the QLD homepage. Note that only QLD registered members can request a copy of QLD minutes. If QLD members have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either myself or a member of the State Exec.

07/15/02 07:19:48 PM

Name: Ken Witchard

Comments: Hello this site is a credit to the creator. I am searching for an ex POQMG Peter Jurd who served aboard HMAS Supply during 1973 to 74 with me. Need to locate him with a view to the Reunion next year. Any help would be appreciated as someone must know him. Look forward to any reply. Regards Ken Witchard ex: ABQMG

07/15/02 10:41:49 AM

Name: Les Figg

Comments: Forwarding a message from Peter Maher: THE NAVY'S VIETNAM VETERANS - Between 1962 and 1972, just on 12,500 members of the Royal Australian Navy saw service in

Vietnam, the 12,500 representing just about every second sailor who served during that time, and they served on 15 ships of the RAN, as well as mixed crewed ships BOONAROO and JEPARIT, CD Team 1 and the RAN Helo Flight Vietnam. In the years since, it is estimated that the good Lord, and Davy Jones, have claimed, conservatively, 2,500 of this number. Indeed, asbestos and cancer have claimed many, as well as car and other accidents, there have been suicides, and one was reported to have been killed by pirates in the West Indian Ocean. Some have died alone in almost bare hotel rooms, and even as part of the homeless, on Sydney's streets. Many former Junior Recruits were serving in Vietnam at age 17, including serving on the "Gunline Ships" HOBART, PERTH, BRISBANE and VENDETTA, and a data matching exercise with date of birth and service in Vietnam could well reveal one or two who had their seventeenth birthday in Vietnamese waters. It is not surprising that the youngest Vietnam Veteran of the three services is a sailor. Many Navy Vietnam Veterans saw service on more than one ship, indeed, more sailors served on SYDNEY, over the period of the conflict, than in any other Vietnam unit, be it ship, regiment or squadron. To allow all of our ex-sailors to renew old ties, the 2002 Navy Vietnam Veterans Reunion is a reunion for ALL Navy veterans, and will take place in Coffs Harbour, NSW, over the period 25th to 28th October 2002. You can find out more information by visiting the reunion website at <http://coffs-reunion.server101.com/> By contacting your ship association, Or writing to: The Secretary Naval Vietnam Veterans Reunion 2002, PO Box 1867, COFFS HARBOUR, NSW, 2450.

07/11/02 10:56:33 AM

Name: harry goodall
Comments: would like to get in contact with any of the crew that seved on H M A S GULL from Feb-Aug1966regarding an incident that happen on board

07/10/02 02:33:21 PM

Name: Glenn Davis
Comments: i am an advocate for the vietnam veterans federation in adelaide ime currently helping a fesr veteran who served on the vampire in 1966 of the borneo coast that was invoved with an incodent with a junk if anybody can help with more info and verify my veterans statment that was on the ship at that time could you please contact me at 0882962411 or email me

07/08/02 06:20:11 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: This article in to-day's Sydney Daily Telegraph's 'In search' column caught my eye. HMAS VENGEANCE "Fifty years since commissioning at Plymouth, UK in 1952, a reunion will be held at Redfern RSL on July 26, 2002 at 1100am.Any inquiries phone Eric Bouvier on 93495158. All welcome." There's a website dedicated to the preservation of the recently paid off Argentinian carrier, the former HMAS VENGEANCE laid down originally as HMS VENGEANCE. Aparrently they want to preserve her as the only example of her class of light fleet carrier left in the world,what a great idea, regards, Irish.

07/07/02 07:21:25 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: A mini reunion for "Birdie" Handlers is beina oranised at the

Goodna RSL (Qld.) on Saturday November 9, 2002. Any member interested should contact Terry "Boxer" Banks at 67 Kingfisher Pde. Toogoom Qld. 4655, or phone (07) 4128 0187.

07/06/02 03:34:20 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Attention NSW Members, If you haven't yet received your copy of our Newsletter it's simply because I don't have your snail mail address, please E'Mail your postage details to me on maingalley@netscape.net immediately, regards, Irish.

07/05/02 09:01:17 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Good Day All- Can anyone help with locating this book please.I have tried all the WA bookshops to no avail. Thanks in advance - regards to all especially VK2Ern and Barry Bennets - still kicking ? " Where We Were" A comprehensive guide to firebases,military installations and Navy vessels of the Vietnam War 1945-1975" written by Michael P Kelley - don't know the printers unfortunately Regards Ross

07/05/02 12:53:22 PM

Name: Web Admin

Comments: Following on re the Reunion 2003 - just a reminder to all visitors that information on the SA Reunion can be found via the front page of the website i.e. FESR 'Home' page. Simply click on the Reunion banner for further details. For those wishing to contact State Divisional Reps via email and/or post you will find address details on the State Association page (all States are listed except for Tassie who are yet to come-online - best to phone them direct - see message below for details).

07/04/02 04:06:41 PM

Name: F.E.S.R. Sth Aust

Comments: FESR SA are holding a RE-UNION from the 23/04/2003 to 26/04/2003 Those wishing to attend please contact your local FESR rep.They are. ACT/NSW B. Gale 02 4757 2092 QLD H. Mills 07 3349 1021 TAS A. Kendrick 03 6244 2514 SA/NT R. Bartlett 08 8342 1866 WA G.Ryan 08 9385 9800

07/04/02 11:13:59 AM

Name: Gordon Love

Comments: The Federal Government appointed an independent Committee to review perceived anomalies in the access to veteran's entitlements and the level of benefits and support provided to veteran disability pensioners. The FESR submitted a submission to the review which was well received by the review committee. A copy of the FESR submission will soon appear on this website for your information.

07/03/02 09:24:16 PM

Name: jackgriffinr54450

Comments: justwant to say g'day to all as a brand new member of FESR lam learning the ropes, as an x dib dab 58 to 67 it would good to hear from old mates as a L PLATER with this new white man magic which my grandkids are the experts please excuse any mistakes. regards Griffio.

07/03/02 12:26:26 PM

Name: Bill hearne ex l/cook

Comments: I was saddened by the news that my mate Pincher Ron Martin died and I give my sincere condolences to his family and his good friend George Haigh he was a great guy and will be sadly miss

07/02/02 03:13:19 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan R49630

Comments: In looking around today came upon War Memorial site thought I would look up Bob(Tiddly)Spooner but no matter where I looked could not find him on Roll of Honour I realise they are not yet on the memorial itself but surely somewhere or am I looking in wrong place would appreciate any help thank you

06/26/02 10:40:51 PM

Name: George Haigh

Comments: With deep regret i wish to announce the death Today the 26th June of Ronald John Martin (Pincher)Ex Leading cook Ron served in the navy both as a National service man and a regular He served In the 1950s and 1960s at FND Hmas Australia Hmas Melbourne Hmas Albatross Hmas Quickmatch. Ron was a great mate and will be sadly missed Regards George Haigh ex Cook

06/22/02 02:49:23 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: To all Secretaries, National and State plus our own ACT members, if you would like me to send you a copy of the NSW Division Newsletter could you kindly E'Mail me your postal address on : maingalley@netscape.net regards, Irish.

06/21/02 01:30:23 PM

Name: Denis(Bodgie)Sefton

Comments: To all Western Austalian Members,our first social will be a BBQ at NAA-Perth sub section 71 West Parade East Perth,Sunday 14th July starting at 1200 hrs.Please get your names in to the Secretary on wasecretary@fesrassociation.com ASAP so we can organise the catering.

06/19/02 03:54:49 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: New South Wales Division members, your historic 1st edition Newsletter for June 2002, editor Ken staff is currently in the mail and on it's way, this copy contains membership receipts for those new and old members who sent their remittance in early. Also included are a few lottery tickets you can choose to sell to your family or friends returning appropriate cheque to: Secretary Treasurer FESR NSW Division PO Box 754 Wyong NSW 2259 regards, Irish.

06/19/02 02:06:05 AM

Name: Les Sheppard

Comments: Ken, tried www.faaaa.asn.au and it wouldn't come up, have you got another URL? regards Shep

06/18/02 07:12:23 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Buck, Bob, Eric, Jim, et al, thanks for the encouraging sentiments re medal, I'd almost given up hope of ever seeing the AASM, well worth the long delay, could never have got it on my own bat, appreciate the kind comments, regards, Irish.

06/18/02 05:05:24 PM

FESR Archive (www.fesrassociation.com)

Documents appear as originally posted (i.e. unedited)

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: ATTENTION ALL YOU BIRDIES OUT THERE! The Fleet Air Arm Association has finally moved into the 21st century and have now got a website. So, all you birdies can catch up with old shipmates and get a few frequent flying points at, . . . www.faaaa.asn.au So it's on brakes, away chocks, take a look fella's.

06/17/02 08:47:03 PM

Name: bryan (wings) burdett
Comments: after a successful quickmatch reunion have had a few queries re 56/59 ex shipmates two are outstanding a.bs. john martin and peter wilson. any help would make an ex flame(60+) happy, discretion assured i am told. any other ex quickmatch crew- there are meetings july at fesra melb. and quickmatch association annual meeting in september. contact via email or 0398774443 wings

06/15/02 06:57:12 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: There are still a couple of \$65 per night, 1 bedroom fully self contained units available at Glenelg for Re-union 2003 period, anyone interested in making a booking contact me on, birdiehandler@hotmail.com

06/14/02 10:00:30 PM

Name: Jim Bullen
Comments: Just a quickie to say good on you, Irish. Now can flash both your medal and your teeth as you collect the dues. All the best,mate. (Holidaying "Up Top") Jim Bullen

06/14/02 07:22:55 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: To Anonymous Surfer, ... I was going to ask who Robert Harvey was, but maybe the question should be who is St. Kilda????

06/14/02 07:21:38 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Thanks Ian for your kind comments, great to hear from you again but I can't help thinking of old matelots the like of former classmate LSFC Sully Sullivan from Frankston in Vic who didn't live long enough to reap the benefits, kind of takes the edge off but life must go on, regards, Irish.

06/14/02 04:45:34 PM

Name: Doug Buchanan r49630
Comments: Best of Irish suppose you could say the luck of the Irish see you at Sept meeting if not before.

06/14/02 03:40:43 PM

Name: Anonymous Surfer
Comments: Robert Harvey is alive and well and playing for St Kilda

06/14/02 07:54:06 AM

Name: Ian McClure
Comments: Congratulations Irish well done took a while but worth waiting for.

06/13/02 10:24:48 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Garv. after attendind the second Veteran Affair's Case

Officer Course [Level Two] Training Program in Sydney I was more than pleased on alighting from the train at Wyong to be met by my wife Carol who presented me with my long awaited AASM with clasp Malaya, including miniature and extra ribbon plus the RAS Badge; we celebrated with dinner at the local RSL. For the record, I applied to medals section in January last year, 17 months ago, many thanks specifically to Qld delegate John Rielly, members of the FESR and all those positive people who gave support, may we move forward from strength to strength, regards, Irish.

06/13/02 04:14:37 PM

Name: Garry Slattery

Comments: I misplaced my last newsletter can u advise address to send my membership renewal tks. medals section delay has blown out those who applied in sept 2001 should be processed about sept or oct rgds --. -- ...

06/10/02 12:38:49 PM

Name: bob gibbs

Comments: Regards to all. Best wishes, Bob

06/09/02 06:21:15 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: My appologies Jim I guess I was a little to quick off the mark and a bit over protective, I have noted the Webmaster has rephrased the overview page. Regards Bob Witt

06/09/02 02:22:26 PM

Name: Jim Bullen R52371

Comments: I feel that I have to reply to the comments made on this site in response to my suggestion that the "Overview" page could be reviewed in keeping with the times. As a print editor for several years myself, I am fully aware of the problems involved in keeping running items up to date, particularly those that are run on a voluntary basis and by those who are getting on in years. I meant no criticism of the splendid work done by the editor and helpers of this magnificent site - a site brings together us oldies who underwent basically similar experiences when we were young and gives us a chance now that we are old to keep in touch with those we either knew personally as shipmates or have else come to know as having shared the same destiny. If my comments were taken as criticism to the degree that they struck a sensitive chord with those who are trying their best to cope with possibly excessive demands on their time and resources, I sincerely apologize and hope that my comments will be construed as merely as trying to be constructive. Yours humbly, Jim Bullen No offence taken Jim. Not all feedback is positive and some is downright 'inappropriate' hence the defensive stance of loyal supporters. I can assure you that no personal malice was intended in response. You made a valid point and I subsequently amended the page in question. Please feel free to contribute your thoughts at any time as your editorial experience is greatly valued. Regards, Erica.

06/09/02 08:15:41 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Webmaster, I must reiterate Irish's quotation, we are now up and running. It is hoped that all members get behind their elected state represenatives to ensure our association's transition to a truely National organisation is smooth sailing and storm free. Well done Webmaster vour assistance in this

is much appreciated. Bravo Zulu

06/08/02 03:03:45 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Web Master, and what a fine job you've done, State autonomy is well and truly up and running, regards, Irish [NSW State Secretary Treasurer]

06/07/02 10:43:03 PM

Name: Web Admin

Comments: Just a quick note to inform all visitors that the National, State and Membership pages are now on-line.

06/06/02 06:19:55 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862

Comments: Have you had a look at our local West Aussie Site? It is the site for the AUSTRALIAN NAVY IN VIETNAM WELFARE ASSOCIATION.It can fill you in on some of our activities over here in the West.We run our Advocacy Service from the Leeuwin Barracks. Which is now an army establishment. Our site address is:- www.ranveteranswelfare.asn.au Best wishes Kev

06/06/02 09:07:46 AM

Name: jackgriffinr54450

Comments: would be grateful for any information on fesr association activities in darwin we get a bit out of touch up here so would appreciate any information at all..thanks

06/03/02 08:45:01 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Dear Shep - not often we differ but you are incorrect in saying the FESR hearing ruled Diamantina out. I'm no lower deck lawyer but if you look at what Judge Mohr said - "I am unable to recommend the entitlements sought for service on the HMAS Diamantina during the Indonesian Confrontation" - in every other case of refusal he said " It is recommended no further action be taken" I believe he was sympathetic but in my lack of knowledge of what to claim I went for the moon - my latest submission to the VEA Review is slightly differently worded. I hope for a better result for the men of 'Tina as they were in places that never saw mention in ROP's. Regards to all Ross - come on you ex Diamantina guys where are you ?? Monday, 03 June 2002

06/01/02 04:51:31 PM

Name: harry goodall

Comments: would like to get in touch with a mate of mine jeff chalk served with me on h m a s gull singapore feb 1966 to april 1967 where are you chalkie

06/01/02 01:00:01 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Without websites such as this we as a group would still be angrily floundering around in the dark like so many lost sheep instead of a cohesive, well informed and respected National body as we are to-day. The skills to compile a site of such diversity don't come easy and must have taken many years of study not to mention the sacrifice of a lot of time and effort by the individuals involved, if any knockers out there can do better, step up to the plate, I'm sure your expertise would be most welcome, regards, Irish [Sec/Treas NSW Division.]

05/31/02 05:18:10 AM

- Name: Ian McClure
Comments: Thanks Erica for your quick response, much appreciated.
05/30/02 08:12:59 PM
- Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Members, representatives from the NSW Division of the FESR joined a large attendance at the funeral service this morning of former shipmate Brian Taxi O'Hara at St Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, Milson St Charlestown, Newcastle NSW. A contingent from the Mayfield branch of the RSL, of which Taxi was a member held a very moving Naval Service immediately after the church service as a special tribute to their former comrade, may he rest in peace, regards, Irish.
05/30/02 09:19:49 AM
- Name: JOHN SANDAVER (R 63501)
Comments: Thank you to all who helped me find LAPHOT Mal Lancaster case solved Regards John
05/30/02 08:05:42 AM
- Name: Ian McClure
Comments: I have one complaint, on the links page when you click on "Veterans Lest we forget" all you get is an Xrated site, can someone do something about it please. We don't need garbage like that on our website. Thanks.
Thanks Ian! ~ have deleted it without hesitation. Erica.
05/30/02 07:36:28 AM
- Name: Bob Witt
Comments: With reference to the comment re: the overview page, the site has recently undergone some cosmetic changes brought on by necessity. A lot of material has been archived and is still available to all members. The FESR Archives, which can be reached via the home page, houses all documents previously displayed on the FESR Website. Just a reminder to members and visitors, all work from construction till now has been voluntarily undertaken with nil cost to the Association and I for one applaud the effort that gives us the vehicle to remember and communicate.
05/29/02 05:40:56 PM
- Name: Les Sheppard
Comments: Ross, Don't know if yr flogging a dead horse because they counted out the Diamantina during the fesr enquiry. We went thru the straits in 64 and 65 going to singapore/penang/bangkok. we were closed up at cruising stations, main armament (bofor) secondary armament (2brens in wheelhouse) don't know what would have happened if we had been challenged by the the Indonesians but we were told to be prepared when going thru the straits (actually cruising stations on Diamantina would be action stations on other ships as all armament was manned) When you think of it we weren't allotted so there should have been no requirement to go to action stations if we weren't in an area of conflict, begs the question eh! Anyway got my AASM(malaya) 5 days after Anzac day and last week I was awarded the NGSM(Malaya) after being knocked back last year because I only had 26 days, but I appealed under AFO's Sect. 6 (a)(b) which is a "short service provision" if you are injured whilst on service. It took a long time to convince them that playing sport for the Navy was a service injury. If I hadn't been injured I would have got the time up for the medal. Keep perserverin Ross, you never know. maybe they may give one to the old

Diamantina eventually...regards Shep

05/29/02 01:14:52 PM

Name: Jim Bullen R52371

Comments: I feel that the "Overview" page of our website could give a reader unfamiliar with recent developments an entirely wrong impression. The content of the current "Overview" page implies that we have yet to be given acknowledgement for our service, and we all know that this is not the case. Those of us who served in the FESR have been granted recognition of our service, so I suggest that the "Overview" page be revised such that it reflects this.

05/29/02 10:05:32 AM

Name: Doug Buchanan R49630

Comments: I wish to let all members know that Brian(Taxi) Ohara age 71 former greenie passed away Tuesday night 28th May his service will be held at St Mary Catholic Church Milson St Charlestown 11a.m Thursday 30th.We have lost a very good member and a great mate

05/28/02 07:54:42 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: I seek comment from my more learned compatriots 'out there' is this quote absolutely accurate and unchallengeable ?
Quote – From Bruce Scott “ It is acknowledged HMAS Diamantina entered Singapore 29 July 1960 and left August 2 1960. Nevertheless ,as the ship was not allotted to the prescribed operations, the ships’ crew are not eligible for the award of the AASM 1945-75 with the clasp ‘Malaya; . This is regulated by Letters Patent and regulations signed by Her Majesty the Queen and there is no Ministerial discretion in the award. There is no provision in the regulations governing the AASM 1945-75 with clasp ‘Malaya” to recognize those ships who were not allotted to the prescribed area” Thanks Ross

05/27/02 03:21:55 PM

Name: harry goodall

Comments: i would like to get in touch with any of the crew that served on h m a s gull from feb 1966 to aug 1966 about and incident that happen on board

05/27/02 12:38:55 PM

Name: Doug (Buck) Buchanan R49630

Comments: Hi Irish You are doing a great job keeping all up to date my E mail;;dougjan@koeee.com.au and my snail mail is 3 Carawa St Blacksmiths NSW 2281 Ph (02)49712132 Keep it up mate will see you next meeting if not before Doug Buchanan

05/27/02 01:05:04 AM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: Denis Sefton. Have lost your e/mail address both messages that i sent before have returned Await your reply Richmond

05/26/02 07:27:43 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: To Bob Witt, Congratulations on your appointment to the post of Queensland State President. Regards, Ken Staff.

05/26/02 05:43:26 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Thanks Erica. oood to hear from vou. there's a few loose

ends to tie up now that we're up and running, still can't believe how smoothly it all went on the 18th under Windy's tutelage, the members enjoyed themselves immensely with a few new members joining on the day. regards, Irish.

05/25/02 01:18:12 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Attention NSW members, I would appreciate it if members old and new would supply me with their current E'Mail and Snail Mail address no later than July 1st when they renew their membership which will take us through till June 30th next year, 2003, the appropriate form of course can be downloaded from this site. regards in unity, Irish. My Snail Mail address is; Sec/Treas FESR Navy Association NSW Division PO BOX 754 Wyong NSW 2259 Phone: 02 43539196 E'Mail: maingalley@netscape.net "Together we served."
Greetings Irish ~
Just updating ... Have received word that the membership application process is to be reviewed. Until then, the Federal Executive have suggested that all membership applications be forwarded directly to them until the matter has been resolved. I have subsequently removed the NSW application form for the moment until further word has been received. I would ask all applicants to avail themselves to the Standard Form in the interim. For those wanting further information please contact the National Secretary, Gordon Love. See the Membership page for further details. Erica (Web Admin)

05/23/02 03:48:30 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Ernie Sinfield, contact me on maingalley@netscape.net as not only did your E'Mail address but your Snail'Mail address bounced back, regards, Irish.

05/21/02 11:16:28 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: To: Steve Becker - it may be a long shot but if your William Raymond Shaw - had a Mum and Dad who lived in Belfield and phone number like 64- 2302 ask him if he knew Ross 'Mother' Jennings, Dennis 'Zoom' Clem or Bob Sell and liked many Schooners of Tooheys 50/50 - if so we can and will help - ex Melbourne and Sydney at that time ..Ross Jennings ex R54950 ross.jennings@health.wa.gov.au

05/21/02 10:38:35 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: Steve, Get him to call the Navy Toll free number on 1800 808 073. There are several medals available for men who Served in the Far East Strategic Reserve. You will get the usual "Press button one" and so on. Pick your number and press,then ask your questions. Good luck Tom Hamilton

05/21/02 09:47:50 PM

Name: stevebecker

Comments: Sir, My Uncle William Raymond Shaw was a sailor in the Navy during 1955-1964 and served on a number of ships during this period off Maylya. He mentioned that he was entitled to a ASM with bar for the Far East but wouldn't do anything about it. Do you know how we can get this medal for him as his son now has a chest full from his service in Timor and it would be good for both to wear them on Anzac Day. The ships he was on the beleive were the Melbourne and Sdnev as he was in the Fleet Air Arm around then. He did

mention and had photos of the HMS Belfast on a trip to Colombo that they were exercising with. Thank you for any help Steve becker

05/20/02 12:47:42 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: For Info to any X KIWI Service people. Are you aware that the NZ Government has brought in two new medals? both have been approved by the Queen and are now being issued. The first is called "The New Zealand Special Service Medal" and the first issue is to personelle who served in the 1957-58 British Atomic tests as well as all other tests. The second is called "The New Zealand Operational Service Medal" and is like our AASM . It is for people who hold any of the following medals... Korea, NGSM for Minesweeping ,Malaya,Near East. The GSM for service in Brunei,Borneo and the Malay Peninsular. Also for Vietnam,,Rhodesia,East Timor and so on. If you need any further info give me a buzz.
Tom Hamilton

05/19/02 10:02:39 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Great to see the FESR Navy Association Inc [NSW Division] is up and looking good here on the Central Coast of NSW. Good one Windy, regards, Irish.

05/17/02 07:41:03 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Keith Bebbington, I have tried to email you, it seems that the address you gave me is incorrect, please contact me again with your phone number or the email address again asap.

05/17/02 07:11:19 PM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: Where have all the people gone,come on fella's lets communicate. Great to see the W.A.branch F.E.S.R up and running

05/16/02 07:36:34 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: Looking for accomodation in Glenelg for Re-Union 2003???? There are still a few 1 and 2 bedroom fully furnished, fully self contained apartments available right in Glenelg, (opposite the beach & less than 1 & 1/2 blocks from the Jetty Road tramline.) priced from \$65 and \$75 per night. Interested?? contact me at my email address and I will pass on the names and addresses of same, BE QUICK!!! there are only a few left, you might miss out.

05/15/02 11:50:26 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: ernie, got your E'Mail and will keep you posted. To all concerned: I spotted a reunion notice this morning in the Sydney Telegraph's 'In search' column that may be of more than passing interest. " HMAS DUTCHESS. The inagural reunion for former HMAS Duchess sailors will be held at Broken Hill, NSW on October 18-20. For registration or information, please contact Mick 'Choppa' Chopping, 1530 Ontario Ave, Mildura, Victoria 3500. Phone: 03 50213912. Deadline May31." regards, Irish.

05/14/02 10:12:23 AM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Good Morning All - Trying to help a friend who has just had the news of a double whammy - Cancer and Diabetes (Middle Aged Class 2) - he served RAAF - early to middle 80's Peacekeeping Sinai and Malaysia area - I thought the ASM was awarded for this service but can find nothing to substantiate this ?? Help please - he's a good bloke..
Regards to all Ross J

05/13/02 01:58:47 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: There's been a slight hitch in getting the accomodation details for the Reunion 2003 printed in the up coming newsletter as suggested at the recent AGM. Have instead posted details to the News Page and on the Reunion Forum. Feel free to spread the word to those who may not have access to the internet. THE ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL MOTEL 521 Anzac Hwy. Glenelg North Telephone: +61 [08] 8294 2155 Fax: +61 [08] 8294 4881 Toll Free Number: 1800655559 Double Room Discount Rate: \$92.00 [\$115 with breakfast] ANZAC HIGHWAY MOTOR INN 626 Anzac Hwy. Glenelg. Ph. [08] 8294 1344 Fax [08] 8295 1259 Toll Free Number 1800 882671 Twin share rooms \$92.00 per night [for FESR Members] GLENELG HOLIDAY FLATS (self catering) Ph: [08] 8295 1952 Fax: [08] 8294 7896 10% discount for RSL Members Note reservations are to be made individually and you must quote FESR Association when booking to secure the discount rate.

05/12/02 09:30:32 PM

Name: JOHN SANDAVER (R 63501)

Comments: I am trying to make contact with LAPHOT M>J> Lancaster who did the trip up top in YARRA in 1965 anybody know of his whereabouts, it is in reference to photos he may have taken on YARRA any help would be appreciated

05/12/02 11:54:51 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Members, this coming weekend, Saturday the 18th May 2002 at Woy Woy Leagues Club here on the Central Coast of NSW at 1115 a steering committee of the NSW Division of the FESR Association will convene to establish our state branch. If you're already a national member of our organisation or have sailed with the Far East Strategic Reserve, or maybe just an ex or serving matelot, please feel free to come along with your family and swell the ranks. Drinks at 1215, a two course lunch can be had at their excellent bistro for as little as \$14.50 per head, contact our State Pres Bryan Windy Gale on 02 47572092. Or E'Mail him on bryan.gale@bigpond.com John Trindall our Vice Pres on 02 49453173 or my good self, Laurie Irish Shaw your Sec/Treas on 02 43539196. E'Mail me on maingalley@netscape.net We expect a good roll up to discuss where we are headed in 2002 and beyond, your input is vital, regards in unity, Irish.

05/12/02 01:12:44 AM

Name: Stan Church

Comments: Hi, I have been travelling around for the past 4 months and was in Townsville for Anzac Day, Had a really good day with the Townsville Naval Association, Stayed in Townsville for Battle Of The Coral Sea Dawn Service on Monday 6 May 2002, I would like to thank Trevor Williams (President) and Naval Association of Townsville for a job well done at the Coral Sea service, A good time was had at the Townsville Yatch Club after the service

05/10/02 11:35:41 AM

Name: tony bonora
Comments: I'm looking for JERZY CIAS who was on Hobart 3/10/67 to 10/01/69. Can anyone help Tony Bonora

05/09/02 10:53:04 PM

Name: PATRICK W PEARD PADDY ex CPOUC Stragetic Service on Yarra plus Vietnam on Brisbane.
Comments: I am currently an accredited DVA Delegate ie I have done the courses to be able to advise my shipmates ALL of YOU on your rights re the 1985 and as amended Repat Act and the MCRS scheme.OK a lot of crap to most. But a lot of you now have claimable conditions which you can claim..most have ringing in the ears tinnitus poor hearing tinea stress and alcohol problems skin damage gut damage and a lot more my phone number in the west is 0894486441 ring for advice I can do your claim or put you on to your local state rep.

05/09/02 08:11:25 PM

Name: Bob(Porky) Aitken
Comments: Hi All , the site is still looking great congrats on your hard work.I urgently need to contact an ex Stoker "VENDETTA" 67 68 69 his name is Dutchy Van Eyck initials JNW if anyone can assist I would appreciate it. Regards. (PORKY)

05/06/02 09:47:15 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Good one Ken, and so say all of us, regards, Irish.

05/06/02 07:51:38 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: To all those who might be interested, last Wednesday, May 1st, was the 4th anniversary of the humble beginnings of the FESR - NTFV, Far East Strategic Reserve - Naval Task Force Vietnam Association, as it was known then (we dropped the NTFV a month later, probably coz I as the editor of the FESR News had trouble spelling it.) Yes, 4 years ago, May 1, 1998, a small mottley crew gathered at Sandgate RSL on a cold wet evening and started the ball rolling enabling so many ex naval personnel to receive entitlements and awards that were, in some cases, more than 44 years overdue. The man who convened that meeting should be receiving at the very least an Order of Australia for all his work and dedication for veterans. Thanks "Wacka"

05/06/02 03:53:38 PM

Name: Doug (Buck)Buchanan R49630
Comments: Way it goes Irish nevertheless with a bit of luck should see you Woy Woy on the 18th anyone else reading please come form up our NSW branch with a big showing :-O

05/06/02 11:43:04 AM

Name: Tom Hamilton
Comments: Recently returned from Adelaide after a very good Anzac day with my Brothers and one Daughter and Grandchildren, came home with the Flu. On opening my email I found I had 23 Virus,could not even enter into the bloody machine to delete.Even Norton had packed up.This resulted in my Son taking my set away and stripping it right back to square one for a new start. Spat the dummy and sent out an empassioned LOUD note to a lot of you pleading for No More Jokes as I will not open them from now on. If I unwittingly upset anyone.I humblv apoloaise to vou. I know you will

understand and accept my apologies. Tom Hamilton

05/06/02 09:47:47 AM

Name: Ron Hobba (Ex-Birdie PO Radio)

Comments: I like the new layout of the opening page. Bravo Zulu to those responsible

05/03/02 07:24:03 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Buck, welcome back from leave old son, unfortunately you missed a great day in Sydney with Windy and the gang but there'll be other day's like this, regards, Irish.

05/02/02 08:24:02 PM

Name: Doug (Buck)Buchanan R49630

Comments: Back from holidays and catching up sorry I missed you in Sydney Irish but John Trindall would probably told you I could not make it finally marched local here at Swansea and as always great day no matter where you are.Please take note my E-Mail has changed :-O

05/01/02 12:50:32 PM

Name: Don Lewis

Comments: To all,the following site is worth a look. www.cpmh.net regards, DML.

04/29/02 04:23:36 PM

Name: Ken Sherwell

Comments: We had a Stuart Cumming march with us on Anzac Day he was a Surgeon LT. on Vampire back in the early 60s. HE is trying to locate a LSBA Mctaggert anyone who can help please let me know and i will pass the info on. regards, Ken Sherwell Email kennethnavy@aol.com

04/28/02 06:14:17 PM

Name: Nigger Brown (35 SQN RAAF VIETNAM)

Comments: Another ANZAC DAY been and gone.Hope everyone had a good one.We marched in Sydney under the RAAF VIETNAM banner with a roll-up of around 120. Lunch at the Royal Auto Club.I think the crowd was the biggest since the Welcome Home Parade,certainly very vocal. Congatulations on your page. Take care,Regards Nig.(ps 38 SQN Amberly Reunion later this year email me for details) :-O

04/27/02 03:41:23 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Excellent dawn service and breakfast at Wyong RSL Club then on to Sydney for the march led by Bryan Windy Gale our NSW President. Had a beaut day with the weather on our side, [not too hot for the marchers] then the Automobile Club for drinks and smally eats and on to the Leagues Club to meet up with some old and new mates the likes of John Trindall and Jim Bullin. Great stuff. Congratulations John Carlyon on your well deserved life membership., regards, Irish.

04/26/02 10:59:28 PM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: Hi Guys, if any of you are in Newcastle on the 5th of May(Coral Sea day)come along & join us at 1100hrs in Civic Park for a march & service, all welcome. Regards Ian McClure (Vice President Newcastle Sub_Section) :-)

FESR Archive (www.fesrassociation.com)

Documents appear as originally posted (i.e. unedited)

04/25/02 01:36:05 PM

Name: Ken Anderson, ex LREM R51130
Comments: Hi to everyone, Just got home from Anzac Day march here in Sale, great turn out, as was the Dawn Service, I guess there were 250 or so, including a lot of kids at that. I wonder if anyone knows where I could buy an RAN tie. My old one, dug out to wear to the march, is getting too chatty altogether. Thanks guys Ken Anderson

04/25/02 07:00:21 AM

Name: Bob Witt
Comments: The Autonomy was passed with a clear marjority, we can now forge ahead to become a truely National body. A new Constitution is now in place enabling us to become incorporated. The elections are as follows Nat.Pres.John Schultz,V.Pres.Gary Linaker, Nat.Sec.Gordon Love and Nat.Tres.Trevor Rigby congratulations to all.Congratulations to John Carylton on your Life Membership Bravo Zulu.

04/24/02 09:39:49 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Walk tall to-morrow. regards, Irish.

04/24/02 06:42:56 PM

Name: J symonds
Comments: any FESR members marching in Launceston tomorrow
Regards John(Boots)

04/24/02 03:12:36 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton
Comments: Am in Adelaide for the Anzac day parade. Had hoped to march with my Daughter,but the South aussie RSL do not allow NOK to march. However have linked up with one brother,xRAAF Malaya and Vietnam and we will link up with ,and march with the FESR down here. Have just returned from the Kapyong Service at the Adelaide Memorial,Keith Payne was in attendance,a good parade and service. Good luck to all of you for tomorrow. Tom

04/23/02 04:24:53 PM

Name: jim thorley
Comments: any shipmates from Queenborough, gascoyne, sydney or wherever pop me an email and say G'day ji :) = mt.

04/20/02 11:51:13 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Noel and Margaret our thoughts are with you and your family, here's to a speedy recovery, your leadership shoes will be difficult to fill, regards, Irish and Carol.

04/20/02 10:31:59 PM

Name: Richmond Derham
Comments: message to Dennis Sefton,i have mislaid your email address & i forgot to ask you when we were talking any chance of another email. Richmond

04/20/02 11:40:49 AM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: Sadly, once again our immediate Past President, Noel Payne,has been admitted to hospital on the Gold Coast, with what appears to be some pretty serious problems. This man, and his wife Margaaret. have worked tirelessly for all members

of the FESR Association since its inception, as well as all Veterans, Army Navy or Air Force with ASAC. Shirley & I along with many members and their partners wish Noel a speedy recovery.

04/19/02 09:43:10 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: Hello all, ANZAC Day is almost upon us once again....what has happened to the rest of the year.... Anyhow, on behalf of the Rockingham Sub Section of the Naval Association.....have a truly great day, and if you are ANYWHERE near Rockingham WA please come down to the Club at Point Peron (just by the entrance to Garden Island)...enjoy a coldy (or 5) and maybe find an old mate... Cheers and Beers Mal Hughes

04/19/02 03:49:30 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Good one Ross. Perhaps, with luck Wakka will re-appear freshly re-badged on some other forum, certainly hope so as his leadership of the FESR will be sadly missed. Has the question ever been raised on the subject of dedicating a special day on the calendar as a unique FESR MEMORIAL DAY? I think it would be a great idea if we used our unforgettable reunion at Bundamba as a base to work from, regards in unity, Irish.

04/19/02 03:27:51 AM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: MEDALS?????Still not received was hoping for Anzac day.....oh well the govt is still to busy arguing.....timor boys will get theirs 12 months after serving.....we have waited 40 yearsIs there a fesr contingent marching on Anzac day in perthlet me know on email thanks friends

04/18/02 05:49:01 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: I am very sorry to see Noel 'Wakka' Payne make the decision not to take on President again but support his reasons.It is a hell of a job. Looking at all the talk about a Volunteer Service Medal - I suggest the perfect design if 'they' would let us offer such a thing would be our own Far East Strategic Reserve Medal 1955-1971 design.It is far and away the best medal design I have seen. Regards Ross J

04/18/02 09:15:41 AM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: Hi just a bit of good news fo those sailors who served Queenborough & Quibron in early 1963 the extension of the AASM 1945-1975 has been granted by the Veterans Affairs Minister.For futher details contact your nearest medal section.The media release was Medal extension to recognise Defence Service dated Wednesday 10th April 2002. Regards John Rielly.(anyone who wants a copy just Email me and I will forward same)

04/16/02 03:41:00 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Good onya Les on receiving your medals. To Ross Simmonds, had a few ales on Saturday last wih your old ex-greenie mate Simmo fom the Central Coast, sends his regards. Irish.

04/15/02 07:41:28 AM

Name: Bob Witt
Comments: Les Figg Congratulations Les, just in time for Anzac Day wear them with pride mate you have earned them.
04/14/02 10:51:20 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton
Comments: I was going to write a note about the former secretary in the Prime Ministers and Cabinet office who was in charge of the department,s people smuggling taskforce and decided to release the news of the kids overboard to the Media,DESPITE the fact that it was based on second hand information and NEVER verified. The article by Jim Dickins in Saturdays Courier mail even said she was promoted and awarded the Public Service Medal and an Order of Australia. However I wont write it as you may think I am a bit synical and sarcastic. So you will have to read the paper yourself,sorry bout that Tom H
04/14/02 03:57:35 PM

Name: Ken Staff
Comments: As Internet Service Provider "Dingo Blue" went belly up a few weeks ago it should be noted that some addresses for some of your shipmates may be incorrect(for any one who was with Dingo Blue) You might want to check this out.
04/14/02 01:09:40 PM

Name: Les Figg
Comments: My medals arrived today! As a point of reference for others still waiting, I lodged my claim in Jan 2001, received notification of award Feb 2002, and received the medals today. I also have received my updated Service Certificate, and I picked up my Certificate of Appreciation from the local ALP MPs officw whilst in Adelaide on vacation earlier this month.
04/09/02 11:32:54 PM

Name: Ross Jennings
Comments: Since reading some of the comments of the time taken to receive your rightful recognition ! I know it is probably too late for many but it struck me last night that I got my medals very quickly (within 7-8 months). What I did I dug out my SC's and made photo copies and got them sworn to as true copies of the originals by a JP. This saved Navy records a hell of a lot of time researching our bedraggled records. I believe this is why and hope it helps.Ross
04/09/02 04:50:16 PM

Name: Barry Bennetts Ex P.O. TEL (s)
Comments: Medal Entitlements - ANOMALIES. If there has been a drought for most in respect of receiving entitlements, then there has been a flood in respect of mine. August 2001 I received my AASM NGSM(Malaya) RAS Badge, and was very grateful. Last week from Navy Medal Section another NGSM (Malaya) was received registered post with the thanks of the nation. What is going on. Naturally I will return it and wish that the efforts to give me the second would have instead gone to one of my shipmates. I now know what they mean by 'SE Asia Service Anomalies'. Just hang in there they will get it right soon - in fact I feel sorry for all their workload. Cheers all. Barry.
04/09/02 03:55:18 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

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Comments: Richmond, currently running at 14 months wait for conformation of entitlements then the recommendation goes before the GG, I'm told that mine is there now, hopefully medal will arrive before Anzac Day, hang in there old son, regards, Irish.
04/08/02 08:30:39 PM

Name: Jack Thompson

Comments: Mini Reunion Chicago. Mike Thomas, Paul Konrath and I, Mike flying to Chicago for a week.
04/06/02 10:40:55 PM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: Great to see the page back up again, "but" where are all the sailors gone, excuse the pun..... I enjoy reading the comments that appear ...it also keeps one in touch with entitlements etc. Has any one got an idea the waiting time for medals.....thanks
04/04/02 06:36:16 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: OUCH That hurt You know to really sock it in
04/03/02 01:05:59 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: :-O Tom, At the next gathering of the Eagles I will submit your request, it may ruffle a few feathers but I will submit you as a Quatermaster and leave off the Gunnery bit after your episode of the raffle prize at Bundaberg. You will have my backing shipmate.
04/03/02 10:13:45 AM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: Bob, you know I am an "Honorary Birdie" and you know why. Did I tell you that at the State Conference I was talking to a Birdie (in sign language) and he told me I was a rarity (whatever that is) because there are not too many Birdies who served on all three carriers and here was Tom who had. What can I say? Do I get a "Seagoing Star" to my honorary Birdie badge.? Tom H
04/01/02 06:55:25 PM

Name: Bob(Porky) Aitken

Comments: Ken and other members, called back for another quick look, good to see the site still going well and a credit to all involved, It sure brings a tear back to an old PO dusty's eye, keep up the good work I wish you all smooth sailing, and may the winds always be at your backs. Regards
Bob(Porky)Aitken.:(
03/28/02 05:23:14 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Good one John, it's humbling to reflect as the awards continue to trickle through that more than a few of our comrades didn't survive long enough to share in our quiet victory. Spare a thought for former PO Cooks Kevin Goocher, twin brothers Noel and Niel Hills, ex-LSMNFC JJ O'Sullivan [Sully]; et al, may they rest in peace, Irish.
03/28/02 10:31:30 AM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: HAVE YOU VOTED YET ??? Time is running out for members to post their votes for two (2) very important issues.

(1) STATE AUTONOMY. (2) NATIONAL SECRETARY.
C'mon fella's, get those votes into the Returning Officer,
NOW!

03/28/02 09:01:31 AM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: Hi All Wishing everyone a safe a happy Easter and may we
all pause and reflect the good times we had with those mates
that are not with us anymore Regards John

03/26/02 12:47:50 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: NOTICE TO ALL FESR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS. A
reminder that the Annual General Meeting and luncheon is to
be held at the Irish Club in Brisbane immediately after the
Memorial Service at the Cenotaph on Wednesday April 24,
2002. ALL MEMBERS AND PARTNERS WELCOME

03/23/02 08:41:04 PM

Name: Ken Sanders

Comments: To Ken Staff, and all FESR, ALL 617 of you, please, as Ken
asks, Please, tick the boxes, and mail it !! It's your
Association. If you wish it to remain a Navy Veterans'
Fighting Force, pick up your pen. Your State needs you, and
your Country needs you, A couple of ticks could be
important.

03/23/02 06:31:26 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: On re-reading my note/comment below I think clarification is
needed. I do not intend to imply any thing sinister - the
'overwrites' could be simply attempts at setting the record
straight or even 'typo' errors.I am just curious at the size of the
gap in days alongside shown here according to this record
and that of the final VEA decision.Anyway have a good day.
Ross

03/23/02 06:08:21 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: This afternoon I was emptying out an old trunk of Navy items
that we all,I guess gathered during the years of our fight. I
have a document from the DOD Naval History Directorate
Seapower Centre - 08/02/2001 -which provides me with the
HMAS Melbourne movements 1960 - three entries state
Arrived Singapore and Left Singapore.That as we know
means HMS Terror.The dates have clearly
altered.(a)overwritten to show I think 14th 4.60 to 23.4.60, (b)
then Singapore 13.5.60 and overwritten to show 16.5.60 and
(c) overwritten could be 12.6.60 to overwritten looks like
14.6.60. Now for whatever reasons these changes have
been made it certainly makes more than four days that
gained us the AASM.I am curious? Obviously someone out
there has a copy of Melbournes' ROP's 1960 -are the two
different? Ross J

03/23/02 04:19:11 PM

Name: Anonymous

Comments: FOR NATIONAL SECRETARY POSITION, VOTE 1.
GORDON LOVE.

03/23/02 03:19:41 PM

Name: Ken Sanders

Comments: Hi! All. I'm lookina for the whereabouts of Patrick William

Lawlor, who was FOO's scribe, in MELBOURNE, (Retinue)1961. The Admiral was W. H. (Arch) Harrington, and F.O.O. was Cmdr David John Hamer. Last heard of, Pat was Lighthouse Keeper at Double Island Point, Queensland. Any clues would be appreciated. Post a message here, or e-mail me ken@ion.com.au

03/22/02 05:36:48 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862

Comments: To ROSS JENNINGS Hi Ross re PUSSERS RUM and Lamb's genuine WHITE ENSIGN NAVY RUM. I have been purchasing it at LIQUORLAND MELVILLE, each cost only \$19.99. I have a bottle of each sitting on my desk looking at me at the moment. All the best in your search in Geraldton
Kev Gleeson

03/21/02 08:11:45 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Good Afternoon All - I know my subject some weeks ago of Rum was not as important as 'gongs' and time to get them and other contacts regarding ASAC help etc and I mean that sincerely (and - since it has sunk in a little more - now able to go for TPI and all that - my most grateful thanks to Wakka and Crew) - BUT I did hope someone out there may know where in Australia to get the genuine article - Pussers' Rum (used to have the white ensign insignia).. Come on Guys - In anticipation THANKS....Ross J

03/21/02 07:18:02 PM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: Hi, Good news for all those Veterans over 70 with Qualifying Service from July 1st they will receive the Gold as Legistration went though Parliment today. Any Veteran who beleive they have Qualifying service contact their nearest Vet Affairs Office on 133254 to receive an application form.Entitlements will take place on their 70th birthday.
Regards John Rielly

03/21/02 03:20:32 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: C'mon all you FESR Members, it's time to take up your pen (remember them things?) and cast your vote on the 2 items on the agenda for the AGM. The voting form is on the last page of the newsletter, and send it off to the 'Returning Officer'. ... 1: A simple 'yes' or 'no' to the State autonomy issue. ... 2: A simple tick in the box for the National Secretary's position. Then get down to the Post Office and buy a 45 cent stamp and mail it off asap. How simple is that?

03/19/02 07:02:54 PM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: There's good news also in regards to a pension increase. You can learn more about the rise and the gold card recommendations at ASAC Australia.
www.asacaustralia.com

03/19/02 10:10:55 AM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: Hi all The minister for Veterans Affairs today introduced legistration into Parliament to provide the Gold card to all Australian Veterans who have Qualifying service and are over the age of 70. It will make the Gold card available to older Veterans of conflicks including the Korean War, the Malavan Emeraencv. the Indonesian Confromation. and the

Vietnam War. Anyone who wants a copy of this Media release let me know and I will Email same. Regards John Rielly

03/17/02 10:57:04 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: An entry in the In Search column of Saturday's Daily Telegraph in Sydney carried the following article from Mr Duncan Spalding, Hon Sec of the HMAS Warramunga Association. I quote: 'Our veterans association is looking to contact any man who served on our ship during the years of her commission from 1942 to 1959, if not already a member. This year,2002 is the 60th anniversary of the commission and we are holding several functions to celebrate. We especially wish to contact those who served from 1954 to 1959, particularly if they served during the FESR. Functions include a reunion at Belmore RSL, March 22nd, Anzac Day April 25th, reunion at Tamworth October 11-12-13, church service at Garden Island Naval Chapel November 24. Contact Hon Sec Mr Duncan Spalding, phone 02 4353 3215 or President Commander Ken Barnett.' Unquote. I didn't include the Commander's phone number as it was found to be incorrect, I rang Duncan who lives close by in Wyong and we had a good talk about the old 'D123'. The reunion this Friday at Belmore RSL is \$25 dollars per head, which includes drinks and lunch commencing at mid-day and winds up around 1600hrs, should be an interesting day, regards, Irish.

03/16/02 08:52:33 AM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech(VK4AVK)
Comments: Congratulations Irish old son. With a bit of luck you may have them to wear on Anzac Day. 46 year wait. No bad. Regards Ron

03/15/02 07:39:01 PM

Name: Irish Shaw
Comments: Members, thanks to good people the calibre of delegate John Reilly and the founding fathers of the FESR Association, my 46 year wait for recognition has ended. A letter from Medals Section confirming my award of the AASM and RAS Badge is before the GG as of now, they expect some delay before medals arrive but who gives a rat's, I applied in January last year if anyone is interested so 14 months seems to be the expected waiting time, once again many thanks, regards, Irish.

03/15/02 03:26:24 PM

Name: John Rielly
Comments: Hi Richmond Derham My brother was a ord seaman on Tobruk and done the trip in 1959 his name was Bob Rielly. As a matter of a fact The Toby releaved us I was on the Queenborough. If anybody wants to contact Bob send me a Email and I will pass on the message. Regards John Rielly

03/12/02 01:41:05 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: March edition of FESR NEWS No 47 had an excellent article by Victorian Division Pres, Les Bailey drawing our attention to an anomily in The Pension Bonus Scheme that allows for late registration [after he appealed]for us blokes over the retirement age of 60. good one Les, regards, Irish.

03/11/02 10:08:06 PM

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Name: Richmond Derham
Comments: Great to see the web site back up,am still trying to find if there are any anzac mates (1959 fesr malaya)or tobruk Nooby Clark Medals are still in short supplybeen waiting 8 months now

02/25/02 07:45:33 AM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech(VK4AVK)
Comments: Members...I can only agree with Ken Staff and recommend the "Returned from Active Service" wall plaques obtainable from Noel Payne. I received mine from him yesterday at the FESR meeting and am most satisfied with it. They must be good for two ex-birdies to recommend and item from a gunnery jack!

02/24/02 04:25:16 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862
Comments: Thanks very much for the information I requested re honours Tom Hamilton and Les Sheppard, I have been able to use it. Just as a matter of interest. Tonight, Sunday 24th February 2002 at 1830. We are having a dedication ceremony on Monument Hill overlooking Fremantle and out across Fremantle Harbour and the Indian Ocean. It is a new Memorial to HMAS SYDNEY the 6 inch cruiser, which was lost here off WA with all hands. Fremantle was its last port of call. There are still active Ex Sydney ships company members here in the West. It will be a great pusser show, the works, Reserve Band and Guard. There are quite a few individual memorials here on Monument Hill as well as the Main Cenotaph.We (Legacy) conduct the Dawn Service on Anzac morning, and get a big roll up.It is amoving ceremony overlooking the sea as the sun rises, and no doubt tonight will be a most moving experienceas well, as the sun goes down over the Indian Ocean. I was fortunate to serve on Sydney's sister ship HMAS Hobart. The six inch cruisers were great ships.

02/22/02 01:01:07 PM

Name: LES SHEPPARD
Comments: Kev, try :-
www.itsanhonour.gov.au/about/order_of_wearing.html hope this helps, regards Shep

02/21/02 09:00:25 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton
Comments: Kev, Go to LINKS on this site and scroll down ,go past Korea and Malaya and you will see the site. Enjoy. Tom

02/21/02 06:07:50 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862
Comments: Tom Hamilton, I read your last logbook entry with interest. Could you please inform me of the web address for "Its an Honour".Many thanks.

02/20/02 09:28:54 AM

Name: Tom Hamilton
Comments: Morning all Have just had a good look at the 'Its an Honour' site that has been updated.Worth a look. It tells you,among other things ,in what order to wear your gongs. Foe example,the nasho's medal follows long service medals. It also told those of us that wear the NGSM with clasp Minesweeping,that we will now wear it AFTER our Korean medals. Gentlemen.I will not have some pencil pushing

pundit in Canberra telling me that the Sweeping, and the lads who died in "Warrnambool" do not rate, and are almost non-existent. It is only under sufferance that I place the AASM with 2 clasps in front of it. So if you see me on parade wearing my awards, do not bother to tell me they are wrong as I will only introduce you to my old Gunnery Instructor, ARGUTZ TUFT

02/20/02 08:13:42 AM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech(VK4AVK)
Comments: That nasty virus which wipes your hard drive, "Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs, Hahaha, Joke", is still floating around. Cme arrived in my e-mail today. If you receive it do not open it. Delete it straight away if your virus detector misses it.

02/19/02 10:51:12 AM

Name: Garry Slattery
Comments: Giday Ron yeah mate I rcvd an e mail from u the attachment was infected with a virus aptly named the hooker virus is that a joke? tried to e mail to let u know and came back msg not delivered im perplexed rgds Garry --. -- ...

02/19/02 08:44:27 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Chaps, reading February's edition of our official journal a name leapt off Tony Kendrick's Tasmanian Notes on page 4. "Froggy" French from Orford on the East Coast who, along with his wife hold a Naval reunion each July, attracting around 50/60 sailors. What I'm on about is; back in 1980 I was on a solo, six week bushwalking [pub crawling] sortie in Tazzie and spotted the Chef in his whites at a huge resort near Triabuna, he looked familiar and turned out to be non-other than the "Frog". On his way home he dropped me off at my Motel next to Des Robertson's old place on the Prosser River, Froggy wasn't a former TF, RP I think, anyway we had a good run down memory lane, I wonder if he remembers?, if so, although it's been 22 years, drop me an E'Mail. Regards, Irish.

02/19/02 07:20:18 AM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech(VK4AVK)
Comments: Thanks Irish for those words. I am all 'gonged' out now so I guess that is the end of things until they hold another 'review'. The only ones I guess who benefits out of these things are the ones who do the medal mounts. Costs a fortune to have them mounted each time after receiving another gong. I have been busy getting viruses off my computer. Felt like my computer was like "men under punishment & stoppage of leave' with CDA assessed. Had to have a few injections from the virus Dr. at the sick bay to get things normal and back together again! Catch you later.

02/18/02 12:29:05 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: To the 'Crystal Cracker' well done Ron and congratulations on receiving long overdue official recognition of your time in National Service, Irish.

02/18/02 10:13:26 AM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech(VK4AVK)
Comments: For those who may be entitled and interested, in this mornings mail I received my "Aniversary of national Service Medal 1951-1972" from Army Medals Section. I made application on 10.12.01 so they are not messing around getting them out. The medal came already swind mounted

and with extra ribbon in case you wish to have it court mounted. Also it came with an unmounted miniature and a letter telling me to contact my Local Federal Member if I wished the gong to be officially presented. Bit different to the pussers' medals! regards to all

02/17/02 06:59:47 PM

Name: DAVID LLOYD

Comments: I was at Ubon Thailand early in 1961 on exercise "Rajata" with the RAF as an Air Wireless Mech - living in tents. Aussie Army also there - does anybody have info ? Regards - Dave LLoyd

02/17/02 06:57:36 PM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: Thanks Bob,I am using AVG & have found it to be very good so far & it's free.This is the website where anyone can download it from. www.webattack.com Very quick to download & they have a lot of tools for removing viruses if you do get one. Regards Ian

02/17/02 05:38:05 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Ian, I received the same email same results Ron may not have sent the email as [Viruses] have the happy knack of attaching themselves to mailing list and periodically emitting messages to those on that list. There has been a lot of traffic on viruses lately, not to have an Anti Virus system is flirting with disaster it is money well spent and is less costly in the long run.

02/16/02 02:47:11 PM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: Message for Ron Hobba,just recieved an email from you Ron with a virus attached to the attachment.It has been blocked by my virus program & deleted.Regards Ian.

02/15/02 03:53:35 PM

Name: Ron Chenhall ex E.R.A. 48099

Comments: LAURIE IRISH SHAW Re Vengeance. I served on Vengeance and done the trip to Iwakuni in Japan to pick up 77 squadron R A A F. As I was told to get the A.S.M bar Korea you would have to serve 30 days in Japan/Korea and the Vengeance did not serve 30 days in that area.I got the medal because I also served in that area on the Tobruk and the time was acumulative

02/15/02 02:38:52 PM

Name: Neville. W.(Dixie) Lee,

Comments: As a fairly new member, last May, but a very old bloke (72) and an ex P.O. Tel 1948/60,I would like to congratulate all the members of the committee. If some of the members as disstisified with the way they are running this organisation then well have a go at being elected, I can't see many ofyou being elected though, if you don't like it then leave. I know where my vote will be going. Neville. W. Lee (Dixie)

02/15/02 02:10:29 PM

Name: Ron Hobba Ex PO Birdie Radio Mech

Comments: Members, It saddens me to read about the messdeck rumblings in our newsletter every month about the backstabbing going on behind the scenes and the spitting of dummies. What about aettina behind our elected committee

members and giving them the backing which they so richly deserve. They have served us well since our formation and for us to sit on the sideline and criticise them will do the Association more harm than good. If you are not satisfied, then the opportunity for you to show us what you can do is open for you by way of nomination at our AGM. Now that most of the abnormalities into SE asia service has been resolved to the satisfaction of most members, then instead of resting on our laurels and looking up at our medals etc on our walls, lets forge ahead and tackle a few of the other issues out there that has presented problems to other shipmates, whether in your time or mine. There is also the current serving personnel in Timor, the Gulf and other troublespots throughout the world. What about trying to help them out. I know that the Vietnam Vets. Assoc. assisted in getting Xmas Parcels for the troops in Timor, a South Qld Group assisted in getting thongs for the children in Timor with schools books, pens etc, and the Fleet Air Arm assisted our ships in the Gulf in the donation of paperbacks for them to read and swap. I agree with Wacka that the social life is excellent in our Association but we also need other projects to keep our members interested.

02/15/02 11:05:28 AM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST. .. I am looking for any Birdies & Honorary Birdies who are interested in booking into the same hotel in Glenelg during the 2003 Adelaide FESR Association reunion. I am currently contacting various hotels & resorts in Glenelg for deals. .. Maybe we could also run a Mini reunion for 'birdies' at the same time. .. Would anyone that might be interested contact me, also if you could pass this on to any 'birdies' you may know who are not on the internet. .. Contact me at, birdiehandler@hotmail.com or by phone/fax (07) 5536 6178. .. An answer in the next 4 weeks would assist me in the planning of the above. .. There is no obligation at this time, this is merely to find out if you 'birdies' are interested.

02/14/02 06:24:01 PM

Name: Ken Staff

Comments: I read with interest all members of the FESR Association and others who are shouting with delight over their entitlements and the medals along with the RAS badge, I say congratulations on your entitlements and God bless people of the Noel Payne's calibre (ooooops! no pun intended.) Without this individual and the blood sweat & tears he gave for over 7 years. Be assured that most of you would not have received the entitlements you have today and most likely never would have. So I will now get to the point, I have recently purchased a Returned from Active Service plaque, and it's a ripper. It is a redwood style plaque measuring 8" x 6.5" with a gold plate engraved 'RETURNED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE' inserted in the centre is a RAS badge replica, under that is another gold plate with my name, official number and service (RAN) along with the OPERATIONAL AREA in which I served. I am extremely happy with this plaque, I recommend and urge all members to purchase one, and proudly display your RAS badge at home. The cost is only \$37.50 which includes freight and GST. Let us now support the man who gave so much to all of us. Send your details and service number along with your cheque to: N & M Payne, PO Box 131, Nerang. Qld. 4211

02/14/02 01:58:33 PM

Name: Les Figg

Comments: Woohoo! Today I received advice from the Navy Records Section of DOF that I am indeed entitled to the Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal, Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75, and Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with Clasp FESR. I already have the RAS Badge and the General Service Medal 1962 with Clasp Borneo. To set expectations of others, 14 months elapsed since the initial acknowledgement of my letter of application. Today's letter states, "... it is expected that there will be a considerable delay before these awards are available for issue." Thanks to Noel and all others who made this possible.

02/13/02 07:41:08 PM

Name: Irish Shaw

Comments: So far so good with the de-bugger, no bogus E'Mails wrongly sent from my address for two days, many thanks, regards, Irish.

02/12/02 08:16:33 PM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: I have been getting a few virus reports mainly the "badman" I suggest to anyone who have been infected with this virus to buy a Norton Anti Virus and this will stop any virus from entering with your Email. Regards John Rielly

02/12/02 01:49:14 PM

Name: laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Good one John, have already suggested that to them, but will press on regardless, who knows it might trigger something off in Canberra, we can only try, regards in unity, Irish.

02/11/02 07:45:09 PM

Name: John Rielly

Comments: Hi Irish Tell your mates who served on Vengeance that the ship was never allotted for duty to any area in Korea. It is bad luck but as you know that is part of what Wacka and his band of merry men were fighting for.

02/11/02 12:06:50 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Great stuff Tom, will let my two Nasho ex-Vengeance mates know, meanwhile have got the ball rolling by getting them to contact Gosford DVA to send relevant forms. again many thanks, regards, Irish.

02/10/02 11:35:32 PM

Name: Ross Jennings

Comments: Hi Irish and all - will also take Ian and Johns' advice - I was going to say yes I had cleared all with Dr Norton 2002 but tonight an alarm and I saw a warning about dwarf4you so have to get it cleared ..I think Dr Norton and the web site protection Ian suggests..a "barrage defence" should work..Ross

02/10/02 08:56:01 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: Irish, Tell your mates that the Vengeance was not "Alloted for service in the korean War " however according to the notes on the ASM 1945-75. Quote in part "and service in Korea or adjacent areas including Japan from 28 July 1953 to 26 August 1957" unquote. may I suggest you tell them to call the toll free number on 1800 808 073. Who knows what may happen. Take care Tom H.

02/10/02 10:56:42 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: John and Ian, have taken your advice and downloaded from both sites, if successful should even remove worms from the garden, regards in unity, Irish.

02/09/02 09:39:04 PM

Name: JOHN
Comments: Giddy all John from the hot tropics here, all you guys having trouble with virus's got to avg virus update and download their latest virus checker it can be found on cnet downloads I have had a lot of virus checkers this is the best one yet and it,s FREE hope this is what you are after Cheers

02/09/02 09:16:27 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Ross, welcome back, but how the hell do you get rid of a computer virus? I've got one on my E'Mail site and it's giving me the Tom Tits by sending indiscriminate messages to all and sundry. Someone might well spit the dummy if it continues, so far they are being blocked but some are getting through, John Carlyon rang me the other night and drew my attention to it. Is there life after a Virus? regards, Irish.

02/09/02 08:24:29 PM

Name: Ross Jennings
Comments: Can anyone advise please? Have not been able to for quite some time now find Pussers'Rum or Royal Navy Rum or Navy Rum on our local outlet shelves.As a strong believer in its' medicinal value would appreciate any information as to its' availability(in Australia).Thanks - A belated Happy New year to you all - had badwormvirus32 which wiped me out for a while - special regards to you Bob Gibbs, Wakker and VK2Ern - Ross Jennings Ex R54950

02/09/02 01:42:57 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Members and friends, two old National Service mates, John Fairweather and Harry Gibney accrued eleven days qualifying time [John has a letter from them dated 10/12/97 to back up his story]on the carrier HMAS Vengeance between the 27th Nov 1954 and the 3rd Dec 1954 and are having trouble being recognized. At the time Vengeance was in Japan to bring back 77 Sqn's RAAF Gloster Meteors from the Korean War and they feel that they're entitled to veteran's status, can anyone throw them a line? regards in unity, Irish.

02/07/02 01:34:02 PM

Name: Gary S. Champe, a.k.a. Bear
Comments: Hello Aussie Mates, Just stopped in to say hello. I am hearing from a lot of you these days, and it is an honor to be associated with such a fine group. Take Care my BROTHERS and SISTERS and God Bless Bear

02/06/02 08:06:52 PM

Name: George Mills
Comments: Just a hello to anyone out there that may remember me, anyone know of AB Stan Simpson[Radar]Wife Kaye,kids Naomi and Gail. Regards George

02/01/02 04:16:36 PM

Name: Denis Sefton

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Comments: Erica, thanks for your quick response,much appreciated.
Regards Denis
02/01/02 03:52:29 PM

Name: Erica Witt

Comments: Denis, There's a picture of the FESR Medal and a brief description posted on the Birdie on Board Website. You'll find it on the Medal & Awards page. For details regarding application visit the Birdie Message Board.
02/01/02 12:15:48 PM

Name: Denis Sefton

Comments: Any of you blokes heard about a FESR medal?
02/01/02 08:27:20 AM

Name: Ron Chenhall ex E.R.A. 48099

Comments: Kevin Gleeson Yes I remember you also and Tony English. He must have moved after leaving pussers as I thought he came from Sydney. It would be great if we could all get together sometime. Maybe with the Anzac Ass as they are thinking of incorporating both battle class destroyers in the one organisation. I hope something comes of it
01/30/02 03:41:41 PM

Name: Les Figg

Comments: Mike, Re: Hawk/Tawau I was aboard HMAS Hawk at that time. What do you need to know? Email me directly.
01/30/02 11:52:36 AM

Name: Mike Rodsted

Comments: Looking for any one who served on Derwent on its 1966 tour in Borneo Malaysia and Vietnam In particular any one who witnessed the Hawk incident off Tawau
01/30/02 02:19:52 AM

Name: Richmond Derham

Comments: 3rd Message posted on visitors logonly 1 reply.am looking from any shipmates who served on Anzac Between March 59 - December 59 in the fesr Malaya. I was a ships cook between that time 54345.....also would like to hear from a Nooby(ROGER) clark who was a ships cook on the sister ship H.M.A.S Tobruk.... Am still waiting for medalsGreat web page
01/28/02 05:16:24 PM

Name: Kev Gleeson CPO.Elec 27862

Comments: Hi Ron Chenall ex ERA 48099. Yes ron I remember you In HMAS TOBRUK, as I served on it as Chief Electrician. I was on it from September 1955 to April 1957, when i went to Lweeuwin to pay off.I have not met many of the ex Tobrukites of that era,I still see a lot of Ron (Gunga) Whitmore ex PO Electrician, who lives near me. He served Tobruk up to November 1955.I remember Eric Armstrong,Sprayer Cheetham.I am in touch with Gordon Love.This site was instrumental in catching up with Gordon You may remember aa ERA Tony English. Years ago I used to see a lot of Tony, as he was manager of a Credit Union, then he moved on. Years mlater I went Glider Flying up in the Wheatbelt here in the West, and guess who was one of the star glider pilots.(Tony of course)I have not now seen him for years.When I went to the Review here in Perth a couple of years ago four of our ex tobruk blokes turned up including one of the ex stokers....Glen Evans.Sadlv one of our number

passed away before all our goodies came through. Buit as a member of Legacy, we saw that his widow got what was due. So hope this is of interest to you Ron

01/28/02 03:41:21 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: This is a clipping from Sydney's Daily Telegraph dated 17/01/2002; "National Servicemen who were in the 1954 McQuarrie intake in 20 class at HMAS Penguin and also went to Japan sailing on the HMAS Vengeance, please contact John Fairweather, phone 02 43822847 or write to 4 Parrendi Close, Avoca Beach, NSW 2251." I rang John who lives close by and we had a long chat, look forward to seeing him at Tuggerah Lakes RSL on the second Saturday in February. Among other things he tells me that Vince Fazio wrote a book called "RAN CARRIERS." which chronicals the history of our first carrier/ seaplane tender HMAS Albatross but our three true 'Flattop' aircraft carriers, HMAS Vengeance, Sydney and Melbourne, should be interesting reading, and not only to 'Birdies', regards, Irish.

01/27/02 02:38:10 PM

Name: Ron Chenhall ex E.R.A. 48099
Comments: Ern Sinfield I remember you as well as Cheetham. I think he came from the west .I was on Tobruk from Jan55 to march 57 have not heard from anyone from Tobruk except Gordon Love since leaving. I went to Anzac reunion in Albury but only a couple of ex Tobruk crew there and did not recognise anyone. I see a couple of names on the membership list but dont know where they are

01/26/02 04:33:33 PM

Name: Ern Sinfield
Comments: to Ron Chennall, although not an ERA I served on the Tobruk as a stoker from May 55 to Jan 57 and remember Eric Armstrong, however I have not come across any other blokes with whom I served on Tobruk, and it was only 2000 when I met up with blokes from my next ship Quiberon (we had a reunion in April 2001), and I met a few blokes from Anzac at the Ballina weekend in November/Dec. It would appear that after discharge most just disappear into the woodwork. Incidentally I was surprised to receive a Korean bar to the ASM for our tour of duty. I remember Sprayers Cheetham clearing the boiler room during our patrol of the West coast of Korea, when the vap valve blew out

01/26/02 12:23:48 PM

Name: Ian McClure
Comments: Re Queen's Jubilee Medal. Apparently the gentleman from the Korean Veterans Assoc., is only ordering enough for the group here in Sydney & Newcastle. Hope that clears that up. Regards Ian

01/26/02 07:18:22 AM

Name: Ian McClure
Comments: For Les Shepard, The Korean Veterans Association in Sydney has already been in touch with the company in UK & have been told they can order them. One of them already has his. Apparently they are collecting names of those that want the medal & are going to put in a bulk order & get them cheaper., Regards Ian

01/25/02 09:11:35 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

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Comments: To all you "Tribals"...a very good mate of mine over here in the West, by the name of Ray Whitfield served aboard...I think...Warramunga. Ray is a staunch member an supporter of the NAA and is "curator" of the Naval Memorial Park here in Rockingham.....any old mates of Ray...please contact me, be sure that I will pass it on.....Mal H

01/25/02 03:35:06 PM

Name: LES SHEPPARD

Comments: Ian.I've just checked " HM the queens golden jubilee site" @ it is going to be issued to the armed services,royal fleet auxiliary, emergency services eg,police,fire,ambulance,coastguard, royal national lifeboat inst.,and mountain rescue svc.It is only being distributed in:- England,Scotland,Wales & northern Ireland.Shep

01/25/02 07:10:57 AM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: A bit of info for those that may be interested, there is a new medal out in England (The Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal)I have been told that anyone who served during the Queen's reign is entitled to wear one of these.You can check it out on this website. www.bigburymint.com Regards Ian

01/25/02 06:07:04 AM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: Stuffed the earlier message up, should have been for Ken Anderson.I have a few of those stickers & can send you one,let me know your address.Regards Ian

01/25/02 06:02:37 AM

Name: Ian McClure

Comments: Hi Joe Linaker, if you send me your snail mail address I will send you one as I have a few.Regards Ian

01/24/02 10:50:35 PM

Name: Ken Anderson, ex LREM R51130

Comments: Hi guys, Anyone got any idea where I can get hold of a Navy badge sticker for the car. The one I have, which is on the outside of the rear window, is starting to look chatty. I'd really like one which would stick to the inside of a window. Thanks for your help, and greetings to all.

01/24/02 09:26:09 PM

Name: Joe Linaker

Comments: As we cancelled the proposed reunion of Aircraft Handlers during the Federation Navy Review last October,another opportunity has presented itself-the HMAS Melbourne Reunion in Sydney 28-30 June.Any interested starters please give me a bell to see if we have the numbers-Cheers

01/24/02 11:55:20 AM

Name: LES SHEPPARD

Comments: Have made contact with Harry Joseph after 42 yrs, thanks. regards. Shep

01/24/02 06:26:26 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: Ron, Welcome back, as to your query there has been no news todate it apparently has become a mammoth task and work is behind time. Regards Bob.

01/23/02 03:02:37 PM

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Name: Neville. W.(Dixie) Lee,
Comments: Max Clark, thanks for bringing up the great 5 Star living conditions on the Tribals. Forward lower port mess,just aft of the paint store was as good as anything that is now supplied on Hamilton Island, I don't think. But as other replies state they were certainly very happy ships. My 19 months on the Munga were the best in my 12 years,in Pussers. Regards, Dixie.

01/23/02 02:03:51 PM

Name: Clive SMITH
Comments: Max Clark thank you for your reply.Pleased to hear that your service was recognized. Just the fact of going to sea with the living conditions of a Tribal class was worthy of recognition but they were happy ships and and I would not want to have missed the experience.I would appreciate it if you emailed me a phone number and we can catch up on 45 years or so. Regards CA.

01/23/02 07:57:06 AM

Name: Ron Chenhall ex E.R.A. 48099
Comments: I have been overseas for two months. Is there any news on the adding to the War Memorial the names of our shipmates who died while serving with the F.E,S,R. What has happened to all the E.R.A.s Kevin Arnold,Eric Armstrong,Terry Campbell,Jack Nolan and many others I served with on Australia.Vengeance, Tobruk, Sydney

01/22/02 07:59:17 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Garry Slattery, fully endorse your views re FESR Newsletter, Wacker and friends can only be lauded for their sterling efforts in bringing us down that long road, first as so many disorganised individuals, then finally out of the wilderness as a more cohesive group. Let's all stand as one behind the current committee, many thanks, Irish.

01/22/02 02:03:25 PM

Name: LES SHEPPARD
Comments: does anyone know how to contact Harry Joseph, was a Lt. ON Tobruk in 59 (my D/O) believe he retired as a Capt.Good bloke. MY E.mail is sluggo@myplace.net.au or Fax 08 95347920. Great site am enjoying my new computer and having lots of fun trying to learn abt it, anyway good health to everyone and your families. regards Shep.

01/22/02 01:18:43 PM

Name: Garry Slattery
Comments: I always read with interest the Fesr Newsletter.and find it hard to express my gratitude to the great work put in by the people who gained us recognition and in a lot of cases benefits, to think there are people who wish to undermine the organisation amazes me,remember the famous words Ask not what the FESR can do for me but what I can do for the FESR. I have no connection to any of the executive. The only way this organisation can be destroyed is from within, stay united. P.S. Les Sheppard would like to get in touch with Harry Joseph . rgds --. -- ...

01/22/02 09:01:39 AM

Name: Max Clark,ex AB TAS
Comments: Certainly did, Clive.Wondered if 'evilC' might have been the watch-keeping Clive Smith who shared the TAS mess with

us.

01/21/02 11:55:08 PM

Name: Clive SMITH

Comments: Max Clark , Did you ever work at Mc Ewans. Regards CA.

01/21/02 08:34:56 PM

Name: Dan Dennison

Comments: I am very impressed with this site. It is professional and informative. Good luck.

01/21/02 01:52:10 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Good one Max, over the Xmas/New Year break I was trying to describe conditions down aft in Warramunga's Supply and Secretariate Mess, [which as you would recall was just for'rad of the tiller flat,] to my 22 year old grandson. "What! You slept in hammocks?" When I explained that, due to lack of space I was fortunate to find a place to kip under the messdeck table he just shook his head and opened a couple of coldies. I don't think he was impressed, He was talking about joining Pussers as a cook, but somehow doubt it; they were good days Max, regards, Irish.

01/21/02 08:43:40 AM

Name: Max Clark, AB TAS

Comments: Still a few of us left, Irish. I was a young, naive rocky back in '57, but six months on the old Wandering Mongrel brought me right up to speed. Went to Malaya, coat-tailing the Melbourne (phew!) Came back on our own, via Manus and Rabaul. The recently-deceased Tony Synnott was in charge at the time. I'm pleased and proud to have become a recognised veteran, even though I did it the easy way.

01/18/02 09:36:30 PM

Name: John Harrison. ex LEMP(P)

Comments: To Arthur Lowe ex REM(A) Have given RMA information regarding CTC, sent 10/12/01, after being informed by your log notes. Have received two lots of correspondence from them, 18/01/02, and as you observed, they are really trying for us CTC victims. Hopefully the meeting in first week of 2002 will have some results to a 40 year old oversight.

01/18/02 08:01:13 PM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: Surely there's got to be more than a few former crew members still alive out there who served on our, now long gone Tribal Class Destroyers? I was privileged to do the last couple of trips on the Warramunga before she paid off in 1959, on one cruise we conveyed Princess Alexandra and her retinue from Bowen to Lindeman Island in the Whitsunday's. On a previous trip, returning from JB and making an entrance turning left into the Heads we copped a grebbie down into the Supply and Secretariat mess which was situated right down aft just forrad of the tiller flat, filled it almost to the brim trapping a few of those off duty. Our three badge kellick butcher, ex-RNer Jim Barnes from London's Bow Bells was lucky to get out alive. We had our paying off smokie at the RSL in Johnny's, or skipper was L/CMD AA [Alan] Willas, I'd served on the Sprightly under him in '57, the Paybob was Lt Carrington and the Buffer was Johnathan Buck Rogers, both sadly lost on Voyager in 1964, regards, Irish.

01/11/02 01:31:44 PM

Name: Ken Monk
Comments: seeking members of Mobile Clearance Diving Team from 1965 service in Singapore . Please contact me by email or phone 03-95873062

01/09/02 11:07:57 PM

Name: DOUG LAPHAM
Comments: SERVED 62..71 QUICKMATCH SYDNEY YARRA ALBATROSS FLEET MAINTENANCE DIAMANTINA LUEEWIN ANZAC EX POME 59137 INVOLVED BORNEO MALAYSIA INDONESIA CONFRONTATION VIETNAM ESCORT OF SYDNEY ON YARRA LOST TRACK OF COLLEAGUES . UP TOP 64/65/66 GLAD TO HEAR FROM ANY EX SHIPMATES.

01/09/02 03:30:18 PM

Name: Peter Kroon
Comments: (no comment)

01/08/02 09:52:44 PM

Name: LES SHEPPARD
Comments: GARRY SLATTERY. saw yr msge on old site. I served TOBRUK 59. I spent 10 days on a G.P.V. around the Islands off Malayan coast in 59'(approx 10 of us) do you know anything about it? I need confirmation that it happened, you know Navy records are u/s. FAX 08 95347920 or E.mail at sluggo@myplace.net.au regards...SHEP Ex SPARKER.

01/08/02 01:37:49 PM

Name: LES SHEPPARD
Comments: Anyone who served on HMAS TOBRUK in 59' in Singapore, who was a member of crew on a G.P.V. which sailed around the islands off Malayan coast, require confirmation that this did occur. Between 26th Mar.and 12th Sep.59' Contact me at: sluggo@myplace.net.au [or]FAX 08 95347920 Regards - Shep.

01/07/02 10:23:16 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw
Comments: Ray Norton, good info Ray, I well recall the Gold Seeker incident in 1957, I was onboard the tug HMAS Sprightly at the time. Hard to imagine that a salvage vessel the size of Emu could rescue so many soldiers off the Wahine in 1951, as I remember she was little more than a harbour tug, thanks again old son, regards, Irish.

01/07/02 08:15:53 AM

Name: Harpy
Comments: I joined the Navy with Rusty he was around six years older than my seventeen years and always had the Stories I was a bit in awe of him to think he had done so much and I so little. My fishing trips into Morteon bay with my Father paled into insignificance when rusty talked about his from is home base of Port Fairy a good mate. Harpy

01/06/02 04:20:34 PM

Name: Ray Norton
Comments: Tom H and Irish August I6 I95I the tug HMAS EMU Lt.Cdr Toulouse RANVR ferried ashore 575 troops from New Zealand ship Wahine wrecked on Masela Island near Darwin N.T. II March I957 the tua HMAS EMU Lt. Cdr.Toulouse

RANVR rescued six survivors of the merchant ship Gold Seeker from Bowen Bay, Bathurst Island. I reckon the Captain was due for a draft ashore. Above information from Historical Naval events by Lew Lind. 1911-1986

01/06/02 01:12:50 PM

Name: Tony (Slim) Smith

Comments: Ex LAAH Rusty Hound Dog Russell passed away at Port Fairy Vic. Friday 04.01.02.

01/04/02 08:31:31 PM

Name: Mal Hughes

Comments: Hello shipmates. Happy New Year to all. Here in the West things are fine. I had my op and all is ok.....you can't ask for more. To those who live in the fire affected areas of NSW.....my heart (and I am sure everybody elses) go's out. It really brings it home when you see familiar names (Huskinson and Nowra) mentioned. Looking forward to a year of fellowship and friendship..... Mal H

01/01/02 11:43:17 PM

Name: Barry Bennetts

Comments: Hi Irish Shaw. I served as the sparker on HMAS EMU January to August 1955. Also attached to HMAS MELVILLE was SDML1325. Sparker on both vessels. EMU made the first trip to Dili (then Portuguese East Timor), as a Diplomatic Mission, with the now well known Mr Dunn. Our task were generally watching the Japanese Pearlning Fleets and Salvage work. I have some good photos of both vessels if anyone interested. Believe you me - you did seetime in those ships. (hi) Cheers.

01/01/02 05:03:00 PM

Name: Tom Hamilton

Comments: Irish Shaw, I remember the HMAS Emu in and around several ports in the 50's. I have just spent a lot of time over three days looking for more info on her and can only find one reference in an overseas site that lists the navies of the world, and then it is only her name. She does not rate a mention in our own Navy list. However, we are not going troppo mate. She was there. I send best wishes from Margaret and I to your Son and his mates who are doing it hard at the fires.. Don't worry about him Irish, if he is like his old man he will do well. Tom H

01/01/02 04:33:02 PM

Name: Lee 'Dutch' ANDREWS

Comments: G'day all, After this week where I have been to two funerals of old shipmates, it is true that things happen in threes. It is with a truly heavy heart that I have to tell all of you, who served with one of the nicest human beings in pussers, that James 'Jim' SHRAPNELL, has left these earthly bounds. Jim sailed on 26th December, 2001 and that makes two of the three that I paid off with, who decided not to hang around for me to step over the brow with them. I will have to be adrift this time Jim, so tell Laurie when you meet him that I am still looking after our rose bowl in the WO & Senior Sailors Mess. So very sad to see you posted to Davey Jones' GFL (Grey Funnel Line) mate, but I know the pain has left you and the waters will be calm and peaceful. I also have it on good information that they need a bloke like you to represent Jack at God's table, so that you may plea a mitigating circumstances case for the eternal rest of their soul. You were the best DO a sailor could have had at the table and

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you looked after "your boys". May the good Lord look after you mate and smooth sailing until we meet again.... Dutch

01/01/02 12:16:10 PM

Name: Bob Gould

Comments: Happy New Year from us in the West, are thoughts are with you on the east coast

01/01/02 08:26:33 AM

Name: Laurie Irish Shaw

Comments: To all FESR Association members, formally of that group of warships known as 'The Forgotten Fleet', let's spare a thought for the efforts of a few that has gone into placing us where we are to-day. Also, to my youngest son Brendan in Winmalee in the Blue mountains and his firefighting mates of the NSW Fire Brigade plus all the brave volunteers who are giving so unstinting of their time to confront our current bushfire menace, may the wind and weather be kind to you from to-day onward, regards, Irish.

01/01/02 05:54:16 AM

Name: Bob Witt

Comments: To all Matelotes past and present both Jill and I wish you a Very Happy and Prosperous 2002 and may it bring with it, good fortune and tranquility.