



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND

ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S PREMIER MILITARY ENSEMBLES



RAN BAND NEWS

ISSUE 17 RELEASED 17 DECEMBER 2010





SEA DEPLOYMENT GROUP EMBARKED IN HMAS *KANIMBLA* FOR RIMPAC 2010 REHEARSING IN THE TANK DECK



SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE DETACHMENT MUSICIANS RECORDING THE CHOIR PART OF A NEW WORK FOR WIND ORCHESTRA



RAN BAND NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND

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'one of Australia's premier military ensembles'



WIND ORCHESTRA IN A RECORDING SESSION AT TRACKDOWN STUDIOS, SYDNEY

FROM THE PR DESK

Earlier this year I found myself being sounded out about taking over the role of the National Public Relations Manager in the Director of Music's office. This came as somewhat of a surprise, as it seemed only a short time since Leading Seaman Tracy Kennedy had moved into the job. Leading Seaman Tracy Kennedy, as you would be aware, has moved Public Relations into the 21st century with the fantastic work she has put into helping develop the Band's website, the professional presentation of this Newsletter and a number of other Band documents. However, after 18 months away, Leading Seaman Tracy Kennedy was missing the Band, and the public was missing Leading Seaman Tracy Kennedy's fabulous singing, and so it came about that she and I did a swap in mid-July.

After seven years as a flute player in the Sydney detachment and a ten year period of music teaching following an earlier stint in the Royal Australian Air Force Air Command Band at Richmond NSW it was many years since I had last done a desk job: in a previous life I worked as a Social Worker in the then Department of Social Security, now Centrelink. A significant part of my role there was the promotion of Social Security's payments and services within local communities so I came armed with some relevant experience!

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Welcome to another edition of RAN Band News. The articles contained in this edition tell a story of significant achievement across the band's national and international program. Despite the ever-persistent funding challenges, the articles show that the band continues to reach many hundreds of thousands of people ashore and afloat. Collectively, our detachments have proven a very effective platform in which to deliver musical services to Navy.

In addition to routine activities, our detachments visited Marysville in Victoria, Maroochydore in Queensland, Cairns in far north Queensland, Mt Morgan in South Australia, and Symmons Plains and Lachlan in Tasmania. We also recorded three major musical works for 'A Flagship Recital Mk IV' which will be released in July this year. *Recoil* by Joseph Schwantner, *Bells for Stokowski* by Michael Daugherty and *Planet Earth* by Johan de Meij are very significant works for Wind Orchestra and the standard of performance achieved during the recording sessions was second to none within the Australian Defence Force.

In amongst all of this activity, we welcomed back to Australia 12 musicians who had been embarked in HMAS *Kanimbla* for RIMPAC 2010, and we deployed technical support teams to OPERATION SLIPPER and OPERATION MAZURKA to

assist with entertainment tours sponsored by the Forces Advisory Council on Entertainment.

Petty Officer Sharon Jarvis was selected to tour the United Kingdom with the Royal Australian Navy Lawn Bowls Association (RANLBA) and Able Seaman Natalie Urquhart was fortunate to work with the New Zealand Navy Band as a participant of ANZAC EXCHANGE.

Leading Seaman Gordon Orr competed at the Australian Army Skill at Arms Meeting (AASAM) and placed third in the Champion Shot – Navy section. In previous years he had placed fifth, third and second. Gordon's achievement this year was all the more remarkable noting that he hadn't shot a weapon since the last AASAM twelve months earlier.

Leading Seaman Esa Douglas participated in the annual Variety Bash, which is Australia's most successful charity motoring event, and Able Seaman Simon Bartlett performed with *Ngarukuruwala*, an indigenous choir comprising members from the Tiwi people of Bathurst Island. His article *Strengthening Ties Beyond Navy* is a particularly good read.

We achieved this impressive level of output despite very significant funding challenges, and in a time of considerable change. New Generation Navy has brought with it a significant administrative and compliance regime. I am pleased to report that we have met all of those requirements; but more will be expected from each of us in the coming months as Navy pushes on with its ambitious change program.

I regret to say that it is unlikely that the funding pressures will ease in the foreseeable future, and it is likely that the band's financial allocation will continue the ever-declining trend. Our current customer model, approach to the marketplace, and inventory liability will need re-evaluation to meet the challenges of the 'value for money' and 'cost conscious' arguments, which place less value on the human factors and make it difficult to balance the needs of our people with those of Government and Navy.

We recently said farewell to Warrant Officer Arend Bekendam, who was one of our longest serving members. Arend gave 38 years of loyal and dedicated service to the Royal Australian Navy and Navy Band. As a Warrant Officer, he provided forthright advice to the band's senior leaders and a high level of divisional support to the musicians. We owe Warrant Officer Bekendam a vote of thanks for his loyalty to us and dedication to service in the Australian Defence Force. On behalf of all members of the Navy Band I thank him for his service and wish him and his wife Donna and family the very best for the years ahead.

P.C. ANDERSON

Lieutenant Commander, RAN
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND LEADER



(Continued from page 1)

Naturally the most important part of any Public Relations role is getting to know the many individuals, groups and organisations that comprise our 'customers' both within Defence, and in the community. It has been wonderful over the last six months meeting so many of you either in person or over the phone, and I appreciate the very warm welcome that many of you have given me. As I have familiarised myself with the various mailing and distribution lists that have been compiled over the years I can only be impressed by the thoroughness of my predecessors in leaving no stone unturned when it comes to avenues for publicising the Band's activities. Nevertheless as a Sydney local, and having been involved in amateur and professional music making and teaching in Sydney for many years, I have been able to generate some new and potential audiences.

One of my early tasks was the advertising and ticket distribution for the Flagship Recital featuring *The Commodores Chamber Ensemble* at the Independent Theatre in North Sydney. Co-incidentally *The Commodores Chamber Ensemble* had also just been engaged to provide a series of supporting chamber music recitals for the David to Cézanne exhibition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. By attending the Art Gallery recitals and promoting the concert I was able to engage a significant number of new audience members many of whom have now been added to our mailing list. For one of these recitals the Commodores performed to an audience of over 100 in the surrounds of the Gallery's 19th Century Australian Art collection. The performance and atmosphere were on a par with a similar concert I was lucky enough to have experienced in The Hermitage in St Petersburg last year. I felt extremely proud of our musicians and the statement that we were able to make in conjunction with the Art Gallery of New South Wales about Australian art and culture.

The Independent Theatre is a new venue for the Sydney detachment, and one ideally suited to chamber music performances. With 90% of seats allocated prior to the performance we were anticipating close to a full house, however, somewhat disappointingly, many who had booked tickets did not actually attend on the day. Those who did were treated to a feast of both popular and lesser known chamber works. The enjoyment of the musicians was infectious, with audience members commenting on "the exuberance of the young sailors" and "the enthusiasm and talent of the musicians who mixed with the public at interval and afterwards". If you missed out this year don't despair - we are intending to hold further performances there in 2011.

Another of my early tasks was the distribution of the Band's two latest CDs to libraries and schools all over Australia. *Cruising Stations (Mark II)* and *A Flagship Recital (Mark III)* represent the latest achievements of our Big Bands and Wind Orchestra respectively, with some outstanding instrumental solos for flute, clarinet and guitar. If you can't find these in your local library please let me know and I will send some out. I have also started to build a database of statistics about the usage of our CDs in local libraries and,

whilst small at present, it is starting to reveal some very interesting information. Areas reporting the highest borrowing rates include Camden and Blacktown in Sydney, and the Gold Coast and Gympie in Queensland. Borrowings have been consistent since our CDs were first distributed to libraries in 2002, and all styles of music are equally popular. Many of the schools sent letters of appreciation, indicating that the CDs would be used by students not only in music courses but also for background music in other technology and media projects. And by the way if you are ever visiting "The Submarine Town" of Holbrook in NSW listen in to the background music being played in the Museum – I am told it is from Navy Band CDs!

Of course CDs are not the only way to access music and images of the Royal Australian Navy Band. Most of the tracks on our CDs (and some not released on CD) can be listened to on our website (www.navy.gov.au/Navy_Band) Many works that are out of copyright can also be downloaded to create your own compilations. In addition, there are now a considerable number of videos of the band performing both live and in rehearsal on the Director of Music's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/DMUSN) The latest upload to YouTube is video footage of the Royal Australian Navy Band participating in the military tattoo to mark the 60th birthday of the Sultan of Brunei in 2006. The Navy Band's growing presence on the ubiquitous World Wide Web is opening up links with interested individuals, radio stations, and other music organisations around the world from which we are now receiving regular enquiries.

Recruiting activities have continued over this period. Most of the vacancies for full-time musicians exist within the Sydney detachment; the Mornington Peninsula must be a much more desirable place to live, or perhaps it just has something to do with respective property prices! In Sydney vacancies are mainly for the 'classical' instruments with clarinet positions being particularly hard to fill at present. I have recently held Band recruiting/information stalls at *The Ultimate Clarinet and Saxophone Weekend* in Sydney and in conjunction with *The Admiral's Own* Big Band concert at the Australian Institute of Music. We are currently advertising in all the major tertiary music institutions across the country hoping to attract some of this year's graduates.

By the time you read this several of our detachments will have been sharing the festive spirit with you from Fremantle in the West, to Mt Morgan in South Australia, and at HMAS *Watson* in Sydney. I hope the Christmas break will be a peaceful and happy one for all.

2011 is shaping up to be a big year for the Royal Australian Navy Band as we prepare to commemorate major Navy anniversaries. Events to put in your diary are a 'direct to air' broadcast from the Eugene Goossens Hall on ABC Classic FM commencing 1300 on 2 March and a Flagship Recital commencing at 1930 on 10 July at the City Recital Hall, Angel Place, Sydney.

CATHY WAINWRIGHT

Leading Seaman Musician

National Public Relations Manager



SYDNEY DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY LIEUTENANT STEVEN STANKE



LIEUTENANT STEVEN STANKE ON PARADE FOR THE VISIT OF CHINESE NAVY SHIPS TO FLEET BASE EAST, SYDNEY

Parade activities by the Sydney detachment of the Royal Australian Navy Band for the second half of 2010 included Guards of Honour for the arrival of the Chief of Navy of Singapore (in Canberra) and CNO ADM Gary Roughhead from the United States Navy (Sydney), Victory in the Pacific commemorations (Sydney), Divisions at HMAS *Albatross*, Freedom of Entry at Parramatta, the Rugby 'Golden Oldies' parade in Sydney, and Beat to Quarters/Ceremonial Sunsets at HMAS *Creswell* and HMAS *Penguin*. Buglers were also kept busy with memorial services at Garden Island, Canberra, Sydney and Parramatta.

The 'Band Call' concerts at St. Andrews Cathedral continue to be valuable opportunities to flex our wind orchestra muscle with significant soloistic performances from Able Seaman Damian Dowd, Able Seaman Volker Schoeler, Able Seaman Zola Smith, Able Seaman Andrew Doyle, Able Seaman Haylen Newman, Leading Seaman Tracy Kennedy and Leading Seaman Gordon Orr. Members of the detachment were also instrumental in choosing the repertoire, and brought a wide range of musical interests and suggestions to these concerts.

Another opportunity to explore repertoire and performance skills for the entire wind orchestra was experienced in November with several days at Trackdown Studios in Sydney recording *Recoil* by Joseph Schwantner, *Bells for Stokowski* by Michael Daugherty and *Planet Earth* by Johan de Meij. All were challenging works, written for very large ensemble and will be included on Flagship Recital CDs to be released in 2011. These works are usually unable to be included in our standard programmes because of the resources required, and are a satisfying example of our current capabilities and interests.

Wind chamber ensembles featured strongly in our performances this year with concerts at St James Church in Sydney, the NSW Art Gallery and the Independent Theatre. Our Admiral's Own Rock Group added Australian and seasonal music to their repertoire for their performances at

the Western Pacific Naval Symposium in September, Martin Place, Harbour's Edge at Darling Harbour (HMAS *Kuttabul* Ball), HMAS *Penguin* Wardroom, and Chief of Navy's Reception in December. The Admiral's Own Big Band connected with audiences at Centennial Park, Cronulla Pavilion, Manly Jazz Festival, Darling Harbour and the Australian Institute of Music.

Our Education Programme continued in 2010 with very successful performances at Petersham, Canterbury Girls, Epping West, and Wheeler Heights Schools and Newington College. Students from Urangan School in Queensland were welcome visitors at our studio. Thanks to Petty Officer Mark Ham, Able Seaman Damian Dowd and Able Seaman Simon Bartlett for their invaluable assistance in the Education Programme.

In October, a small group travelled to Cairns for Navy Week. This annual trip is keenly anticipated as regional and interstate trips are relatively infrequent in these challenging economic times. The local hospitality is always generous and the summer weather is a chance to be reacquainted with balmy nights and sea air. Performance highlights included a Ceremonial Sunset on the Esplanade, background music for HMAS *Cairns* Open Day (where a visit from Commander Flynn AKA actor Ian Stenlake of HMAS *Hammersley* added a touch of glamour), lunchtime concerts in the mall and concerts at Cairns High and Smithfield High schools. We also contributed some musical content to the Naming of Centaur Park ceremony.

The year concluded with very-well received Christmas concerts at HMAS *Watson*, Navy House in Canberra and St Andrew's Cathedral in Sydney.

Several members plied their technical craft in far-flung places. Able Seaman Damian Dowd travelled to Sinai in December to assist with a Forces Entertainment tour as did Lieutenant Steven Stanke, Petty Officer Brett Douglas and Able Seaman Greg Turner in August (East Timor) and Leading Seaman Gordon Orr (Afghanistan). Able Seaman Natalie Urquhart exchanged roles with Leading Seaman Jonathan Franklin of the New Zealand Navy Band for three months and both can be commended for their expertise, contribution and development.



LEADING SEAMAN JONATHAN FRANKLIN FROM THE NEW ZEALAND NAVY BAND REHEARSING WITH SYDNEY DETACHMENT



MELBOURNE DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY LIEUTENANT MATTHEW KLOHS



MELBOURNE DETACHMENT ON PARADE AT HMAS CERBERUS

After a relaxing mid year leave period the Melbourne detachment came back to work to begin a busy second half of the year. As well as our many musical commitments a number of our people were involved in various sporting activities, courses and sea trips.

July was a busy month, which began with the Sir Weary Dunlop Memorial Parade in the city. This was followed later in the month with a visit to HMAS *Cerberus* by Sandgate District High School whose Musical Director, Ken Lincoln, is an ex-Warrant Officer Musician. It was an enjoyable experience and the students were exposed to a wide range of music and rehearsal techniques as well as master classes and workshops. The Corvettes Rock Group performed at the combined Wardroom and WOSSM Winter Ball while the Pipe The Side Brass Quintet attended a function for the Royal Association of Honorary Justices. A milestone was reached by one of our newest Officers, Sub-Lieutenant Brian O'Kane, who conducted his first parade for the monthly Recruit School Pass Out with great success.

August was an extremely busy month of which the highlight was our Concert Band, performing for the Mornington Police Senior Citizens Register. This was followed by the annual Back to Caulfield Parade and a visit to Cranbourne High School. The Pipe The Side Brass and Woodwind Quintets performed at Parliament House for the launch of Legacy Week, while the Corvettes Rock Band performed at the Lake Attack Run at Albert Park.

September was also an extremely busy month with the highlights including a performance at the BMW Edge Theatre at Federation Square by the Concert Band. The concert was a great success and was attended by the Director of Music. The Corvettes Big Band, Jazz Ensemble and Rock Group performed at the Military Officers Ball at the Sofitel Hotel and the Pipe the Side Woodwind Quintet performed at the Victorian SES Reception at Parliament House. The Corvettes Rock Group performed at the Royal Melbourne Show and also at the Open Day at Cruden Farm for the Sir Weary Dunlop Foundation. This month it was

Lieutenant Mohapp's turn to conduct her first parade for Recruit School.

In October the Melbourne detachment spent a week at the Defence Force School of Music to perform an At Home Concert as the Australian Army Band - Melbourne was on a deployment to the west. The band performed extremely well for this concert, which was an assessment task for the Band Officers and Assistant Band Leaders courses at the School. This month also included the National Servicemen's Parade here at HMAS *Cerberus* while the Pipe The Side Woodwind Quintet performed at the Seniors Week Expo. The annual Seafarer's Memorial was also held at both St Paul's Cathedral and later at the Shrine. The month culminated with the Commanding Officer's reception which incorporated a Ceremonial Sunset and Beat to Quarters by the Parade Band.

November and December continued to be busy beginning with the Corvettes Big Band performing at the Marysville Wine Festival on Melbourne Cup Day. There was also a performance by the Concert Band in the gardens of the Beaumaris RSL Club. In December we had the annual RMIT Graduation ceremonies at Etihad Stadium as well as a night graduation for Recruit School which incorporated a Ceremonial Sunset and Beat to Quarters.

The Melbourne Detachment welcomed back five sailors (Able Seaman Karen Baker, Able Seaman Stephanie Hutchinson, Able Seaman Fletcher Mitchell, Able Seaman Greg Smith and Able Seaman Russell Ward) from operation RIMPAC in late August. From all reports a great time was had by all, and the contribution of the Sea Deployment Group was highly successful and greatly appreciated by Ship's Company of HMAS *Kanimbla*.

As well as the many musical commitments the detachment has completed this year there have been other activities that should not go unmentioned. In the sporting arena the detachment has been encouraged to participate in depot sport each Wednesday afternoon. As a result, one of our Senior Sailors, Petty Officer Sharon 'Jack High' Jarvis has become extremely involved in the sport of Lawn Bowls. This has given her the opportunity to participate in several Defence championships. She also had the opportunity to travel to England for a Tour in July.

Able Seaman Andrew Hansch and Able Seaman Russell Ward as well as myself and Warrant Officer Dale Granger were selected to represent Victoria for Navy in the 2010 Inter-Service Golf Trophy in October. Good sportsmanship and good golf abounded, with the resulting victory to Navy being celebrated by all. The contribution of the musicians was certainly noted as being to the fore. Able Seaman Andrew Hansch and I also took the opportunity to represent Navy at the Australian Defence Force Golf Association National Championships in Canberra in December, both of us having some mixed results, but putting in a credible performance.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Able Seaman Adam Arnold and Able Seaman Jeff McGann on their



impending promotions to Leading Seaman early next year. Both sailors are hard working and make a great contribution to the detachment and their promotions are well deserved. I'd also like to welcome Able Seaman Joe Williams and Able Seaman Dominic Parsons to the Melbourne Detachment. I wish them well in their careers and hope they enjoy their time here at HMAS *Cerberus*.



ABLE SEAMAN BENJAMIN SMART TUNES THE TIMPANI AT HMAS *CERBERUS*

QUEENSLAND DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER ANDREW STAPLETON

Aloha, from the Sunshine State! Unfortunately summer hasn't really kicked in this year, so I can't boast about the terrific run of balmy sub-tropical days as I had intended!

Queensland detachment's first commitment in July was the Queensland Air Museum Open Day. This was an excellent opportunity for the Stage Band to perform as our last performance of this type was in April. The next commitment followed a request from Redcliffe State High School to perform at their Gala Music Night. The timing was perfect as we were able to provide entertainment from the newly formed Pop Group. Seaman Leigh Robke, vocalist, was the inspiration and catalyst for this new group. The repertoire could not have been better suited to the occasion, and the students, staff and families were very impressed with our selection of Top 40 tunes. The end of July once again saw the detachment performing at the Morningside Festival street parade and at a Citizenship Ceremony in Brisbane. This was a very busy start to the new financial year.

August was relatively quiet with just a Defence Charity Ball to prepare for. As usual the Australian Army Band, Brisbane provided the dinner music and supported the guest artist, whilst the Queensland detachment provided the dance music with the Stage Band, Pop Group and Rock Group all featuring prominently throughout the evening. In September the month kicked off with the Wynnum Manly Jazz Festival on an overcast and wet Father's Day. The detachment performed our usual mix of popular stage band tunes to a smaller than usual, but nevertheless, appreciative crowd.

Our busiest month by far was October. It started with Able Seaman Darren Skaar providing bugling support for a Navy Week Commemoration Service at Bundamba. The following week we did a static display for the annual Navy Week Beat to Quarters and Ceremonial Sunset. With the support of six members of the Sydney detachment and Lieutenant Andrew Stokes as the Music Director it would have been quite a spectacle, if not for the torrential sub-tropical downpour that eventuated. The whole event was moved indoors and fortunately we were able to provide suitable entertainment for the Lord Mayor's Navy Week Reception. The following day, although still wet, the detachment performed to a large crowd in Brisbane's Queen Street Mall. The performance was supported by the Federation Guard's Precision Drill Team.

Mid-October saw the Rock Group heading up to Maroochydore for the Sunshine Coast Flotilla Cadet Ball. Leading Seaman Gemma Tilly and I provided the dinner music which was followed by the Rock Group. After a slow start the cadets finally loosened up and hit the dance floor with the expected enthusiasm. The following week saw Leading Seaman Tilly and I again performing, this time at the Brisbane Conservatorium of Music's Café supporting a Defence Force Recruiting initiative to increase musician recruitment. The concept worked well and many students took the time to stop and listen. I was a bit surprised, however, by just how many guitar students there were. No pressure!

Over the remainder of that week we were fortunate to have as guest Leading Seaman Jonathan Franklin from the New Zealand Navy Band. I'm sure that all of you who met Jonathan during his ANZAC Exchange would have been very impressed with his musicianship and warm personality. His professionalism was obvious to me when he was able to effortlessly enhance the performance of the guitar and vocal duo for the Naval Officers Club Trafalgar Dinner. The next day Seaman Robke and I travelled to the Gold Coast to support the Gold Coast Naval Foundation Navy Week Commemoration. Seaman Robke's vocal support certainly enhanced the service, and I dusted off the bugle one more time.

The final full commitment for 2010 was the Gold Coast Sub-Branch Remembrance Day Dinner at the Currumbin RSL Club. This provided an excellent opportunity for Chief Petty Officer Graham Carter to be assessed on his conducting skills by conducting a small mess band as part of his Assistant Band Leader course.

Well here we are in December, and I know I say it every year, but hasn't it just flown by? It's been a tough six months for many. There has been a lot of change, but change is inevitable and we will roll with it. The Queensland detachment will continue to develop with a number of new recruits coming through over the next few months. This will enable us to provide the best possible musical support to Navy, and the community in South-East Queensland. Also congratulations to Seaman Rebecca Lloyd-Jones and Seaman John Smallcombe on their promotions to Able



Seaman, and to Able Seaman Anthony Sargeant on being awarded his Australian Defence Medal.

On behalf of all members of the Queensland detachment I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy festive season.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DOUG ANTONOFF

The pace of the South Australian detachment during this period was considerably slower than in previous years. This can be attributed to several factors, but mainly due to changes under the Funded Reserve Commitment and the cancellation of Navy Week in Adelaide owing to there not being a ship visit. Navy Week had traditionally been a very busy week for the South Australian detachment.

The detachment's saxophone quartet proved to be popular once again at the Investiture ceremonies held at Government House. This is an activity enjoyed by the musicians, Petty Officer Tschirn, Able Seaman Robinson, Seaman Cooper and Seaman Finney, as it provides an opportunity to play music of a genre quite different to our usual rock band format. In addition, the quartet also supported the Climb for Kids Charity Challenge and the Commanding Officer's end of year cocktail party. Lauren Hindmarsh, a Climb for Kids participant said, "the South Australian detachment made a difference to Australian kids through supporting Kid's Helpline, giving them assistance to grow up strong and make a difference in the world".



THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DETACHMENT'S SAXOPHONE QUARTET AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Leading Seaman Guy McRedmond was kept busy on his bugle performing the Last Post and Reveille at various memorial services around Adelaide, including Remembrance Day and United Nations Day.

The South Australian detachment also provided support to 11 Squadron's Welcome Home from the Middle East Area of Operations dinner held at the Hilton Hotel. The

Commanding Officer of 11 Squadron, Wing Commander Phillip Champion said, "the South Australian detachment of the RAN Band is a very talented and obviously well practiced group and the exceptional contribution that your music made to the night was integral to its success. The tone of the music and the enthusiasm with which you performed enlivened the atmosphere of the function and meant that all attending had a very enjoyable night".

As the year draws to a close the detachment is looking forward to a trip 300kms north of Adelaide to the town of Morgan on the Murray River. Over the weekend 11/12 December we will be supporting the town's Christmas pageant, and presenting a 90 minute performance for the locals and visitors on the foreshore. Travelling with the detachment will be the South Australian team for the Navy Community Engagement Scheme with a Navy Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB). The RHIB will be joining in the pageant and later providing a naval backdrop during our performance.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas from all of us here in sunny and (currently) not too wet, South Australia.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER GABE KICSAK

Well, it's hard to believe that we are at the end of another calendar year! Since the last newsletter there have been a lot of changes, most significantly the reduction to the Funded Reserve Commitment. Nevertheless we are determined to push on through these tough times.

July was a huge success for the detachment with the 50th anniversary reunion of Junior Recruit trainees from the then HMAS *Leeuwin* here in Fremantle. The day started with the dedication of a new monument at the front of the Drill Hall before a crowd of 3,000. Guest of honour was Chief of Navy, Vice-Admiral Russ Crane, a former Junior Recruit himself. That evening we were off to the Burswood Casino Grand Ballroom for a dinner dance. The venue had never hosted such a large event before, and they too were in new territory. Some months later I am still getting feedback about what a fantastic night it was and what a highlight the detachment was.

July finished off with another dinner dance, this time at the Sergeant's Mess at RAAF Pearce. The newly refurbished mess had only been open two weeks and looked great.

August was a quiet month and so we were able to help out the Australian Army Band, Perth with a bugler for the Battle of Long Tan commemorations. This quiet time allowed us to do some serious rehearsing.

In September our Dixie Group played at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal for Celebrate Maritime Day. The Dixie



combo was perfect for this occasion. Not only is the group 'portable' but the music is upbeat and lively. About 8000 people attended the event, and were tapping along to the music.

October was another quiet month with just one bugling job. We made good use of the time to start rehearsing for our big gig in December - the Fremantle carols.

November saw us getting out a little more than in the previous few months. On Remembrance Day four of our buglers participated in playing the Last Post and Reveille in the city centre. Police stop the traffic whilst the buglers play and a minutes silence is observed.

Next it was the turn of our five piece group. They played for two events and were much appreciated. The first was a Senior Sailor's Cocktail Party, and this was followed by a MEKO Conference at the Maritime Museum which was attended by many senior officers.

December has been our biggest month. Our first job was a Dining-In Night at HMAS *Stirling* to farewell the Governor of Western Australia, and also Commodore Davies (Commodore Submarine Squadron) and Captain Dowsing (Commanding Officer HMAS *Stirling*). It is sad to see Captain Dowsing go as he has been a big supporter of this detachment. He even comes to rehearsals to listen and keep in touch with us.

The following night was the culmination of our past few months rehearsals. The detachment led an audience of over 6,000, all in fine singing form, with their favourite carols and Christmas songs. There was a great atmosphere and the evening finished off with fireworks.



THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DETACHMENT LEADING THE CAROL SINGING IN FREMANTLE

On behalf of the Western Australian detachment I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. We look forward to continuing our journey as part of the Navy Band in 2011.

TASMANIAN DETACHMENT

ARTICLE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DANIEL HOBSON AND ABLE SEAMAN SHELLYANNE KLEYWEGT

In the second half of this year the Tasmanian detachment of the Royal Australian Navy Band were excited to welcome Chief Petty Officer Daniel Hobson to his new posting with us. Chief Petty Officer Hobson has been enthusiastically received, with the entire ensemble responding to his leadership and expertise.

During the cooler months the rhythm section worked up a number of new and dynamic rock group charts. Able Seaman Dorian Broomhall worked on writing up horn parts for the section which was soon to expand with Able Seaman Shellyanne Kleywegt returning from maternity leave to take up alto sax again and Chief Petty Officer Hobson filling it out nicely on baritone.

After a quieter period from July to September a few of us set out for the east coast in October for the Triabunna Seafarers Memorial. We supported the cadets with Seaman Samantha Mole leading the singing for the service. The weather didn't blow us away as in previous years, and a great many of the sea-going community came out to pay tribute to loved ones.

A week later our bugler, Able Seaman Dorian Broomhall attended the HMAS *Australia* Leyte commemoration. Interestingly, HMAS *Australia's* Captain Emile Dechaineux who was killed in the action was born and raised in Launceston, Tasmania before joining the Royal Australian navy at the age of 14.



HMAS AUSTRALIA'S CAPTAIN, EMILE DECHANEUX

As November moved closer Chief Petty Officer Hobson implemented intensive side drum rehearsals. The Junior Sailors were pleased to utilise what they had been working on for their task books and to take it out onto the parade ground more frequently. The detachment's drum and bugle



corps, having increased in size and skill, were therefore excited to perform at the St Helen's Remembrance Day ceremony. We look forward to continued progress in our drum and bugle corps as it is now a regular part of our weekly rehearsals.



CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DANIEL HOBSON AND THE DRUM CORPS AT ST HELEN'S REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Back in Hobart the rock group assembled for a weekend at the V8 Supercars event at Symmons Plains. We were pleased to have the Director of Music with us for this occasion. Unfortunately, the weather forecast was for rain, and this time they got it right! Our summer rig was splashed a lovely caramel brown and our white shoes rather the worse for wear. All in all, the weekend has equipped us with experience in pulling off professional entertainment – rain, hail or shine! Our bugler returned to Hobart on the Sunday to play at the HMAS *Sydney* Memorial service on the Elizabeth Street pier. It continued to rain as promised and the ceremony was performed under umbrellas – if you were lucky!

The detachment was thrilled to celebrate their 21st anniversary on 25 November 2010 with a dinner that was well attended by old familiar faces as well as newer recruits. It was an opportunity to reflect on where the years have taken the band, from concert band, big band through to the present day rock and jazz band, and to look to the future, discussing how we can improve and grow. It was a wonderful evening to relax and enjoy friendships that will last for life.

At the end of November we set out for the country town of Lachlan. Lachlan was holding their annual festival, and we were able to play to the entire market and chat to the local farmers against a backdrop of rolling green hills. Parents came with their little ones to eat a sausage or two and the feedback from the locals was extremely positive. We entertained the crowds with some jazz standards, moving through some laid back Norah Jones, Maroon 5 and into our usual rock band favourites.

On a final note we've been able to open some long awaited Christmas presents a little early – our DPNU's! We will enjoy rehearsing in them in the busy months ahead in 2011. In the meantime we are looking forward to a Christmas break and we wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

DEFENCE FORCE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ARTICLE BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER PAUL COTTIER

The second half of this year commenced with the second Section Leader course for the year. Able Seaman Daniel McMahon from Sydney detachment was the only Navy representative on this course. Daniel is a fine trombone player who excelled on the course. He is to be commended for his attitude, and for his willingness to learn and assist fellow course members. Daniel's efforts were rewarded by his being nominated for the Section Leader's Course Student of Merit Award for the training year 2010/11. The winner of this award will be announced following the completion of the next course in 2011.

Able Seaman Haylen Newman, also from the Sydney detachment attended the Studio Recording Course in August. Haylen was also a keen and enthusiastic student who thrived on the tuition given. Haylen is another example of the fine young musicians that we are fortunate to have in our category. Congratulations on your performance Haylen, I hope you enjoyed your visit to the Defence Force School of Music (DFSM).

Lieutenants Cassandra Mohapp and Brian O'Kane continue to make impressive progress on the Band Officers Course (BOC). They are both thriving on the instruction and knowledge they are gaining on this very demanding course. I would like to congratulate Brian on his promotion to Lieutenant on 19 October 2010. Brian was promoted during one of the DFSM 'At Home' Concerts by the Commanding Officer DFSM, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Lambie, CSM.

We were fortunate to have the Melbourne detachment assist us with training in late September/early October. Without their assistance valuable training would have been lost, including the cancellation of one of our 'At Home' concerts. These concerts allow the BOC students to conduct a military band in a concert situation, and this training is essential for their development. The Corvettes Big Band from the Melbourne detachment also assisted the BOC with the 'Rehearse a Stage Band' component of their course. I may be a little biased, but the musicianship and performance level of the Melbourne detachment was superb, and brought much praise from a very appreciative audience. I would like to thank Lieutenant Matthew Klohs and his team for the assistance they have given DFSM throughout the year.

On Saturday 6 November, the staff and trainees at DFSM turned off their computers and headed bush for five days of Adventure Training. This was conducted at Walkerville South, near Wilson's Promontory in Gippsland, Victoria. Activities included sea kayaking, mountain bike riding and bush walking. This was a great team building exercise and



an opportunity for members to move outside their comfort zone, build confidence and increase leadership skills. It was a very rewarding trip and a great opportunity for us all to escape the rigours of training.

Our second Introduction to Live Sound course has just concluded with Able Seaman Damian Dowd from the Sydney detachment being the Navy representative. Damian is a fine vocalist, and this course gave him a good insight into the requirements, demands and expectations of our sound operators. Damian performed very well on the course, is now able to adjust his own fold-back levels, and I'm sure will be a lot more compassionate in the future when dealing with sound operators!

As the year quickly comes to an end we are preparing for our Twilight Concert series. This series consists of five concerts including the DFSM Christmas Concert. These concerts provide an opportunity for the BOC students to plan, produce and execute an entire production, including running sheets, stage plans, lighting plots, programming, compering and conducting, thereby putting into place all of the learning achieved during the year.

In concluding I would like to thank Chief Petty Officer Danny Mulheron and Petty Officer Kara Williams for the support they have given me, and all the Navy students, that have attended courses throughout the year. Danny, Kara and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.



'FROM THE ARCHIVES!' - CHRISTMAS AT DFSM 1957 STYLE

KIRSTY JONES AWARD

The Kirsty Jones Award is presented annually to a member of the permanent component of the Royal Australian Navy Band who has been assessed as making an outstanding contribution to the band's operational effectiveness. The recipient of this award is selected to specifically acknowledge their direct contribution to encouraging good morale within the team; promoting a positive workplace atmosphere; enhancing a sense of esprit-de-corps

throughout the Royal Australian Navy Band; and upholding Navy's values of Honour, Honesty, Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.

The Kirsty Jones Award was created to honour the memory of, and as a dedication to, ex-Petty Officer Musician Kirsty Jones who inspired her subordinates and superiors through her personal qualities, positive attitude, and commitment and dedication to duty.

All members of the permanent component of the Royal Australian Navy Band are eligible for the Kirsty Jones award with the recipient decided by the band's Senior Leadership Group. The award comprises a perpetual shield to be displayed in the winner's detachment, a letter from the Director of Music, and a crystal plaque.

The 2010 recipient is Able Seaman Paul Parnell from the Sydney detachment.

I congratulate Able Seaman Parnell on his outstanding contribution to the Navy Band. He is indeed a worthy recipient who lives by Navy's values and who honours the memory of Petty Officer Musician Kirsty Jones.

RIMPAC 2010 SEA DEPLOYMENT GROUP

ARTICLE BY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DOUG ANTONOFF, ABLE SEAMAN ADAM ARNOLD, ABLE SEAMAN FLETCHER MITCHELL AND ABLE SEAMAN ELLEN ZYLA



CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DOUG ANTONOFF ONBOARD HMAS KANIMBLA IN TRANSIT TO HAWAII

On Monday, 1 June 2010 twelve musicians selected for the RIMPAC 2010 Sea Deployment Group (SDG) Chief Petty Officer Doug Antonoff, Petty Officer Lucas Kennedy, Leading Seaman David Coit, Able Seaman Adam Arnold, Able Seaman Karen Baker, Able Seaman Melissa Ballantyne, Able Seaman Tony Frantz, Able Seaman Stephanie Hutchinson, Able Seaman Fletcher Mitchell, Able Seaman Doug Ross, Able Seaman Greg Smith and Able Seaman Ellen Zyla, met, some of us for the first time, at the RAN Band Studio in Sydney. Most of the group had never been to sea before and in the ensuing days were to be



initiated into all the necessary pre-embarkation preparations. These included liaising with the Executive Officer (XO) of HMAS *Kanimbla* to discuss the SDG's daily routine; arranging accommodation, a rehearsal area, and storage area for our musical equipment; collating music and rehearsing for all the musical requirements of the deployment. Two days prior to sailing we moved all our personal belongings and band equipment on board. Bunks various messes and lockers were secured and equipment was stowed on the tank deck.

On the afternoon of 9 June we set sail for Hawaii via Samoa, to the sounds of the SDG playing nautical marches. Then began our daily routine. 0800 to 1600 each day was set aside for band rehearsals in the tank deck. – extremely hot and the constant engine noise made it very difficult to hear ourselves playing! Moreover our rehearsals were regularly interrupted for various briefings and exercises.

The XO and the Officer Commanding the Ship's Army Department onboard, and under whose wings the Band was placed, were very supportive and keen to do anything to help us go about our business. The SDG quickly made new friends with the Ship's Company and were accepted as part of the crew. We attended PT sessions in the evenings, participated in whole of ship evolutions and all Able Seamen did a stint in the scullery over the duration of the deployment. Leading Seaman Coit regaled us with popular (and in some cases not so popular!) songs each morning for 0645 'wakey-wakey'.



(L TO R) ABLE SEAMAN FLETCHER MITCHELL, LEADING SEAMAN DAVE COIT AND ABLE SEAMAN ADAM ARNOLD DOING 'WAKEY, WAKEY' ON THE BRIDGE OF HMAS *KANIMBLA*

Our first port of call was Apia in Samoa to deliver two fire trucks gifted by the Australian Government. The SDG played on the ship as we entered harbour and then again for the Commanding Officer's presentation of the fire trucks to the Prime Minister of Samoa. Performances ashore included a street march with the Samoan Police Band and a performance at Vai-ala Beach School. From the moment we arrived at the school the children were amazed and intrigued with everything, from our instruments as we unpacked, to the name bars and ribbons on our uniforms. The Band played everything from the drum ruffle to rock and disco. Many of the children had never seen or heard a band perform live, and being able to bring something new to these

children was one of the most rewarding moments of the deployment.



THE SEA DEPLOYMENT GROUP PERFORMING THE DRUM RUFFLE FOR CHILDREN OF VAI-ALA BEACH SCHOOL, SAMOA

Crossing the equator and entering the realm of King Neptune is always a big occasion on an RAN ship and most of the SDG joined with the 200 or so others of the Ship's Company for whom this was a new (and somewhat mucky) experience!

Prior to our departure, and whilst en route, Petty Officer Kennedy had been in contact with the US Pacific Fleet Band in Pearl Harbor arranging performance opportunities for the SDG. We joined forces with the Pacific Fleet Band for a Fourth of July street march through the small seaside town of Kailua at Kaneohe Bay. The varying ensembles of the group performed in many different places including a jazz and rock group gig at the Hale Koa Hotel (for US Defence members and their families), the Wet 'N' Wild Theme Park, a ceremonial sunset onboard HMAS *Kanimbla* and a sombre brass quintet performance at the USS *Arizona* Memorial.

When not busy performing, the group found time to enjoy the offerings of Hawaii. Most stayed at a hotel to relax and recharge the batteries, tasted the local brew and hired mustangs or Harleys to check out the sites and tour the island. "Waikiki is just the same as the Gold Coast except that our beaches are better and have surf for the surfers", one of our group observed.

After ten days alongside and a gig nearly every day, it was once again time to set sail for Exercise RIMPAC 2010, three weeks of combined exercises with navies from other Pacific Rim countries in the Hawaiian waters. The SDG was unable to rehearse during this time as HMAS *Kanimbla* embarked over 200 US, Canadian and Indonesian soldiers and marines, and our tank deck rehearsal area was full of Amphibious Assault Vehicles. Nevertheless whilst the ship was at anchor in a bay with a backdrop of the locations for films such as *Jurassic Park*, *Indiana Jones* and *South Pacific* the rock group was able to do a concert for the Ship's Company and embarked forces.

During this phase the SDG was offered the opportunity to spend some time on two US ships, USS *Cleveland* and USS *Bonhomme Richard* Whilst difficult logistically, including helicopter transfers for twelve people, their



luggage, instruments, amplifiers and PA gear, the spirit of international co-operation allowed the crews of all the ships to make it happen. Our time on the USS *Bonhomme Richard* was especially interesting as it provided us with an insight into what the two new LHDs currently being built for the RAN and due for entry into service in 2013 will be like. Concerts were given on both ships and were highly appreciated by the embarked forces, which included a platoon of Australian Army troops from 2RAR onboard USS *Cleveland*.

After 25 days at sea it was time to return to Pearl Harbor but our work was not yet finished. The SDG had been invited to perform on one of the Japanese ships for their end of exercise cocktail party. After the performance we were invited below deck for food, sake and Japanese beer. The Captain enjoyed our company immensely and was torn between socialising with us below decks and the official party on the flight deck. He apologised regularly as he returned to the official party, returning only minutes later to rejoin us. The following day was our last chance to take in the sights and sounds of Pearl Harbor, the Naval Exchange for duty free shopping and of course Waikiki beach.

The last phase, our trip home, was very much a repeat of what we had already experienced, two ship's concerts, damage control exercises and a little more time to read and watch movies. For all the members of the group RIMPAC 2010 was an unforgettable experience and a deployment that will be talked about for years to come. Naturally there are many more stories than we can cover in this brief account so feel free to get us talking whenever you next see us!

OPERATION SLIPPER DEPLOYMENT

ARTICLE BY LIEUTENANT ANDREW STOKES



TOUR 'TECH CREW' CLOCKWISE FROM TOP-LEFT: LS GORDON ORR, LEUT ANDREW STOKES, PO SIMON POTTER, LS TOM BASTIANS

Touching down in Al Minhad Air Base I was feeling both anxious and excited. Anxious about the danger and the unknown, while excited to be part of what promised to be a

thrilling tour. I had to suppress the desire to jump on the first flight to Afghanistan and get the tour started and redirect that energy into four days of RSO&I training. Besides, the entertainers were a week away from arriving and I wasn't sure that the one-man-Andrew-Stokes-show would go down real well!

With RSO&I complete, we had some time to relax and make final preparations for the tour. Once the entertainers and the equipment arrived it was all hands on deck to prepare for moving into Afghanistan.

Landing at Tarin Kowt revived the parallel anxious and exciting feelings. There was no time, however, to worry about being shot at or rocketed as the first show was approaching fast and with briefings to attend and accommodation to find our set up time was diminishing fast. Thanks to the crew's hard work, the first show got underway on time and was a great success.

The next day we were off to Kabul where again, with much time taken by briefings and waiting for equipment, we needed to execute a fairly hasty set up. Although there are very few Australians in Kabul, the audience numbers were good and the show went well.

With some time to spare the next morning, there was opportunity to have a look around Kabul Air Base and visit the markets. One thing I found weird was walking into shops carrying a rifle – I felt like I needed to explain that I was not there to rob them. What was even stranger was sitting down to a lunch at a Thai restaurant where all patrons were wearing military uniform and had weapons under their chairs!

That afternoon we flew to our next destination – the hustle and bustle of Kandahar Air Field. The place is incredible – 47 nations, tens of thousands of troops, traffic jams and what war-zone Air Base would be complete without its own KFC! We received a warm reception that night at Camp Baker with an Aussie style barbeque complete with sausage sandwiches, a gum tree and 'near beer'. There was some time the next morning for a look around Kandahar Air Field before setting up for the evening show.

The next day it was back to Al Minhad Air Base where we combined with the Op Mazurka tour for two shows over our final two nights in the Middle East. Once we improvised our way around our power problems and snuck in quick sound checks in between local prayer times, it was on with the final shows.

Even though it was a relatively short tour, on reflection, I feel much was achieved. Five shows at four venues over six days, reaching over 1000 troops. The team worked hard, bonded together well and quickly established good rapport with the entertainers. A big thanks to Petty Officer Simon Potter, Leading Seaman Tom Bastians and Leading Seaman Gordon Orr for their contribution to making the tour successful and memorable.



ANZAC EXCHANGE 2010

ARTICLE BY ABLE SEAMAN NATALIE URQUHART



ABLE SEAMAN NAT URQUHART FINDS A HOME AWAY FROM HOME IN NEW ZEALAND DURING ANZAC EXCHANGE 2010

On 15 August I arrived at HMNZS *Philomel* Devonport, which was to be my home for the next three months whilst I was on exchange to work with the Band of the Royal New Zealand Navy. My exchange partner, Jonathan Franklin (also a saxophone player) was to spend the next three months with the Sydney detachment.

After a quick introduction to my fellow 'bandies' it was straight to work rehearsing for my first gig which was at the Museum, and it got rained out! We did, however, return there a few days later to entertain the crowds, along with the visiting Korean Navy Band, playing popular Kiwi tunes. The next few weeks were a mixture of ship welcomings, school gigs and a concert in Takapuna.

Despite the Band's busy schedule I was fortunate enough to be able to take a few days off. I decided to head to the cultural (and very smelly) town of Rotorua and its surrounds. The Geothermal Parks were magnificent, and we saw geysers, bubbling mud pools, mineral pools and of course had a first hand experience of the unique smell for which Rotorua is famous. All smells aside, we experienced a traditional Maori Hangi and the cultural show at Tamaki Maori Village - a magical place. Our next adventure was to the Waitomo Glow Worm Caves, and what would a trip to Rotorua be without a soak in mud and a sulphur spa?

Back at work and there were more ship arrivals, play centre visits and plenty of gigs to keep me busy. We even managed to get a sax quartet together for a performance. During this time the band was busily preparing for the celebration of HMNZS *Wellington's* maiden voyage. Our first night in Wellington saw a Ceremonial Sunset and my first marching display with the New Zealand Navy Band. Never have I heard a crowd get so excited at a Beat to Quarters and Ceremonial Sunset! The following day I got to experience the famous winds of Wellington. During the parade rehearsal it took all my concentration not to get blown off my feet! The weather was kinder, however, for the

actual parade to march the Ship's Company through the Wellington streets.

Leaving the Band to return to Auckland, a friend and I were lucky enough to be able to take a week sightseeing on the South Island. We started with a ferry trip that took us to Picton at the top of the South Island. Entering Picton through the picturesque Marlborough Sounds was a magnificent experience. Christchurch was the next stop where we saw the devastation caused by the earthquakes and the after-shocks that continued to rock the city. After a night in Christchurch it was on to Mt Cook and the Tasman Glacier, where the scenery was breathtaking. From there we travelled to Lake Wanaka and Queenstown and spent the next two days wining, dining, having an exhilarating ride on the Shotover Jet, and an unforgettable cruise on Milford Sound.

Back in Auckland a day of rest was well needed for the week ahead - Navy Week! More Beat to Quarters and Ceremonial Sunsets were part of a huge week in the New Zealand Navy's calendar. The opening of the Navy Museum at Torpedo Bay was an important event, attracting even the Prime Minister who was dazzled by yet another fantastic marching display. HMNZS *Philomel* had an Open Day where we performed yet more Kiwi classics, and the week finished off with a church service at the lovely chapel at HMNZS *Philomel*.

The following week we drove from Devonport to Palmerston North for an 'All Ships Reunion'. The gig was well received and my presence did not go unnoticed by the appreciative crowd. Other places that I got to see on the North Island included 90 Mile Beach, Cape Reinga and my favourite place, The Bay of Islands. Sadly my trip was coming to an end, and it was back to my last working week with the Band. The saxophone quartet played at a fashion show charity event that was hosted by Temuera Morrison, well-known as 'Jake the Muss' from *Once Were Warriors*.

ANZAC Exchange came to an end on 5 November when the Navy personnel were flown to Palmerston North where we spent the night at Linton Army Camp before leaving on a C130 from Ohakea Air Force Base.

My time with the New Zealand Navy Band was fantastic, and I met some great people who will always be considered my friends. Spending three months overseas has been a great opportunity, and I am privileged to have been able to work with such a talented group of people. I wish to thank the Band of the Royal New Zealand Navy for their wonderful hospitality, and the Director of Music for allowing me to participate in the exchange program.



STRENGTHENING TIES BEYOND NAVY

ARTICLE BY ABLE SEAMAN SIMON BARTLETT



ABLE SEAMAN SIMON 'WATER BUFFALO' BARTLETT WITH THE TIWI LADIES OF BATHURST ISLAND PAINTED IN THEIR DREAMING

For many years, French Horn player for *Australian Idol* and Musicologist Genevieve Campbell has been working with the Tiwi People of Bathurst Island, recording their traditional songs, and observing the way these songs have developed over the past century, by comparing them with previous recordings. As a part of this work, she has formed a group called *Ngarukuruwala* (literally translated as 'We Sing Songs'), which combines the songs of the 'strong' women of Bathurst Island with a jazz group.

I got to know all about this in the playground of Croydon Public School, where we would wait to pick up our respective daughters. One day she asked me to come and play with *Ngarukuruwala* at a performance at the Sydney Conservatorium, which I did. She then asked if there was any chance I could help out when the ladies sang at the Darwin Festival. I sent a request up the Divisional Chain, and it was agreed that this could only be a good thing for *Ngarukuruwala* and Navy.

After an overnight stay in Darwin we boarded a charter flight to Bathurst Island. This 25 minute trip included an impromptu flying lesson during which I took the controls once we had reached cruising altitude. (You don't get that with Qantas!). Once installed in our accommodation, we went to the old Catholic Church (situated next to the radio shack where a priest warned Darwin of the impending attack by the Japanese), and rehearsed the program for Darwin Festival with the ladies. By about 3pm, everyone was tired out, so we called it a day, drove the ladies back to their respective

accommodation and went to 'The Club'. This is a licensed premises with very strict rules: maximum of six drinks per person; no buying drinks on someone else's behalf; only mid-strength beer cans available and no take aways.

The following day we continued rehearsing, except this time at 'The Club'. Part of the purpose of this rehearsal was to allow the local kids to hear the traditional songs, and after some negotiation, the kids were allowed into 'The Club' - the first time minors had ever been allowed onto the premises. The Ladies also taught the kids the 'Strong Kids Song', a combination of traditional melody and lyrics reinforcing what the kids thought were important in staying safe. Representatives of the Red Cross, Northern Territory who had funded some of this rehearsal period were in attendance. A free sausage sizzle was an integral part of the event, as that ALWAYS gets people there, and the NAVY cap proved a good conversation starter.

We then drove the Ladies back to their homes so they could pack for the flight to Darwin.

On our first day in Darwin we travelled to Charles Darwin University, where we would be artists-in-residence. We held an open rehearsal with students and lecturers in attendance. The Head of Creative Art and Music, is especially interested in projects such as this that marry indigenous and contemporary music.

The next day was the first of our performances at the Darwin Festival. Having assembled outside the venue, the Ladies began singing and dancing. One of the elders then gave me my dreaming - Niyamwayi, or Water Buffalo. Some of the Water Buffalo women taught me my dance - once you have your dreaming, then you do that particular dance, whatever the music is! (This actually happened at 'The Club' a few nights earlier - regardless of what was on the juke box, people would do crocodile, shark, jungle fowl, horse, dugong or water buffalo dances, depending on their dreaming!)

Once on stage, we tried to play the program as advertised, however, the Ladies act spontaneously when they perform, adding or discarding songs as the mood takes them. Although the band plays arrangements, the Ladies will come in when they like, pointing to the band when they want an instrumental break, and the lines of each verse may vary in length by a number of bars! The main reason for rehearsal is for the Ladies to gain confidence.

At the end of the performance the band played, and the ladies danced. Leonie, one of the elders, pointed to me and said 'dance'. I obediently put my trombone down, went to the front of the stage, and did my Water Buffalo Dance. The Tiwi men in the front of the audience laughed, pointing at me and shouting out 'Wrong! Wrong!' To add insult to injury, the Ladies kept getting me to go back to the front of the stage and repeat the dance. I would like to think that it was because I was a good dancer, but I think it was really because I needed the practice! I have never been so glad of a Festival's ban on photography during performances.



The following night's performance went along the same lines, except we 'painted up'. The photo shows me and some of the Ladies painted with our dreaming.

All in all, the trip was a resounding success: the performances were incredibly well received; I gained a better understanding of indigenous people; and my contribution was gratefully received. I hope that in the future there will be further opportunities for this type of involvement with community groups.

BOWLING IN THE UK

ARTICLE BY PETTY OFFICER SHARON JARVIS



PETTY OFFICER SHARON JARVIS AT THE HISTORIC SIR FRANCIS DRAKE BOWLING CLUB IN PLYMOUTH, UK

The Royal Australian Navy Lawn Bowls Association (RANLBA) toured to the United Kingdom this year and I was fortunate enough to be one of the lucky squad of twelve selected. Our first game was at Atherley Bowling Club in Southampton. Playing 21 ends in a two bowls-fours format (a team of four, each having two bowls) didn't allow much time for the team members to get accustomed to the very slow greens. As expected the locals got the jump early, though to our credit we did close the margin late in the afternoon. Unfortunately we left our run a little too late, allowing the locals first bragging rights after taking a narrow victory. Whilst in the area the squad took time to visit famous sites like HMS *Victory*, HMS *Warrior* and the Dockyard Museum at Portsmouth.

The historic Sir Francis Drake Bowling Club in Plymouth was the venue for our second match. Because so many of the home club's members were eager to try their hand against the RAN bowlers, a round robin of two bowls-fours over 21 ends was played. Again the competition was fierce. Our chance of victory over the locals was never going to be easy though, as the Club Captain is Dave Cutler who has represented England for 12 years and was a silver medallist at the World Championships. The day ended with reflective ale or two, lamenting our second loss.

The squad then made its way to the beautiful Welsh city of Cardiff where we came up against the famous combined

sports club, Cardiff Athletic. This time, more used to a slow green, our players were competitive from start to finish. On completion of the match we were invited back to the club for some warm ales and were treated to a private tour of the restricted Welsh Rugby trophy room.

The World Heritage City of Bath was next on our whirlwind tour. In perfect conditions and on a green of a similar pace to those found at home the RANLBA took the points before retiring to the club house for home made pork pies and scones with clotted cream. Of course, a visit to Bath wouldn't be complete without seeing the sights of this glorious city, in particular the Roman Baths.

The final game of the tour took place in London competing against the Metropolitan Police. The Police fielded a strong side which unfortunately defeated us; nevertheless a good time was had by all. Whilst in London the cricket tragics in the squad took a day out to support the Aussies at Day One of the Australia vs. Pakistan Test at Lords. For the rest (actually just me) seeing a few shows in the West End was high on the list of priorities.

All the squad members on the tour paid for their own airfares. Accommodation and meals were paid for from money raised by selling copious amounts of raffle tickets. I felt very lucky to have had the opportunity to participate in such a fantastic and well organised tour. So for all you 'non-sporty' folk out there why not give lawn bowls a go? You never know just where it will take you.

CHAMPION SHOT NAVY 2010

ARTICLE BY LEADING SEAMAN GORDON ORR



LEADING SEAMAN GORDON ORR COMPETING IN THE AASAM

In May this year I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to compete again in the Australian Army Skill At Arms Meeting (AASAM) held at Puckapunyal Military Range, Victoria. Since 1986 the AASAM has been Australia's premier military shooting tournament, with a worldwide reputation. It is open to all ADF members, and also attracts competitors from Thailand, France, Singapore, Canada, Brunei, the Philippines, East Timor, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.



The competition is designed to pitch the best soldiers against each other in a tough combat-like environment. This ensures that it is representative of the skills required of a modern fighting soldier and provides a means of validating current doctrine and evaluating training standards.

The first three days of the competition included a series of shoots consisting of Match 1, 2, 3,4 Deliberate, Rapid and Snaps at 100, 200 and 300 metres, Live fire 6 and 18 and close quarter combat, rapid response firing at shorter distances. The top ten scorers, of which I was one, are then eligible to advance to the next stage to shoot for two more days and compete for Champion Shot Navy.

Champion Shot consists of a series of matches, including run downs from 400, 300 and 200 metres, adopting different firing positions and engaging each target with various numbers of rounds in a certain amount of time. As you can imagine there is a certain amount of skill, fitness and breath control required to compose oneself at the end of each run and get the hits on target. The matches are continuous, in that one starts at 400 metres, does a rundown to 300 metres, fires, then runs to 200 metres and finally 100 metres, firing with different procedures at each point. Some memorisation is required to remember how many shots, from which position at which type of target.

This year I came away with third placing in Champion Shot Navy, not too bad considering I had not shot a weapon since the last AASAM twelve months earlier. I also requalified for my cuff rate marksmanship badge, shooting applied marksmanship practice LF19 with a score of 250 from 300 and handing back three rounds.

I have come fifth, third and second in previous Champion Shot Navy competitions and am still looking for that first place one day. I would like to thank the Director of Music, Commander Anderson and my managers in the Sydney Detachment for their support in allowing me to compete.

FROM B SHED TO BYRON BAY WITH NAVY'S VARIETY BASH

ARTICLE BY LEADING SEAMAN ESA DOUGLAS

The annual Variety Bash is Australia's most successful charity motoring event. It is not a race or a rally, but an annual charity drive that is the focal point of fundraising events by many hundreds of supporters of Variety – the Children's Charity. It is an event that I have always wanted to participate in since I was a child, having watched it on TV and seen the 'Bashers' come through my home town. The idea of travelling around with a group of mates to places one wouldn't usually see, whilst raising money for an obviously great charity and having a lot of fun in the process appealed to me even then.

Since its beginnings in 1985 the Bash has raised more than \$100 million to help ill, special and disadvantaged children

throughout Australia. Since 2003 the Navy Bash team has raised more than \$340,000. This year there were eleven people in the Navy team, and five cars, all over 40 years old. We had two EH Holdens, and two HR Holdens that had been transformed into a frigate, two helicopters and a submarine, as well as a Dodge crew cab painted in DPNU camouflage! Early on 22 August 117 themed cars lined up next to the B Shed at Sydney Markets to begin the 3,500km journey to Byron Bay via Temora, Cobar, Bourke, Moree, Goondiwindi, Toowoomba, and Lismore.



LEADING SEAMAN ESA DOUGLAS WITH 'HMAS VARIETY'

Each morning and lunchtime we would gather at a hall or school to meet with the locals and present them with items ranging from computers to sporting equipment. The children always had a lot of fun seeing how much 'booty' they could acquire from the thousands of giveaways the Bashers had to disperse. With plenty of Navy and Defence Force Recruiting giveaways we certainly got our name out there very positively. All of the cars would then line up and parade through the Variety arches while being given our instructions for the next destination.

There were a number of theme days and fun activities over the week. Day Two was white day for lawn bowls at Cobar. Also on this day all the cars gathered at the Temora Aviation Museum where we were divided into four teams for a mini games morning to mark Armed Services Day. This event took place in the true Bash style of treachery, cheating and bribery and (perhaps not surprisingly!) the Navy team triumphed.

The highlight of the trip for me was during our stay in Moree when we drove out to a 'secret' location. We had a passenger that day, a lady who had bought a seat for a day in a Bash car at a Variety fund-raising auction. A local farmer was kind enough to open up his farm for the day and so all the cars traversed across the levees, at times heading in totally opposite directions to each other (oops!). We met at the homestead for another games day and were treated to the most amazing barbecue of local meats and delectable desserts. Thanks to our Bash spirit (the aforementioned cheating, bribery etc.) we won a silver service dinner at the Western theme night, dressed as cowboys, Indians and barmaids.



Other highlights were the two days I got to spend in other Bash cars – the ‘Bashbusters’ who have been bashing for about 20 years and the ‘Three Little Pigs’. I also met Ian Stenlake from *Sea Patrol* who joined the Navy team for the last couple of days.

It was great fun driving down dirt tracks, through water crossings and even just stopping by the side of the road to watch the sun set. I feel so proud and lucky to have been able to take part in such a wonderful event.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ADDRESS

BY COMMANDER PHILLIP ANDERSON



At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns of the Western Front fell silent when the Germans called for an armistice. The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month has attained special significance in the post-war years. It's the moment in time which has become universally associated with the remembrance of those who died in that war. After four years of bloodshed the battlefields were becalmed; Great empires had been broken; and millions lay dead—among them, sixty thousand Australian heroes whose final resting place will forever be foreign soil. And there were a further one hundred and fifty thousand whose bodies and minds were forever scarred by the horrors of that war. And all this from a country of some four million people.

It was called the *War to End All Wars*. But we now know that it was not. It was the *First World War*. Today we remember the end of that Great War where we as a nation paid a heavy price:

- 26,111 Australian casualties at Gallipoli including 8,141 deaths.

- 5,533 Australian casualties at Fromelles—in one night.
- In the fighting at Pozières the Australian Imperial Force suffered more than 23,000 casualties in little more than six weeks, with nearly 7,000 killed.
- At Bullecourt, 10,000 Australians were killed or wounded.
- During the three battles at Ypres there were 38,000 Australian casualties.

Today these numbers are mind-numbing—they are horrific in magnitude. So it is right that we honour the service and sacrifice of the fallen today. It is right that we honour all those who have served. And it is right that we remember today those who are still serving.

From a naval perspective it is also right to consider that at the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, the Australian Fleet operated as an integral part of the Royal Navy and served in all operational areas. The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force carried in HMAS *Berrima* and supported by units of the Australian Fleet, including HMAS *Australia* which had the first band of the Royal Australian Navy embarked and whose musicians performed wartime duties as medical orderlies) captured German New Guinea colonies. This was the first amphibious assault of the war. After this operation the ships of the Royal Australian Navy began the vital role of convoy escort. It was whilst escorting a convoy that the light cruiser HMAS *Sydney* was detached to investigate the sighting of a strange warship. This ship turned out to be the German light cruiser *Emden*. In the ensuing battle *Sydney* destroyed the *Emden* and thus won the Royal Australian Navy's first battle.

The Royal Australian Navy also played a supporting role in the Gallipoli campaign. HMAS AE2 became the first allied warship to penetrate the Dardanelles, but was eventually sunk by the Turkish Navy in the Sea of Marmora. On the peninsula the Royal Australian Navy also played a supporting role in the Gallipoli campaign. HMAS AE2 became the Bridging Train provided vital service to the troops as well as being the last Australians to leave Gallipoli. The submarines AE1 and AE2 were the only losses suffered by the Royal Australian Navy during this conflict. The first named was lost with all hands off New Britain on the 14 September 1914, and AE2 was scuttled by her crew in the Sea of Marmora on the 30 April 1915, after she had forced a passage through the dangerous waters of the Dardanelles in support of the Gallipoli campaign.

In years past, Remembrance Day ceremonies overwhelmingly reflected personal loss. It is different now. Thankfully, a great many Australians have no personal experience of war, no way of knowing the anguish of enforced separation, or the greater grief of separations made permanent. Today we remember that each of the fallen had a family and friends whose lives were enriched by their love and diminished by their loss. Each added to the life of a city suburb or country town. Each worked before enlistment in one of countless occupations, which added to the prosperity and the richness of our nation.



These strangers from another time have given us a legacy from the past on which to build the future.

A spirit born on the cliffs of Gallipoli, then matured in the mud of the Western Front, in jungles and in deserts, and in desperate struggles on the seas and in the sky. A spirit which draws Australians together in time of need. A spirit which may seem to slumber; but arises to draw new breath when needed. Their story, the legacy of all Australians who have died or suffered in war and armed conflict, has been passed to each one of us. By today's act of remembrance, we cherish and nurture this possession, their gift. We prove an understanding both of its value and its cost.

One of the most enduring symbols of Remembrance Day is the Red Poppy, which was among the first plants that sprouted from the devastation of the battlefields of northern France and Belgium. This same poppy also flowers in Turkey in early spring—as it did in April 1915 when the ANZACs landed at Gallipoli. Folklore tells us that the poppies were vivid red from having been nurtured in ground drenched with the blood of soldiers.

The Red Poppy was first described as a flower of remembrance by Colonel John McCrae who served in France in World War One as a medical Officer with the first Canadian Contingent. After watching the death of a close friend he wrote in pencil on a page torn from his despatch book the following poem which has become synonymous with Remembrance Day:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

We should all be familiar with that poem, but you may not know that it inspired many replies from across the world

including the following poem from an American, Miss Moira Michael, entitled *We Shall Keep the Faith*.

Oh! You who sleep in Flanders' fields,
Sleep sweet - to rise anew,
We caught the torch you threw,
And holding high we kept
The faith with those who died.
We cherish too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valour led.

It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders' fields.

And now the torch and poppy red
Wear in honour of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught
We've learned the lesson that ye taught
In Flanders' fields.

It is right that we remember those who fell, that we remember the lessons they have passed to us, and that we honour the contribution they have made to our nation. We honour the contribution they have made to the world. And we commit ourselves afresh to the worthy cause of peace.

Lest We Forget





RIMPAC 2010 SEA DEPLOYMENT GROUP REHEARSING ON THE DECK OF HMAS KANIMBLA



ABLE SEAMAN SIMON BARTLETT (L) AND LEADING SEAMAN DANIEL MCMAHON (R) DURING RECORDING FOR THE SEAFARER (MARK II)



ABLE SEAMAN TONY FRANTZ PLAYS INSTRUMENTS OF A DIFFERENT KIND WHILST DEPLOYED ON RIMPAC 2010



LEADING SEAMAN JONATHAN FRANKLIN ANZAC EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT FROM THE NEW ZEALAND NAVY BAND ON PARADE WITH SYDNEY DETACHMENT



ABLE SEAMAN CHRIS ELLIS (L) AND ABLE SEAMAN STUART MALCOLM (R) PERFORM A DUET DURING THE ADMIRAL'S OWN BIG BAND CONCERT AT THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, SYDNEY





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