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RAN
Lieutenant Steven B. S. Pringle, BA, DipEd, RAN

The editors wish to express their appreciation to Mrs Veronica Perrott for her stoic effort in typing this magazine and ABPHOT Hogarth who captured most of the College scenes.

FOREWORD

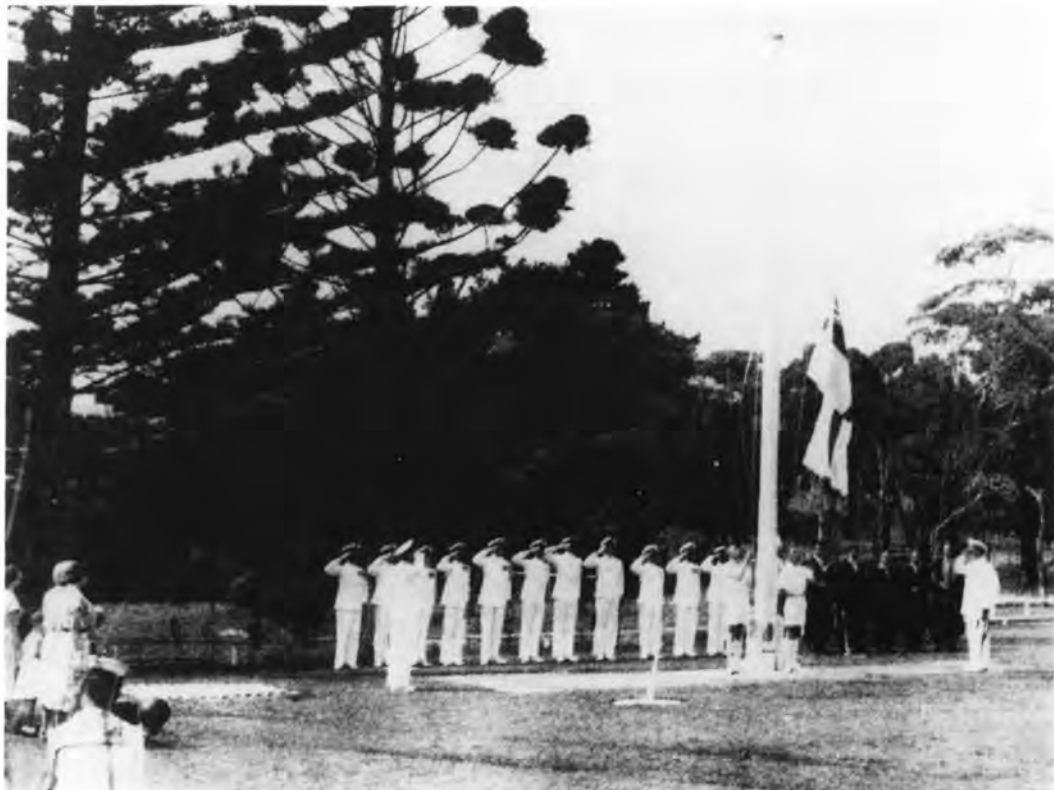
1985 marks the end of an era that started in 1913 when the Royal Australian Naval College accepted its first entry of Cadet Midshipmen. The Royal Australian Naval College has seen many changes during its history and is now facing perhaps the greatest change. Education at the RANC has evolved from a High School syllabus for boys entering at the age of 13 with graduates moving to England for further education, to a tertiary education program for post-matriculants of both sexes.

With the Australian Defence Force Academy accepting its first entry in January 1986, RANC's academic role will cease with the completion of the 85C Diploma Course. RANC will then become the centre of junior officers' professional training augmenting the academic training received at ADFA by our future officers.

Undoubtedly the closing of this chapter of RANC history will sadden many past and more recent students, but it is important to point out that RANC will continue to play a

major role in the transformation of young men into naval officers. RANC will provide the sound foundation of professional training that will equip and help our future naval officers face the challenges of a naval career. The College will maintain the high level of excellence that started in 1913 and will remain the Alma Mater of all the officers that have passed through its corridors.

I am proud to have been part of the 'old guard', but even more so that I have been part of the current team of officers, lecturers, midshipmen, sailors and staff who have worked so hard during 1985 to ensure the continuing success of the College and who have met head on the challenge of change.





The Royal Australian Naval College forms the major part of HMAS *Creswell*, a shore establishment in the Royal Australian Navy located at Jervis Bay. The College is under the command of the Commanding Officer, HMAS *Creswell*.

CHARTER OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE

The aim of the Royal Australian Naval College is to train young men and women for service to their country as officers in the Royal Australian Navy. The training provides a sound and well-balanced education in academic and naval subjects conducted within a naval environment and demands professional excellence and stimulates personal endeavour. Training is designed to develop concurrently the qualities of leadership, loyalty, integrity, responsibility and initiative, and forms the basis of the continuing officer development process throughout careers.

ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

In July 1967 the University of New South Wales and the Department of the Navy agreed to the association of the Royal Australian Naval College with the University of New South Wales for the purpose of conducting approved University courses at RAN College.

The terms of the association, which is administered under the guidance of a Joint Advisory Committee, provide that the courses to be presented at RAN College may include first year mathematics, first year chemistry, first year physics, first year history, first year oceanography and first year engineering. Approval of additional courses may be granted by the University from time to time as occasion demands.

The standard of material facilities at RAN College was raised to meet the requirements of University teaching and members of RAN College staff are accredited as University teachers.

Students who are successful in first year courses at RAN College are sponsored by the Navy to complete further courses to the level of a bachelor degree at the University of New South Wales.

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RAN COLLEGE STAFF—1985

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Captain's Secretary:

Lieutenant A. M. Naughton

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Rev. B. C. Daniels, RAN (Baptist)

Fr. D. T. O'Connor, RAN (Catholic)

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RAN

Lieutenant A. M. Wotton, BEd(Hons), BSc,
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BSc(Hons), RAN

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MSc, RN

Lieutenant Commander J. S. Mathias, BSc,
RAN

Lieutenant Commander D. N. Hart,
BSc(Hons), RAN

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Sports Staff:

CPOPT R. J. Thomas

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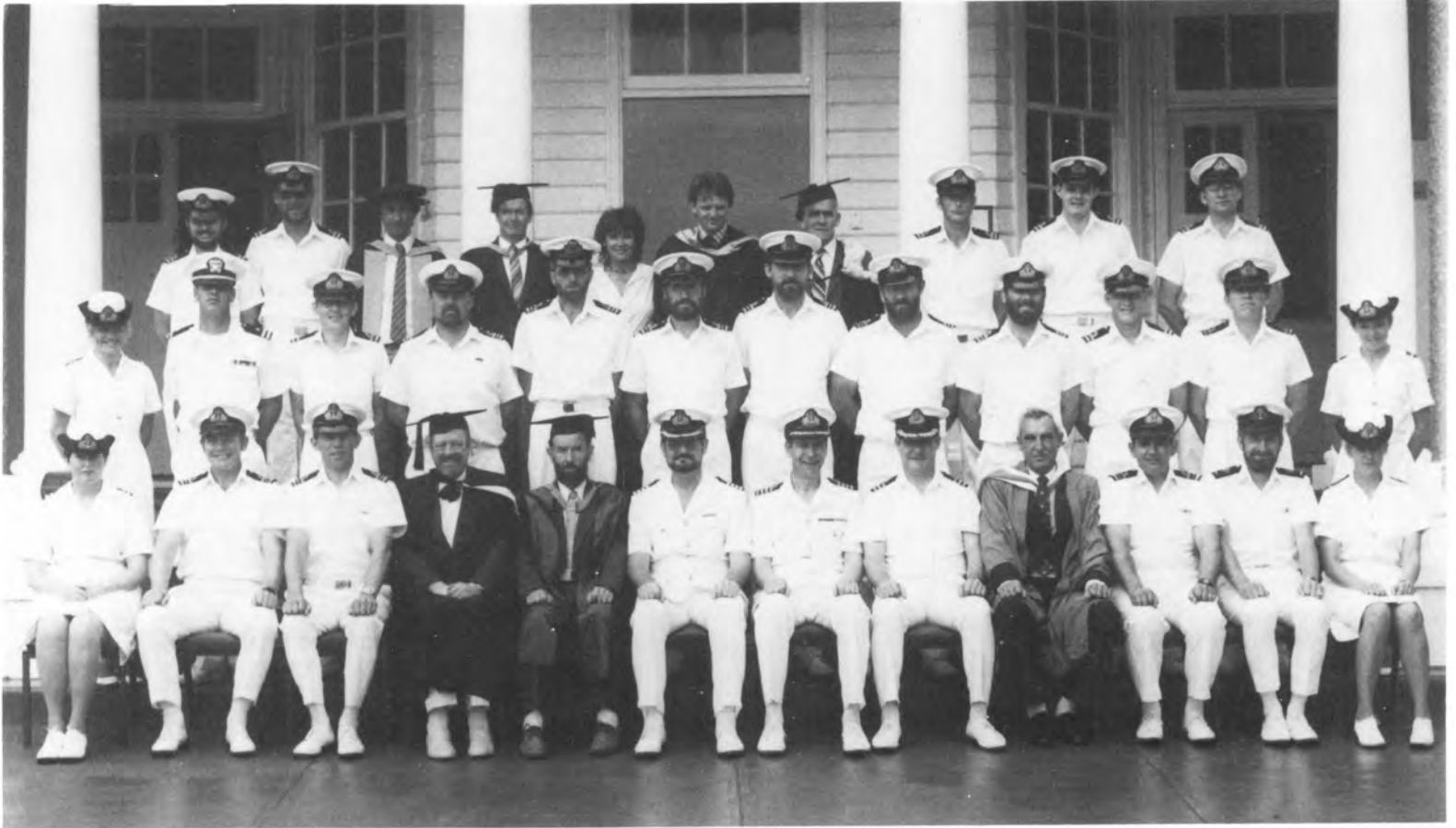
LSPT P. E. Simmons

College Regulating Coxswain:

LSCOX D. A. Harris

Course Programmer:

POQMG J. M. Bradshaw



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Back Row (L to R): LEUT S. Pringle, LEUT G. Bridgart, Dr A. Joye, Mr D. Thompson, Ms M. Linnane, Mr A. Bergin, Mr K. Armstrong, LEUT S. Copeland, LEUT A. Naughton, LEUT S. Abson
Middle Row (L to R): LEUT J. Dallas, LEUT R. O'Brien, USN, LEUT W. Richards, LCDR J. McCabe, LCDR B. Hill, LCDR J. Buchanan, LCDR J. Mathias, LCDR B. Snushall, LCDR D. Hart, LEUT S. Stangret, LEUT A. Wotton, SBLT S. Sewell
Front Row (L to R): LEUT J. Freeman, LCDR R. Mittins, LCDR G. Criddle, Mr C. Glyn-Daniel, Dr H. Kemp, CAPT A. Mikosza, CAPT P. Dechaineux, CMDR A. Graham, Mr J. Casey, LCDR M. Phillips, CHAP S. Hubbard, SBLT J. Blunden

**CAPTAIN P. G. V. DECHANEUX
AM, RAN**



Captain Peter Dechaineux joined the Royal Australian Navy as a Cadet Midshipman in 1953. As a Midshipman he undertook further training at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, UK. He then served in HMAS *Tobruk* for a year before commencing a three year Mechanical Engineering course at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Plymouth, UK. Subsequent postings included HMAS *Melbourne*, Divisional Officer at the Royal Australian Naval College, and HMAS *Vampire*. He was the Marine Engineer Officer of HMAS *Duchess* in 1970 and of HMAS *Perth* from 1973 to 1975, and in 1971-72 he was a lecturer at the Royal Naval Engineering College.

Since 1976, Captain Dechaineux has served mainly in Navy Office, firstly as the Destroyer Escort Modernization Project Officer and then as Assistant Director of Fleet Maintenance. Then followed a year of detached duty in Sydney when he established the maintenance policy and repair organization for Marine Gas Turbines.

In 1981 he became the Mine Warfare Project Director for the Navy's Minehunter Catamaran project. For this work he was appointed a Member of the Military Division of the Order of Australia in January 1984.

In January 1985 he assumed command of HMAS *Creswell*, the Royal Australian Naval College, situated at Jervis Bay.

His wife's name is Maureen and they have one child, Philip, aged 13.

COMMANDER A. J. GRAHAM, RAN



Alan Graham, whose home town is Mullumbimby, NSW, entered the RAN in 1968 at the Naval College. Passing-out in 1972, after serving as Chief Cadet Captain in 1971 and winning the Queen's Medal for 1972, he travelled to the UK for an Operations and Weapons Course before returning to Australia to serve on various HMA ships including HMAS *Melbourne*, HMAS *Sydney*, HMAS *Duchess* and HMAS *Parramatta*. Specializing as an Air Intercept Controller, he was posted again to HMAS *Melbourne* for Fighter Control duties before acting as Flag Lieutenant to the Fleet Commander and then moving to HMAS *Buccaneer* as Commanding Officer and Command of the First Australian Patrol Boat Squadron. Following another trip to the UK (this time for a Principal Warfare Officer's Course), he served as Direction Officer on HMAS *Hobart* whilst in company with a US Battle Group in the North Arabian Sea, and was then posted to the Australian Embassy in Washington, DC, as Naval Staff Officer, Tactics and Warfare.

He returned to Australia mid last year to complete Executive Officer (Designate) Course and then serve several months as Executive Officer of HMAS *Adelaide* before promotion to (Acting) Commander and his current job at HMAS *Creswell*.

**CAPTAIN A. G. MIKOSZA,
MSc, DipEd, SMIREE, RAN
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES**



Captain A. G. Mikosza, MSc, DipEd, SMIREE, RAN joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1963 as a commissioned officer. From 1964 to 1967 he served in HMAS *Leeuwin* engaged in teaching matriculation physics to officer candidates. January 1968 to 1969 he was at HMAS *Cerberus* instructing electronics to technical senior sailors in the Electrical Engineering School. January 1970 to December 1970 he was engaged in lecturing Electricity to First Year students Department of Physics, University of New South Wales. In January 1971 to November 1975 he was lecturing in Physics and Electrical Engineering at the Royal Australian Naval College. November 1975 to November 1977 saw exchange service with the Royal Navy at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Plymouth, United Kingdom. He was promoted to Commander in 1977. From November 1977 to February 1979 he served in HMAS *Nirimba*, RAN Apprentice Training Establishment as Quality Control Commander and was in charge of the Training Development, Quality Control and Training Support cells. He was Training Officer at HMAS *Leeuwin* from February 1979. In January 1982 he returned to the Royal Australian Naval College as Director of Studies.

His interests are hockey, golf and electronics. Captain Mikosza is married and he and his wife have one son and two daughters.

THE EDITORS

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER J. S. MATHIAS, BSc, RAN



John Stuart Mathias was born in 1945 at Williamstown, Victoria, and was educated at the local schools before attending Melbourne University and Melbourne Teacher's College. After four years teaching in remote rural schools he took his newly acquired wife to Canada where he studied at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Returning to Australia three and a half years later, having spent six months touring Europe, he taught for a year at the Experimental Technical School at Williamstown. He then went back to the country to teach geology, physics and technician science at the Wangaratta Senior Technical College for four years.

In 1975, the RAN recruiting brochure found its way onto his desk and idle curiosity did the rest—in January 1976, he joined HMAS *Cerberus* as a Direct Entry Instructor Officer. Following six months training, involving a four week training cruise in HMAS *Vampire*, Lieutenant Commander Mathias was posted to HMAS *Cerberus* to teach electronics for three and a half years. Whilst at HMAS *Cerberus* he represented the RAN in sailing and skiing.

In January 1979, he joined HMAS *Nirimba* as an Electronics Instructor but before the end of the year he was posted to HMAS *Creswell* as the Oceanography Instructor.

During his stay at HMAS *Creswell* Lieutenant Commander Mathias completed his studies towards a Master of Science degree.

He is married to Mary and the proud father of 10 year old twins.

Lieutenant Commander Mathias has been posted to the Australian Defence Force Academy as a Visiting Military Fellow to lecture in oceanography.

LIEUTENANT S. B. S. PRINGLE, BA, DipEd, RAN

Among his many duties, Lieutenant Pringle has the privilege of editing the College's two prestigious publications, this very magazine and the weekly news, views and gossip paper—the 'Creswell Crier' which provides a valuable information service to the civilian and naval community in the vicinity of Jervis Bay and as far afield as Hyams Beach. As well as running the College Museum, he also conducts the inter-divisional debating competition, being instrumental in the award of the much sought after 'Golden Jaws' trophy



for the premier debating Division. To develop these debating skills further, he successfully led a select group of midshipmen through a rigorous Public Speaking Course conducted by Toastmasters International. He manages to find time to lecture in Australian and Naval Histories, Japanese History and Society and International Politics. He is keenly interested in all aspects of international affairs, especially issues relating to Australian Defence policy and strategy, Asian politics and history, Industry Restructuring and the impact of technological change on society.

Graduating BA DipEd in May 1981, with major sequences in Economics, Australian and Australian Economic History, and Chinese History, Lieutenant Pringle has recently completed a Master of Arts Degree in Politics, a section of which concerned aspects of Australian Foreign Policy, particularly trade relations with the high growth region bounded by the ASEAN states whose prosperity and stability are so closely intertwined with our own.

While at University, Lieutenant Pringle was active in many aspects of campus life being elected to the University Council, Union Board and Students' Council, where he has learned some of the arts involved in chairing meetings and realising long term goals in a wide range of fields. It has also made him more aware of the multitude of difficulties which confront midshipmen.

Upon completing his Undergraduate Degree, Lieutenant Pringle joined the Graduate Trainee Programme at Westpac, later working in Training Resources and Research. He joined the Naval College in June 1982, following a short but enjoyable period aboard HMAS *Jervis Bay*. Lieutenant Pringle comes from Chatswood West in Sydney. Tennis is his major sporting activity, playing in the metropolitan grass court 'Badge' and Jervis Bay competitions. Although he also enjoys a good game of squash, golf or cricket.

He is about to marry Louise, sensibly ending years of speculation about the reasons for constant commuting between Sydney and Jervis Bay at weekends.

CHAPLAIN SIMON HUBBARD

Chaplain Simon Hubbard first visited Australia in 1968 whilst serving as a midshipman in the Royal Navy. Three days after stepping ashore he met his wife-to-be, Meredith, which cemented his links with the 'Lucky Country'.

Born and raised in London, his first contact with naval life came through the naval cadet unit in his school, which enabled him to visit naval establishments and spend a few weeks at sea in minesweepers. Despite an early promise made to his stomach that he would never join the Navy he went on to join Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, in January 1967 as a Supplementary List seaman cadet.

After training in HMS *Scarborough*, HMS *Duncan* and HMS *Hermes* he qualified as a submariner. Whilst serving with the Seventh Submarine Division in Singapore he made two further visits to Sydney and became engaged. He was married after returning to UK, whilst serving on the staff of the Submarine Attack Teacher in Scotland.

On leaving the RN he and his wife spent two years working with a missionary organisation in Papua New Guinea. During this time he



began external study for a Bachelor of Divinity degree, which he went on to complete at Moore Theological College, Sydney. He was ordained to the Anglican ministry in 1978 and worked as a curate in Gladesville, Sydney, until joining the RAN in January 1980.

After roaming the Fleet as Small Ships' Chaplain, based in HMAS *Stalwart*, he took up his present posting at HMAS *Creswell*. He returns to HMAS *Stalwart* in January 1986.

He and his wife have two sons, Luke and Thomas, who seem to be his chief hobby. He has been seen jogging on occasions.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

**J. B. McCABE, MA, MLitt, AIL, DipEd,
CertPhysEd, AAIM, (essc), RAN**



James Francis McCabe was educated at Lurgan College and Trinity College, Dublin. On graduation he joined the Midland Bank as a management trainee, before entering the Royal Navy. After new entry training at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, he was posted to the helicopter station HMS *Seahawk*, where one of his duties was liaison officer for the Federal German Navy Seaking Flight. During this time he volunteered for service with HM Royal Marines, and was posted to the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines at Lympstone in Devon. On completion of the Commando Course he was awarded the Commando Medal and the Commando Dagger for passing out of his

intake. He was then posted to 40 Commando Royal Marines based in Plymouth, and served in the Netherlands, Antilles, Jamaica, the Bahamas and the USA as well as completing several tours in Northern Ireland. He was then posted, in 1976, to 45 Commando Royal Marines based in Arbroath, Scotland, and served in Norway and Northern Ireland. On the sporting front he represented Devonport Services, the Royal Navy and Combined Services at Rugby Union, and was the 1973 Royal Navy and Royal Marines light-heavyweight boxing champion.

He transferred to the Royal Australian Navy in January 1979, and served as Quality Control Officer at HMAS *Leeuwin* until posted to the Royal Australian Naval College in 1982 as Training Administration Officer. In January 1984 he became Staff Officer to the Director of Studies and lecturer in English. He became Head of the Humanities Department in January 1985.

Lieutenant Commander McCabe and his wife Jane are the proud parents of Katriona, Robert and Richard. Lieutenant Commander McCabe's interests are military history, strategic studies, classical music and an unbridled fanaticism for Rugby Union Football and East Fremantle in the West Australian Football League.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

J. M. BUCHANAN, BSc (Hons), RAN

Lieutenant Commander J. M. Buchanan graduated with Honours in Electrical Engineering from the University of Glasgow in 1970.

After graduating, he joined the Plessey Company Limited as a research and development engineer where he worked on military communication equipment. He resigned from the company in 1971.

He entered the Royal Navy with the rank of Lieutenant as a Weapons and Electrical Engineer officer in 1972. After initial training in HMS *Collingwood* he served in HMS *Lincoln* as DWEEO from 1972 to 1974. He returned to HMS *Collingwood* for two years where he trained radio electrical mechanics.

He transferred to the Royal Australian Navy in 1977 and also changed branch from WEEO to Instructor Officer. He served for two years in HMAS *Cerberus* then for two years in



HMAS *Leeuwin* before being posted to HMAS *Creswell*. Before joining the staff of the Royal Australian Naval College in June 1982, he spent a year at the University of New South Wales becoming accredited to teach First Year engineering subjects to the Degree Stream midshipmen. At the University, Lieutenant Commander Buchanan also studied towards the higher degree of Master of Engineering Science.

Highlights of Lieutenant Commander Buchanan's three and a half years at HMAS *Creswell* have been sailing back in the yacht Pacha from Hobart to Jervis Bay in January 1985 and leading the College's successful 1985 Kokoda Trail Expedition in Papua New Guinea.

Lieutenant Commander Buchanan is married to the former Gaye Brialey. Their three children are Alistair, Helen and Andrew. His main interests are hobby computing and photography. He also plays golf, badminton and squash.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
B. SNUSHALL, BSc, RAN**

Lieutenant Commander Snushall was educated at Newcastle University and joined the Navy in 1978 after teaching for seven and a half years in the Newcastle area. After completing the Direct Entry Officers Orientation Course, he was posted to HMAS



Nirimba for instructional duties, and to complete his Master's Qualifying Course so that he was eligible for the staff of the Naval College. He was posted to the College in January 1980 for instructional duties in chemistry.

During his time at the College, he formed the Sub-Aqua Club and led the first four July expeditions of the club. He has been actively involved with lifesaving, the rugby league club and athletics during the years and has lately been concentrating on golf.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
R. J. MITTINS, BSc, MSc, RN**

Lieutenant Commander R. J. Mittins joined the Royal Navy as a Direct Entry Instructor Lieutenant in 1971. After initial training in Victory Barracks (now HMS *Nelson* and Royal Naval College Greenwich, he took up his first appointment in HMS *Collingwood*, the Royal Navy's Weapons Electrical Training Establishment. This was followed in 1974 by an appointment to the New Entry Apprentice Training School, HMS *Fisgard*.

After a short sea tour in HMS *Bulwark*, a former carrier then converted to an amphibious role, Lieutenant Mittins was appointed to the staff of the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon in Plymouth where he lectured in Electrical Machine Theory and Power Electronics to both post-



graduate and under-graduate students. During his time at RNEC he was promoted Lieutenant Commander in 1976 and gained a Masters degree from the University of Aston.

In 1983 he moved to HMS *Sultan*, the Royal Navy's Marine Engineering Training School to set up academic courses associated with the transfer of responsibility for Electrical Generating plant to the Marine Engineers.

He joined the staff of the RANC in 1985 upon receiving a much sought after exchange posting. He is married with four children and will be reluctant to return to the 'liquid sunshine' of the UK.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
BEVAN HILL, MSc (Hons),
BSc, DipT(Sc), RAN**

After failing (with some distinction) his mathematics course at the University of Adelaide, Lieutenant Commander Hill enjoyed several years of secondary teaching in the Riverland area of South Australia. After joining the Navy (and having the even greater good fortune to join the married fraternity), he moved to the Perth area to teach mathematics to Junior Recruits and Officer Candidates at HMAS *Leeuwin*. Whilst in Western Australia, he completed his Bachelor of Science degree, obtained a Certificate in Real Estate Management, luxuriated in the

beautiful weather, and participated in as much sporting activity as could possibly be fitted in to a busy timetable.

His next posting to the Combat Data System Centre in an industrial suburb of Canberra was not the most enjoyable experience, but it provided him with an introduction to the arcane world of computing. This interest was further developed when posted to the Royal Australian Naval College, where he applied his instructional skills to midshipmen, using mathematics and computing science as a vehicle to impart a philosophy of life. Whilst at the College, he was responsible for the replacement of the archaic computing system with a modern up to date system, which itself became archaic within four years. He also progressed to higher tertiary studies in computing science, finally earning a Master of Science with Honours degree.

The high points of his Service life have all involved the enjoyment of seeing students gain that first grasp of comprehension of a concept that they have found particularly difficult. The low point was certainly being onboard the 'old' HMAS *Sydney* in Vung Tau harbour during the Vietnam war, and hearing some of his fellow officers wishing that they would be fired upon, so that they would be entitled to War Service benefits.

Having the extremely good fortune to be most happily married, his interests are centred on his family, his work, and on orienteering, jogging and tennis.



**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
D. N. HART, BSc(Hons), RAN**

Prior to joining the RAN in 1977 as a Direct Entry Instructor Officer, Lieutenant Commander Hart spent several years at the University of Adelaide where he gained a BSc(Hons) degree majoring in physics.

He joined the RAN as a Lieutenant at HMAS *Cerberus* and, after a short time attached to the WEE School, was posted with his new wife to RANC for the first time in 1978. His duties included teaching First Year physics to the Degree Course students and electronics to the midshipmen doing the Creswell Course (as it then was).

Then came three years in Canberra at the Combat Data Systems Centre where he learned about the inner workings of the RANs guided missile destroyers and frigates, and instructed officers and sailors on the computerized combat system installed in these ships.

1984 saw a return to his old job teaching physics and electronics.

At the end of 1985, he and his family will be leaving Australia for the United Kingdom where he will take up a two year exchange posting with the Royal Navy.

Lieutenant Commander Hart is married with two sons and his interests include wine appreciation, music and reading.

**LIEUTENANT S. D. ABSON,
BSc(Hons), DipEd, RAN**



Lieutenant Stuart Abson graduated from La Trobe University in 1975 and commenced teaching in 1976 at Hamilton Technical College in Western Victoria. In pursuit of a more challenging career, he joined the RAN as a Direct Entry officer in July 1980 and embarked on a six month training course, which included a two month training cruise to Indonesia on HMAS *Jervis Bay*. Lieutenant Abson was initially posted to HMAS *Nirimba* in 1981 as an electronics instructor in the now disbanded Air Technical Department, but within six months, he was enticed to the sunny shores of Jervis Bay as a physics/oceanography instructor at RANC.

Lieutenant Abson has had broad experience in naval administration during his posting to HMAS *Creswell*. He has worked in the fields of Wardroom management, resettlement, and public relations, spent a year as the Assistant Jervis Divisional Officer and took an active part in the development of HMAS *Creswell's* 1984 Scheme of Complement.

His interests range from scuba diving (which has seen him partake in RANC expeditions to the Great Barrier Reef and Perth), cross-country running, sailing and tennis to playing the piano and restoring furniture.

Lieutenant Abson has a wife Leonie, but no children yet!

**LIEUTENANT GLENN J. BRIDGART,
BSc(Hons), PhD, DipEd, RAN**

Lieutenant Bridgart joined the RAN in January 1983 as part of the Direct Entry scheme. Born and raised in Melbourne he attended Monash University and from there obtained a Bachelor of Science (Hons) majoring in chemistry in 1968, a Doctorate in 1972 and also a Diploma of Education. He was employed by the Victorian Education Department as a secondary teacher (chemistry, physics and mathematics) for ten and a half years before resigning in mid 1982. Short periods of seasonal and factory work followed before being accepted into the RAN as an Instructor Officer.

Lieutenant Bridgart is married to Barbara, with two young children, Robert and Jennifer.

Apart from chemistry, his interests are several aspects of astronomy, (steam) rail and tramway operations, four wheel drive and touring the Australian bush.



**LIEUTENANT S. G. COPELAND,
BSc, DipEd, RAN**

Lieutenant Stephen Copeland joined the Royal Australian Naval College as a Senior Entry cadet midshipman in 1976. After a year at the College he moved to Sydney where he successfully completed a science degree. In 1979 Lieutenant Copeland joined the Fleet and in the ensuing 18 months served in HMAS *Supply*, HMAS *Vendetta*, HMAS *Moresby* and HMAS *Stalwart*. In July 1980 a requested transfer from the Executive to the Instructor branch was approved and Lieutenant Copeland packed his bags for HMAS



Leeuwin. There he completed a Diploma of Education at the University of Western Australia. He was then promptly posted to the Naval College as Supplementary List Course Officer and Navigation Instructor. After nine months in that billet he moved 'across the quarterdeck' to the Academic Department where he joined the staff as a Mathematics Instructor, a billet he still holds.

Lieutenant Copeland and his wife Wanda have two daughters, Belinda and Catherine.

**LIEUTENANT A. M. WOTTON,
BEd(Hons), BSc, RAN**

Lieutenant Adrian Wotton joined the College after spending some three years in the Wild West at HMAS *Leeuwin*. He is certainly no stranger to these parts having originally entered the RANC as a Junior Entry cadet midshipman in 1973. During this time of gas lanterns and horseless carriages he reported the going was tough for the cadets (as they were affectionately known). Lieutenant Wotton cheerfully accepted his lot however, and soon began to revel in the harsh discipline dealt out. He served in both Cook and Jervis Divisions as he was a much sought after tier of knots. He played hockey for the College team which included such big names as the then Lieutenant Commander Mikosza (which shows how far hockey-playing instructor officers can go!)

In 1975 he commenced a Bachelor of Science degree as a seaman officer. The joys of University life soon took their toll and so he was promoted to the Instructor Branch in 1977. During his University days he met his wife, Michele, on the ballroom floor (where else?) and swept her off her feet with a cha-cha. After completing a terribly long time on HMAS *Melbourne*, HMAS *Stalwart* and HMAS *Vampire* he journeyed to various parts of Australia and completed seaman officer training for another terribly long time.

He then trekked west and enjoyed his first true experience in the Instructor Officer world. Given the year off to complete his Diploma of Education at the University of Western Australia, Lieutenant Wotton continued to see advantages of belonging to the branch. In the latter half of his stay amongst the sand-groppers he was to endure a stint as the Officer Candidates' Assistant Divisional Officer and



associated arduous expeditions up and down rivers, and in and out of deserts. His esky was truly put to the test during these adventures.

In 1982 he joined the RANC staff for a brief period before being seconded to Canberra College of Advanced Education for 18 months, where his students were better looking than midshipmen. In 1985 he was invited back to liven up the Computing Science Department.

In his spare time he commutes to Canberra to save on telephone bills. He has been known to the occasional marathon in recent times!

**ANTHONY BERGIN,
BA, LLB, MA**



Anthony Bergin is a Lecturer in Politics at the Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay. He is a graduate of Monash University in Law and Arts. His post-graduate study was undertaken in the Department of International Relations at the Australian National University. Prior to his appointment at RANC he worked with the Foreign Affairs Group of the Legislative Research Service, Parliament House, Canberra. His main area of interest has been in national and international aspects of ocean affairs, particularly the law of the sea. He has published a number of articles in this field. In 1986 he will join the Politics Department at ADFA. He is married with two children.

**DR HAROLD KEMP,
BEd, BSc, MSc, PhD, ARACI**

Dr Harold Kemp joined the academic staff of the Royal Australian Naval College in 1965 after eleven years as a secondary teacher in Victorian High Schools. Until 1968, he taught chemistry at secondary level and since tertiary studies were introduced into the College program has taught chemistry and materials science to degree and diploma students. He became head of the Science Department in 1974.

Dr Kemp completed Bachelor of Science and Diploma of Education at Melbourne University in 1953 and Bachelor of Education in 1967. The winning of a Naval Defence Act Scholarship allowed him to spend 1969 and 1970 in the School of Metallurgy, University



of New South Wales. As a result of this and several years of part time study he was awarded the degree of Master of Science in 1972 and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1977. By this time a liking for scientific writing had developed and he has written journal articles on metallic corrosion, thermodynamics and ballistics.

The beauty of the Jervis Bay area and opportunities for outdoor recreation provided strong reasons for bringing his family to the College. Dr Kemp has greatly enjoyed a number of extra-curricular activities with midshipmen including canoeing in the Shoalhaven River, walking the Kokoda Trail, learning to fly a glider and competing in cross-country and marathon races. Dr Kemp is keenly interested in fishing, archery and photography. He enjoys combining these activities with camping trips.

He and his wife Margaret have three adult children and two young grandchildren.

**DON GREGORY THOMPSON,
BSc, MSc, DipEd**

Born in 1930 and educated at Broke Primary School and Maitland Boys' High School where he was vice-captain in 1947. Attended New England University College from 1948 to 1951. Represented in athletics, Rugby, basketball and debating. Secretary of the NEUC Amateur Athletics Club which he formed and President of the Debating Society. Graduated BSc in 1950 and gained a Diploma in Education in



1951. Taught mathematics and science at Newcastle Boys' High in 1952 and mathematics at Sydney Boys' High in 1953.

He joined the RAN College in 1954 as a mathematics master. Assisted with the science, geology and fishing clubs and as cross-country and athletics coach. Studied athletics coaching methods and techniques at Melbourne University and was appointed a state coach in 1957. Celebrated Melbourne's successful staging of the Olympic Games in 1956 by getting married in 1956 and is now the proud father of four. Survived the move to Jervis Bay and saw the commissioning in 1958. Was promoted to Senior Master in 1961 and gained an MSc in 1969. Acted as Wardroom minerals caterer and as auditor and was Secretary of the local P & C association for a number of years.

Research interests are in the application of solar energy for domestic and rural purposes. Beyond work and family, his main interests are now in gardening and fishing. He received a CNS commendation in 1985.

**DR A. M. R. JOYE, BSc(Hons),
PhD, GradDipOR, MAIP**

In 1970, Dr Joye began his studies at the Australian National University. He was awarded an honours degree in physics in 1974. From 1974 to 1977 he undertook postgraduate studies at the ANU in experimental nuclear structure physics and also collaborated in experimental work at the Australian Atomic Energy Commission. After being awarded a PhD degree in 1977, he joined the Defence Department in 1977 as a computer programmer working in DEFCOMMARS. In 1978, he was promoted to Research Scientist in the Operations Research Group at the RAN Research Laboratory in Sydney. He also undertook studies for a Graduate Diploma in Operations Research at the NSW Institute of Technology. In 1980, he transferred to Canberra to work in the Directorate of Operational Analysis—Navy. He also had occasion to work for brief periods at the Central Studies Establishment and in the Force Development and Analysis Division. In March 1984, Dr Joye joined the staff at RANC as lecturer in physics. In January 1986, he will begin work at the RAN Tactical School, HMAS *Watson*, as a Senior Research Scientist.

Dr Joye has been an active member of the Australian Institute of Physics for 14 years and in 1983 was a committee member of the ACT Branch.

His interests include micro-computers and overseas travel.

MR J. E. CASEY, BA, MSc, MScOR



Mr Casey came to RANC in May 1970 from the position of Mathematics Master at Sydney Boys High School. Initiated into the teaching service at Nowra High School he had long cherished the desire to return to the attractions of the South Coast. He is familiar with all three of the Metropolitan Universities, having graduated BA, BSc from Sydney University and MSc from Macquarie. Prior to his appointment to RANC he held a part-time lectureship in the Department of Education at the University of New South Wales and in Mathematics at the Institute of Technology.

After a year at the Naval College he became infected by the urge to study which was so virulent in the midshipman body and took out a Masters degree in Operations Research at Wollongong University. After fifteen years he can still live with the job of teaching midshipmen and will follow them to the Defence Force Academy in 1987.

Mr Casey is married and has three children all of whom have now grown up. He and his wife can now pay more attention to golf and look forward to retiring in the area.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
G. J. CRIDDLE, RAN**



Gary James Criddle entered RANC with the 1969 Junior Entry as a cadet midshipman. On completion of the Creswell Course he served in HMAS *Parramatta*, HMAS *Duchess*, HMAS *Vampire* and HMAS *Sydney* under training.

In 1974 he undertook Operations and Weapons courses in the United Kingdom as an Acting Sub-Lieutenant. He returned to Australia later the same year to be posted to the Flagship HMAS *Melbourne*. With the award of a Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate Sub-Lieutenant Criddle was posted to HMAS *Stalwart* as the Diving Officer.

In 1976 he took up a posting in HMAS *Parramatta* as the Communications Officer and later the Navigating Officer and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

In 1977 Lieutenant Criddle sub-specialised as a Fleet Air Arm pilot, and after initial training with the RAAF was posted to VC 851 Squadron flying Grumman S2 Tracker

aircraft. In 1980 he joined VS 816 Squadron and embarked on HMAS *Melbourne* for front line flying duties.

In 1981 Lieutenant Criddle was posted in command of the Darwin based patrol boat HMAS *Ardent* where he enjoyed the tropical north until mid 1982 when he was appointed to the staff of the Naval Support Commander in Sydney.

In 1983 Lieutenant Criddle was attached to RAAF Base East Sale for training as a qualified Flying Instructor. In June of that year he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander and appointed Senior Naval Officer, RAAF Base Point Cook, where he instructed Navy, Army, Air Force and PNG students in the dark art of aviation.

In June 1984 Lieutenant Commander Criddle returned to the Naval College as the Training Officer. He is married with three children which dispels the myth linking sterility and Tracker radar!

LIEUTENANT KEN STONE, RAN

Lieutenant Ken Stone joined the RAN as an apprentice in 1961. He served on HMAS *Melbourne*, HMAS *Sydney*, HMAS *Supply* and as commissioning crew of HMAS *Torrens*. He also saw the development of Papua New Guinea naval element from the initial intakes while serving at HMAS *Tarangau* in 1967 to the nation's independence while serving at HQ PNG Defence Force 1974 to 1976.

Promoted Warrant Officer in 1979 and served at HMAS *Cairns* (someone has to take the difficult postings!)

Was commissioned Sub-Lieutenant in 1981 and posted to UK for Special Duties Officer training at Greenwich Naval College and Manadon Royal Naval Engineering College.

Lieutenant Stone and his wife Pamela enjoy squash, dinner parties and stamp collecting.

LIEUTENANT JUDITH ANNE DALLAS, BA, RAN

Born in Ingham, North Queensland, Lieutenant J. A. Dallas was the eldest daughter of a marine engineer. Swimming at four and sailing by the age of eight, her one ambition was to follow in her father's footsteps and he was sweet enough not to disillusion her. Lieutenant Dallas completed her secondary



education at Somerville House in Queensland, but longed to travel so, after leaving school, visited her mother's family in England.

Having caught the travel bug, she was coaxed back to Australia to further qualify herself and to save enough money to set off again. Instead she met her future husband and shortly thereafter produced two bouncing bundles of joy who promised to change her life forever. Tired of secretarial, bookkeeping positions, she embarked on an English Honours degree and became fascinated with Renaissance literature and naval history. It was this latter interest that initiated her enquiry to join the RAN, and the more she found out about it, the keener she became so, when a position was offered she had no hesitation in bundling all and sundry under her arm to report to HMAS *Creswell* two weeks later in July 1982.

Her first posting was in 1983 to HMAS *Albatross* as Education and Library Supervising Officer where she immediately fell madly in love with all aircraft. In January 1984 Lieutenant Dallas joined HMAS *Creswell*, firstly in the Humanities Department lecturing in naval history and tutoring Chinese history. Some months later staff changes occurred. She then found herself a 'lone' IT in a PNT world as the Training Development Officer, but is enjoying every moment of it—well, most moments anyway!

Lieutenant Dallas' interests include reading, cooking (experimental stage only), stamp collecting, swimming, fishing, sailing, trying to convince her son that flying in the RAN is just as challenging as flying an FA18, and wondering if she will be able to answer the next question her ever-inquisitive daughter asks. Her ambitions are flexible—flying her own aircraft, being offered a sea posting, owning her own ketch to live on, and gaining an overseas posting. In her spare time she hopes to complete her higher academic studies. Fortunately she accepts disappointments gracefully! And she still wants to travel!

**LIEUTENANT JUDITH FREEMAN,
DipCHN, RAN**

Lieutenant Freeman is a registered general and psychiatric nurse with a Diploma in Community Health Nursing (Cumberland College of Health Sciences NSW) who joined the RAN on 9 October 1981 following extensive nursing experience in general and psychiatric hospitals in Sydney and Darwin. During the ten years prior to joining the Service, Lieutenant Freeman was employed in community health specialising in community mental health. Her interests include occupational health, reading, music, cinema, theatre, art, walking, cooking, travel and politics. Before posting to the College in January 1984 Lieutenant Freeman spent over two and a half years at the RAN Hospital HMAS *Cerberus*.



LIEUTENANT B. H. FALLON, RAN



Lieutenant Bruce Fallon joined HMAS *Cerberus* in 1977 as a Supplementary List Seaman Officer. He completed Stage I training in HMAS *Cerberus* (being in the last SL course to be trained there before all officer training moved to HMAS *Creswell*), before moving on to Stage II training in HMAS *Melbourne*. Stage IV training was undertaken in HMAS *Torrens* where, in 1979, he was awarded a Full Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate. In October 1980 Lieutenant Fallon completed the Basic Air Traffic Control Course at RAAF East Sale and was posted to RAAF Darwin for consolidation training. He joined HMAS *Albatross* in January 1982 for ATC duties and completed the Advanced ATC Course in August of that year. Lieutenant Fallon joined HMAS *Creswell* in April as Sports Expedition Training and Short Course Officer.

Lieutenant Fallon and his wife Jan have two sons, Michael and Christopher. His sporting interests are varied and he has been a member of the Australian Combined Services Basketball team for the past three years.

LIEUTENANT D. S. SEWELL, RAN

After a full and worldly education in Canberra, Lieutenant Sewell joined the Royal Australian Naval College as a Senior Entry in 1977. After completing the Creswell Course he



served, whilst under training, in HMS *Norfolk* and HMAS *Supply*, HMAS *Moresby* and HMAS *Torrens*. After gaining his Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate, Lieutenant Sewell served in HMAS *Torrens*, HMAS *Warrnambool* and HMAS *Ardent*. In 1982, whilst serving as Diving Officer and Windsurfing Instructor in HMAS *Jervis Bay*, he met and was smitten by his future wife, Sharon, during an eight week training cruise to Fiji—which shows just how much trouble you can get into on your training cruise.

Lieutenant Sewell was selected in 1983 for training as Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer, and after 14 months training in Australia, England, Scotland and Belgium qualified into this elite and specialised field.

After serving in Clearance Diving Team One and at the Clearance Diving School, and for a brief period on P and O's *Canberra* (a truly arduous duty) Lieutenant Sewell joined HMAS *Creswell* on 8 July 1985 as Phillip Divisional Officer and Sailing Officer.

LIEUTENANT W. G. RICHARDS, RAN

Lieutenant Wayne Richards was born in Sale, Victoria and was educated in Toowoomba, Queensland. He joined the Navy as a Junior Recruit in 1970 and entered the Naval College in 1973 as a Senior Entry cadet midshipman. Stage II training was undertaken in HMAS

Anzac, HMAS *Melbourne* and HMAS *Stuart*. During his Stage IV training in 1976–77 he served in HMAS *Tarakan*, HMAS *Perth*, HMAS *Melbourne* and HMAS *Torrens*, where he was awarded his Bridge Watchkeeping Certificate. Lieutenant Richards then served in various capacities in HMAS *Stuart* and HMAS *Hobart*. He administered the Sydney Port Divisions RANR as a Staff Officer to the Naval Support Commander. This was followed by postings to the Queensland area where he served on HMAS *Tobruk* and, after suitable courses, took command of HMAS *Balikpapan* on 29 June 1983.

On joining HMAS *Creswell* in January 1985, he assumed the duties of Course Planning Co-ordinator and Assistant Jervis Divisional Officer.

Lieutenant Richards and his wife Shirley have four active children—Ian, Adam, Craig and Tammy. His interests are ten pin bowling, micro-computers and surviving his four children.



LIEUTENANT RICHARD O'BRIEN, BA, USN

Lieutenant Richard O'Brien joined the United States Navy in 1972 as a recruit at the Naval Training Center, San Diego California. After seven months of training, he joined his first Command, Amphibious Squadron Five as a Radioman. After two extended deployments to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean,



Lieutenant O'Brien was transferred to Layfayette, Indiana, where he continued his College education at Purdue University while attached to the Naval Reserve Officer Training Center. In 1977 he was transferred to Naval Communications Area Master Station on Guam where he finished his College education in Political Science and History.

In November 1979, he attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island and upon completion was commissioned an Ensign. After further training in warfare and communications in San Diego California, he reported to the USS *Mount Vernon* (LSD-39) as the Communications Officer and Boat Group Commander during amphibious landings. During this time, he completed his Surface Warfare qualifications and was promoted to Lieutenant (junior grade).

Further training was received in engineering prior to being stationed on USS *Ranger* (CU-61) in 1983. He served two years in propulsion engineering and as catapult steam officer where he received his engineering qualifications and his promotion to Lieutenant.

In March of 1984, Lieutenant O'Brien learned of his pending orders to the RAN College to be effective in November 1984. Operational requirements pushed the date to March 1985. When he arrived his wife and family were left behind to solve passport difficulties. His wife Chris, their daughter Amber and son Daniel arrived one week later.

Lieutenant O'Brien serves as the Cook Divisional Officer and as HMAS *Creswell's* Soccer Coach. His major concern is the lack of complete sporting news in Australia and wonders how the San Diego Padres are doing this year.

LIEUTENANT C. W. THOMAS, DipAppSci, RAN

Lieutenant Thomas joined the Royal Australian Naval College as a Junior Entry cadet midshipman 19 January 1976. After passing Higher School Certificate and Diploma of Applied Science, graduated in 1980. During this time represented the College in eight different sports and was twice winner of the Governor-General's Cup for the most outstanding all-round sportsman.

After leaving RANC, joined HMAS *Stalwart* for Stage II training which deployed to the Indian Ocean. He then proceeded to HMAS *Cerberus* for Supply Specialisation training and was then posted to Navy Office in Canberra. The first posting in Navy Office was to the Directorate of Fleet Supply Services and the second to the Directorate of Movements and Transport-Navy as the Assistant Director (Movements) for 18 months.

Lieutenant Thomas then received a posting to HMAS *Adelaide* as the Deputy Supply Officer which included a South East Asian deployment. During this time, he also served



in the movements cell in Exercise Control, K83. He was subsequently posted to HMAS *Albatross* as the Supply Officer (Cash) for a year and then to HMAS *Creswell* as the Flinders Divisional Officer.

During his naval service has represented the RAN in Australian Football, athletics, tennis and volleyball and combined and Australian Services in Australian Football.

LIEUTENANT R. G. FLETCHER, RAN



Roslyn Gillian Fletcher joined the WRANS on 21 February 1972 as a Recruit Wran. On completion of her communications course, she served at HMAS *Harman* followed by a two year posting at HMAS *Coonawarra* during which time she was promoted to LWRROT.

In April 1975, she undertook the POWRRST Qualifying Course at HMAS *Cerberus* prior to posting to HMAS *Harman*. She was promoted to Petty Officer in September of the same year and posted to HMAS *Cerberus* for instructional duties.

In January 1977, she took up a posting at DEFCOMMARS, Canberra and remained there until, as a Chief Petty Officer, she elected to transfer to the Officers Supplementary List in September 1978. This transfer saw her as a member of the first female midshipmen class to enter the RANC—a milestone in history. After graduating from the Naval College in

July 1979, further training was completed at HMAS *Cerberus*, HMAS *Penguin*, HMAS *Watson* and HMAS *Albatross*.

In July 1980, Acting Sub-Lieutenant Fletcher was posted to DEFCOMMARS Canberra as Assistant ACT Regional Controller/RPO. She was promoted to Sub-Lieutenant the following year and assumed the duties of Operations Officer.

In November 1982, Sub-Lieutenant Fletcher was posted to the Submarine Base, HMAS *Platypus* in an administrative role and was promoted in July 1984.

Lieutenant Fletcher returned to the Naval College in January 1985 as the Training Administration Officer.

SUB-LIEUTENANT SHARON SEWELL, RAN



Sub-Lieutenant Sharon Sewell was born in Caulfield, Victoria and educated at Stella Maris College, Frankston. After agonising over whether or not to pursue a career in journalism, she ran away to sea instead (or near enough) and joined the WRANS in March 1982—much to her father's delight and her English teacher's disgust.

After graduating from RANC, Sub-Lieutenant Sewell undertook the Administration Course in HMAS *Cerberus*, from whence she emerged as one of those most worthy and efficient of being, the Administration Officer.

In January 1984, Sub-Lieutenant Sewell joined HMAS *Watson* as the Administrative Support Officer for the inaugural Surface Warfare Officer Course. After this pioneering venture, she returned to RANC in July 1985 as a member of the training staff.

Sub-Lieutenant Sewell is married to Lieutenant Sewell. They have no children and one dog. Her interests include tapestry, fishing, bicycling and watching VFL football.

**LIEUTENANT A. M. NAUGHTON,
DipAppSci, RAN**



Lieutenant Andrew Naughton joined the Royal Australian Navy as a Junior Entry midshipman in January 1979. Graduating in July 1981, he served in HMAS *Tobruk* and HMAS *Melbourne*. He married Janelle in December 1981.

He qualified as a Supply Officer by completing the Basic Supply Course at the Supply School, HMAS *Cerberus* and was promoted to Sub-Lieutenant in July 1982. He was then posted to HMAS *Kuttabul* prior to an enjoyable stint of seetime. Between December 1982 and January 1984 he served in HMAS *Torrens*, HMAS *Supply* and HMAS *Hobart*, the highlight of this period being a South East Asian deployment. This was followed by time at HMAS *Albatross* where he gained necessary naval stores experience. Since joining HMAS *Creswell* he has been the

Stores Officer Jervis Bay Range Facility and Captain's Secretary. He was promoted Lieutenant in January 1985.

He is a keen sportsman and plays Rugby, cricket, touch football, indoor cricket and enjoys running, swimming and intermess sports competitions.

**LIEUTENANT STEFAN STANGRET,
RAN**

Lieutenant Stangret joined the RANC as the Captain's Secretary on 24 September 1984. He is now acting as the Deputy Supply Officer and Supply Officer (Stores), however, will be joining the training staff in early 1986 as a member of the Junior Naval Command Course Team.

Coming from Inglewood, a small country town in Queensland, Stefan joined the RAN as a cadet midshipman on 13 January 1975. Whilst at the College, he completed his HSC and went on to UNSW to study towards an Arts degree.

In December 1980, he completed the Supply Course at HMAS *Cerberus* and was posted to Navy Office in Canberra, where he served the Staff Officer to DGLOG-N and DGFAC-N. In 1982, he was posted to HMAS *Harman* in Canberra where he was the Navy Office Paying Officer and Deputy Supply Officer.

He is a keen sportsman who has competed in the top grade in many sports. His main interests, after his family, remain however, as Rugby, fishing, cricket and golf—areas in which he has been actively involved at the College.

Stefan is a family man who, along with his wife, Leanne, have one daughter and another child on the way.

SUB-LIEUTENANT J. BLUNDEN, RAN

Sub-Lieutenant Jenni Blunden was born and raised in Sydney and upon completion of the HSC joined the Royal Australian Naval College in 1981 as a midshipman.

Upon promotion to Acting Sub-Lieutenant, Sub-Lieutenant Blunden was posted to Navy Office and HMAS *Creswell* for a brief period before joining HMAS *Albatross* in July 1983 as Supply Officer (Pay).

Sub-Lieutenant Blunden joined HMAS *Creswell* in July 1984 and is currently Supply Officer (Cash). With only fourteen months

before promotion to Lieutenant, Sub-Lieutenant Blunden is expected to leave HMAS *Creswell* mid 1986 and return to Navy Office.

Sub-Lieutenant Blunden is currently single and enjoys horseriding, art, music and social activities. She is also keen on the fitness scene, playing such sports as touch football, waterpolo, squash, basketball and volleyball.

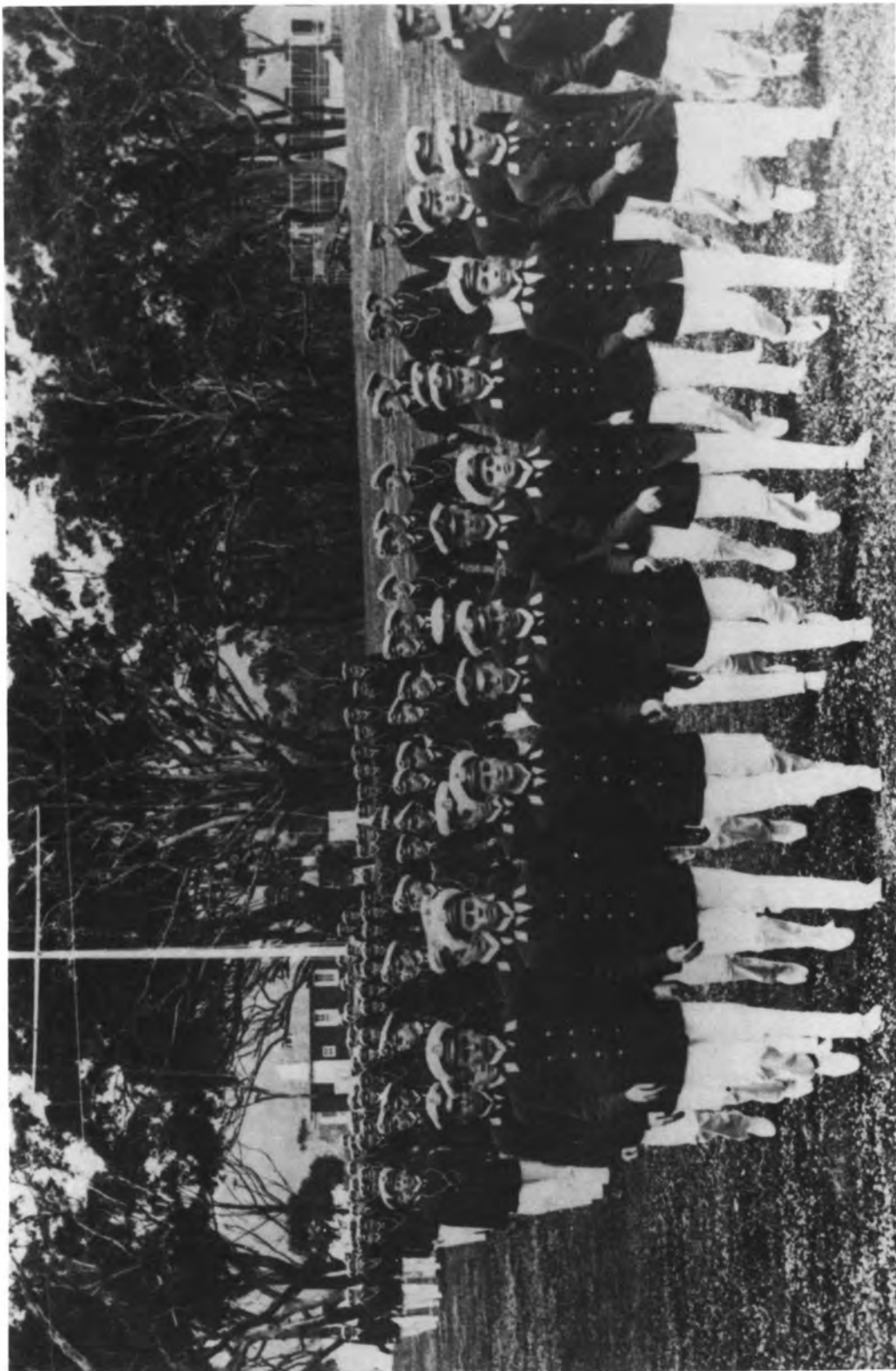


CAPTAINS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE

Captain	B. M.	Chambers	1913-1914
Commander	D. W.	Grant	1914-1915
Captain	C. H.	Morgan	1915-1917
Captain	D. W.	Grant	1917-1919
Captain	R. H.	Walters, DSO	1919-1924
Captain	R. H.	Lane-Poole, OBE	1924-1927
Captain	H. A.	Forster, MVDO	1927-1929
Captain	C. H. D.	Benson, DSO	1929-1930
Captain	A. M.	Lecky, DSO	1930-1931
Captain	C. H. G.	Benson, DSO	1931-1932
Captain	C. A. M.	Sarel, OBE	1932-1934
Captain	H. G. C.	Franklin	1934-1936
Captain	C. J.	Pope, CBE	1936-1939
Captain	H. B.	Crane	1939-1940
Captain	G. D.	Yates	1940-1942
Captain	H. L.	Howden, CBE	1942-1943
Captain	C. C.	Balwin, MVO	1943
Commodore	T. B.	Drew	1943-1945
Commodore	H. B.	Farncomb, CB, DSO, MVO	1945-1946
Commodore	H. A.	Showers, CBE	1946-1948
Commodore	W. A.	Dallmeyer, DSO, RN	1948-1950
Commodore	H. J.	Buchanan, CBE, DSO, RAN	1950-1952
Commodore	D. H.	Harries, CBE, RAN	1952
Commodore	J. C.	Morrow, CBE, DSO, DSC	1952-1955
Commodore	N. A.	Mackinnon, RAN	1955-1956
Commodore	J.	Plunkett-Cole, RAN	1957
Captain	W. J.	Dovers, DSC, ADC, RAN	1958-1959
Captain	J. M.	Ramsey, DSC, RAN	1959-1961
Captain	E. J.	Peel, DSC, ADC, RAN	1961-1962
Captain	N. H. S.	White, RAN	1962-1964
Captain	D. H. D.	Smyth, RAN	1964-1965
Captain	I. K.	Purvis, RAN	1965-1968
Captain	N. A.	Boase, RAN	1968-1971
Captain	J. D.	Stevens, RAN	1971-1972
Captain	V. A.	Parker, RAN	1972-1973
Captain	I. W.	Broben, RAN	1973-1976
Captain	R. M.	Baird, RAN	1976-1978
Captain	J. B.	Snow, RAN	1978-1980
Captain	A. R.	Horton, AM, RAN	1980-1983
Captain	P. A.	Ross, RAN	1983-1985
Captain	P. G. V.	Dechaineux, AM, RAN	1985-

PRINCIPAL NAVAL COLLEGE ACADEMICS

Chief Naval Instructor	F. G. Brown, BA, BSc, RAN	1912-1914
Chief Naval Instructor	Rev. W. Hall, BA, RN	1915-1916
Senior Naval Instructor	D. J. M. Holliday, MA, RN	1916-1919
Headmaster	F. W. Wheatley, Esq, BA, BSc, DSC	1920-1930
Director of Studies	R. F. Cowan, Esq, BA	1931-1940
Director of Studies	H. D. Simpson, Esq, BA, BSc(Hons)	1941-1949
Director of Studies	Q de Q Robin, Esq, BA, DipEd	1949-1953
Headmaster	Q de Q Robin, Esq, BA, DipEd	1953-1964
Director of Studies	Dr H. E. Dykes, BSc, PhD, MIME, DipEd	1964-1977
Director of Studies	Captain D. J. McKeegan, MSc, PhD, RAN	1977-1981
Director of Studies	Captain A. G. Mikosza, MSc, DipEd, SMIREE, RAN	1982-1985



Naval College Parade 1915

ADDRESS BY

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR NINIAN STEPHEN GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA ON THE OCCASION OF THE PASSING OUT PARADE AT THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE AT NOWRA, ON THURSDAY, 6 DECEMBER 1984

It is a great pleasure for my wife and me, for the third year running, to attend and take some part in this splendid Passing Out Parade of the Royal Australian Naval College. We have some idea of the hard work that has gone into this Parade, symptomatic of the long period of training that, each of you has already undergone now lies behind. We look forward to meeting as many as possible of those graduating today and entering on their careers as naval officers in the service of Australia.

It was Admiral of the Fleet and First Sea Lord Prince Louis Mountbatten who, hearing that the future King George V was to go into the Navy said, 'There is no more fitting preparation for a King than to have been trained in the Navy'. But it is not only Kings who profit from naval training; its dedication to service and to efficiency and the proud traditions which inspire it make it second to none.

You will leave the Naval College as midshipmen, which may seem very much like the bottom rung of the ladder but which is also one of the oldest ranks in the Navy. There were certainly midshipmen in Elizabeth's navy which faced and defeated Spain's Armada; they served between main and mizen masts and had to see that 'the tops and yards (were) well manned with stones, fire pots and brass bals'. Conservative the Navy may be, but I gather that a midshipman's duties are now somewhat changed. As long ago as 1685, 299 years ago, readers of the official London Gazette might learn of the appointment of new midshipmen in the Royal Navy and by the 1700s their uniform included the familiar small white patch on the jacket collar, which was then a true, turned back, white velvet collar.

Job satisfaction, industrial relations experts tell us, is now regarded as the real incentive-giver so far as careers in life are concerned. And there can surely be few jobs as satisfying as that of naval officer. Quite apart from the

feeling of serving the interests of the nation and of doing so while following in the footsteps of so many distinguished naval officers of the past, there is that wonderful quality of comradeship, which you will already have experienced and which will stand you in good stead in all of life's pursuits and endeavours.

That comradeship is developed through a sense of respect for and appreciation of the values, knowledge and achievements of others. It involves self respect, as well. It is built up through association with people from all walks of life, with differing backgrounds, experiences and aspirations, an association which broadens outlooks and matures characters. Nowhere is the opportunity greater than in the Navy to meet and mix with so many different sorts of people. The process begins on the first day, as you well know, and goes on throughout your service. This wealth of opportunity is denied the majority of civilians and the comradeship that comes from it must be one of the great rewards of service life.

Like the other Services, the Navy has seen great changes over the last half century, and they are still happening. Changes in warfare at sea are proceeding at a rate as great, perhaps greater, than at any time in history. To those not of the Navy, mere watchers from the outside, the changes are bewildering. The sophisticated electronics afloat and the extension of the battle arena to well beyond the horizon makes all one reads of naval warfare of the past seem very much a thing of the past.

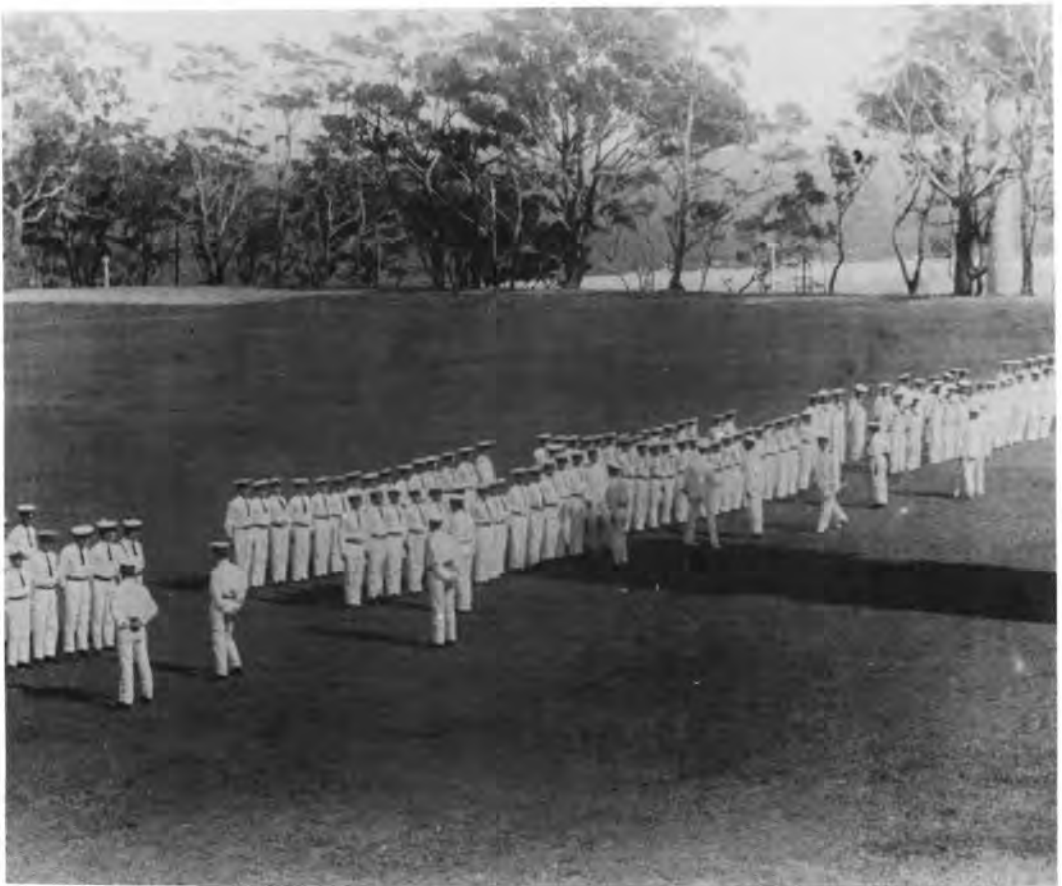
All of which means that the very rapidly changing technology of today involves, for the young naval officer, immense new burdens of knowledge to be learned and of expertise to be acquired to deal intelligently with sophisticated equipment and extract from it all that is capable of offering.

The Navy has always been a rigorous service but perhaps never as challenging as it now is, calling not only on traditional virtues of courage, steadfastness and determination and the leadership qualities that those virtues nourish, but also demanding high intelligence, decisiveness, sureness of judgement and a willingness to be receptive to a constant learning process.

In the next few years, while you undertake your operational training phases in various naval units, learning how to drive, fight and maintain warships, you will be dealing with something more valuable even and certainly no less complex than the sophisticated equipment of the modern warship: you will be dealing with sailors. Responsible for the welfare and discipline of your sailors, you will be responsible to the Navy and to the nation in discharging your Divisional duties. The continuing reputation of the Navy as a

disciplined, efficient and highly professional service will be in your hands, reliant upon your performance and confidence as Divisional Officers. In the Navy, as you know, manpower management is a perhaps unique problem, with deployments and operational exercises taking people away from their homes and families for long periods of time and at regular intervals. This places extra strain and worry on all, and it will be through your skills as Divisional Officers that all those stresses must be managed.

In the past year my wife and I have been privileged to see something of the Royal Australian Navy at sea, in submarines, patrol boats and frigates. Taking your place as officers in that Navy you will be serving in as dedicated a Service as Australia has known. I congratulate you all and wish you both good fortune and great satisfaction in your chosen career.



Early Summer Parade

ADDRESS BY

**THE COMMANDING OFFICER
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE
(CAPTAIN P. A. ROSS, RAN)
AT THE PASSING OUT PARADE
6 DECEMBER 1984**

Your Excellencies, Minister for Defence, Members of the Parliaments, Chief of Defence Force, Chief of Naval Staff, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of New South Wales, Your Worship the Mayor of the City of Shoalhaven, Distinguished Guests, Graduating Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen—welcome to the Royal Australian Naval College.

We are honoured Your Excellency that you and Lady Stephen are visiting the Naval College again and are continuing a tradition of regular Vice-Regal visits to RANC, which began in 1916, when the then Governor-General Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson was Reviewing Officer for the first RANC Passing Out Parade. Your presence here today as both Governor-General and our Commander-in-Chief enhances the significance of the occasion particularly for the members of the Passing Out Classes, their families and their friends.

The Royal Australian Naval College opened on this site in 1913, reflecting a growing realisation that Australia, as a newly independent Sovereign State, would have to assume a much more active role in its own defence.

Much has changed since those very early days of the Royal Australian Naval College. An RANC education has evolved from a secondary school syllabus for boys from the age of 13½ to 17½ years, to an all tertiary education for post matriculants, both male and female. Our association with the University of New South Wales now extends over 16 years and within the last three years the College has been accredited to present its own Diplomas of Applied Science. Today all initial officer training courses are conducted at RANC. With the Australian Defence Force Academy opening in 1986 it is expected a number of other officer courses will also commence at this establishment. These courses will encompass not only junior officer training

but possibly also specialist courses for other officers, thus expanding the role of the Navy's major officer training establishment without conflicting with or duplicating the role of the Australian Defence Force Academy. These changes can often be taken for granted but they are considerable and reflect the need to educate and train an increasingly diverse student population for the demands of the future whilst retaining the appropriate standards of the past.

RANC is very thankful for the close co-operation and support it receives from HMAS *Jervis Bay*, HMAS *Watson*, HMAS *Cerberus* and HMAS *Albatross*. I am also most appreciative of the support we receive from the University of New South Wales, particularly the Joint University and College Committees. The academic members of the Academic Advisory Council: Professor Ratcliffe from the University of New South Wales, Professor Neumann from the Australian National University and Dr Richardson who has recently retired as Principal of the Canberra College of Advanced Education, have continued to be of tremendous assistance in advising the Royal Australian Naval College in all facets of education. Dr Richardson, who is overseas at the moment, has been instrumental in the education exchange agreement between the Canberra College of Advanced Education and the Naval College. This agreement has provided at the Naval College, a senior lecturer from the Canberra College of Advanced Education in exchange for a naval officer to teach at the Canberra College of Advanced Education. We are most grateful to Dr Campbell who has spent the last six months here under the agreement, for his significant contributions to academic learning at the College.

Aside from the Passing Out classes, at the College there are midshipmen some of whom will be going to the University of New South Wales next year to continue University

training. Many will be continuing with the Diploma of Applied Science course here at RANC, whilst a number of the young men and women will be completing their professional naval training courses over the next six months. Of the First Year Degree midshipmen some will complete their studies at the Australian Defence Force Academy in 1986.

But this ceremony is for the 46 young naval officers who today celebrate their graduation from the Royal Australian Naval College. It is their day, one which I hope they will remember with pride for the rest of their naval careers, and I think it most appropriate we now reflect on their accomplishments.

Six of the graduating midshipmen have completed the academic component of their Diploma of Applied Science. These midshipmen joined the Royal Australian Naval College three years ago and for the last six months they have been completing their professional naval training which included a training cruise to Malaysia and Singapore in HMAS *Jervis Bay*.

Of the Degree Stream students, 12 will graduate with Bachelor of Arts degrees, 16 with Bachelor of Science, eight with Bachelor of Engineering, three with Bachelor of Commerce and one with a Bachelor of Survey degree. Most of these officers will now join the Fleet for further training, two officers will continue at the University of New South Wales to complete their double degrees in Engineering and Science. One officer has already completed his Engineering/Arts double degree.

The training of the graduating officers has been an amalgam of professional and academic study, personal development and the instilling of a sense of purpose, dedication and loyalty to the Service and their country. I know that each midshipman is always very pleased

to complete his initial training but generally he looks back at the Royal Australian Naval College with a feeling of gratitude and affection. Gratitude for the many hours of initial instruction received from a competent, dedicated and highly motivated staff, both academic and professional; and affection for HMAS *Creswell* because this has been their first naval posting. This is where they have learned to become officers, in the senior Service; and this establishment will always be their *alma mater*.

The cheerful and willing involvement of the College staff, both uniformed and civilian, and the understanding and assistance they receive from their wives are crucial to the matters I have addressed and I warmly thank them all for their contributions.

Finally I must pay special tribute to the parents, relatives and friends of the graduating classes, many of whom have travelled considerable distances and at great expense to be here today. This is a day for the whole family to remember. You have seen the transition of a young man or woman from a civilian environment. You have shared with them the traumas of their first few weeks in the Navy. We realise it is not an easy transition from civilian to Service life and indeed a number do falter. It was over this initial period in particular and undoubtedly at other times during their training, that they needed your encouragement, guidance and experience and I am sure it has always been forthcoming. We are very proud of the young men who graduate from the Royal Australian Naval College and I am sure you as parents and friends are equally proud.

I commend the graduating midshipmen on their success to date and with utmost confidence wish them well for the future.

I now invite Your Excellency to make the presentations.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Prizes and awards presented since September 1984.

Passing Out Parade December 1984

Australian Institute of Navigation Prize for the Dux of Degree Stream Stage I Navigation
MIDN S. C. RIEDEL

The Ramsay Prize for Dux of Degree Stream Professional Naval Training
MIDN S. C. RIEDEL

Peter Mitchell Prizes

Best Overall Performance on Training Cruise 1/84
MIDN S. J. HOOD

Best Practical Navigation on Training Cruise 1/84
MIDN S. C. RIEDEL

Ceremonial Divisions 3 March 1985

Department of Defence Academic Book Prizes

Dux of GL First Year Engineering (including Survey)
MIDN G. J. SAMMUT

Dux of GL First Year Science
MIDN P. J. LEAVY

Dux of GL First Year Arts
MIDN A. L. GRUNSELL

Eric Elton Mayo Prize for Dux of GL First Year Diploma
MIDN J. F. BLAKE

W. H. Harrington Memorial Prize for midshipman who in his first post matriculation year displays the greatest professional potential
MIDN G. J. SAMMUT

Passing Out Parade July 1985

Queen's Gold Medal
MIDN M. C. WARREN

Otto Albert Prize for Seamanship
MIDN R. W. PLATH

RNZN Prize for Navigation
MIDN D. F. O'LEARY

Imperial Service Club Prize
MIDN M. C. WARREN
MIDN M. W. ADDISON

Department of Defence Prize and United Service Institute of Victoria Prize for Dux of SL Stage I Training
MIDN A. J. CLOWES

Peter Mitchell Prizes

Dux of Diploma Course
MIDN D. F. O'LEARY

Best Results in SL Stage I Navigation
MIDN A. J. CLOWES

Best Results in SL Stage I Seamanship
MIDN A. J. CLOWES

United States Naval Institute Prizes
MIDN D. F. O'LEARY
MIDN R. W. PLATH

The Ramsay Prize for Dux of Diploma Course Professional Naval Training
MIDN R. W. PLATH

ADDRESS BY

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR DAVID STEVENSON TO THE PASSING OUT PARADE RAN COLLEGE JULY 1985

Chief of Naval Staff, Captain Dechaineux, Distinguished Guests, Brother and Sister Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Firstly, may I thank you Chief of Naval Staff for inviting my wife and me to attend this parade. As a fifty year classman and on behalf of all my classmates, of whom I'm delighted to see some here today, may I offer my congratulations to you Captain Dechaineux and your team for a first rate parade. I thought it was all excellent and I congratulate you on a very high standard.

It's particularly good to see the son of a graduate of this naval college serving in command of the place. We've had other second generation naval officers serving here but I think Captain Dechaineux is the first second generation Commanding Officer. All my classmates and I well remember his father, we should, he was our snotties nurse when we first went to sea and it's good to see today's Captain Dechaineux serving with such distinction.

If I may just mention to you who are passing out today a couple of aspects of naval history, perhaps it will give my later remarks a background against which you can see their relevance.

It's just 70 years since the Naval College was built in this place. That same year the word 'ANZAC' was born and Australia's proud military history developed as you all know.

While it is important to look back from time to time it's even more important for you young people to look forward and to establish your goals, gaining inspiration and confidence from the achievements of those who have served before you. You must build your Navy in your own way. You will have different ships, different aircraft, different tactics. During the course of your service, equipment and techniques undreamed of when I was a boy, will be at your command. Some things of course won't change. The men and women you will be privileged to lead will remain the finest in the world, and their excellence will be

unchanging. But you must build on the foundations that you find. Perhaps I can suggest three reference points for you.

First, you should put duty before everything else. Sometimes this will mean accepting a fairly low priority for some things you would rather have higher up the list. But you will have to work it out in your own way and you will have to perceive your duty to yourself, to your ship, to the Navy and to Australia. It always sounds slightly old fashioned to talk about duty. But then some things in the Navy are slightly old fashioned. Even some of us Admirals.

Second, I suggest this to you. You should not be afraid of the bold decisions. Whether they be in planning an operation, or in developing your own career, bold decisions are usually more fruitful than timid ones. The bold thinker, the exact planner, the vigorous leader will always win out over the timid or nervous. You will have been prepared and you will have prepared yourselves as well as Australia can possibly afford it. You will be privileged to serve with and lead the finest sailors in the world. You have therefore every reason to be bold.

Finally, enjoy your service. There will be rough times for you just as there have been for those of us who served before you. But the sea is not always rough, and the winds are not always contrary, and they are not always gale force. When my classmates and I joined the Navy the numbers were smaller than they had been at any time since the College opened in 1913. As CNS I was part of a Navy which was almost the biggest in peacetime history.

So those who would seek to persuade you that the Navy has lost its relevance are wrong. The great strength of the Navy is in its ability to adapt to change, without too much fuss, and in adapting, to continue to be ready.

Among my classmates are those who have served with distinction in several navies. Some have been decorated for their services in other navies as well as in the Royal Australian Navy.

So the final point I would make is that the training that you've had here, and that which you will get beyond these precincts, will enable you to take your place in many allied navies.

You will be called upon to do your duty in circumstances which are least expected today.

So learn your lessons well. You have begun well here. You've joined the finest service in the nation. Australia is trusting its safety to you and its defence will be in your hands from here on. I have every confidence that you will do well and I wish you every success.

ADDRESS BY

THE COMMANDING OFFICER ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE JULY 1985

Vice-Admiral Sir David Stevenson, Chief of Naval Staff, Your Worship The Mayor of Shoalhaven, Ladies and Gentlemen—Welcome to the Royal Australian Naval College.

Firstly, I wish to pay tribute to our reviewing officer, Vice-Admiral Sir David Stevenson. An outstanding naval officer whose distinguished career culminated in his appointment as Chief of Naval Staff in the years 1973 to 1976. He graduated from the Royal Australian Naval College in 1935, 50 years ago. Also amongst that graduating class were two officers also present today, Rear Admiral Dovers and Rear Admiral Mussared, to whom I extend a warm welcome.

Since its inception in 1913, the Royal Australian Naval College has seen a large number of far reaching changes, many of which have reflected changes in our society. One of the more recent and appropriate changes has been the integration of women into our officer corps. In January of this year, the decision was taken for women in the Navy to bear arms on parade and today you have witnessed an armed guard comprised of both men and women.

Over the years, the College has met the challenge of change with one aim—to produce a naval officer who is both technically competent and who has the flexibility, intellectual vigour and determination to use this change to advantage.

Today the College administers more than 300 midshipmen. They are accommodated in HMAS *Creswell*, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and in Sydney, and our program caters for three training schemes, two of which combine both a tertiary academic program with professional naval training and a third which teaches predominately professional naval subjects.

On parade this morning, have been midshipmen of the Degree and Diploma Streams studying towards Arts, Commerce, Science and Engineering degrees offered by the University of New South Wales, plus midshipmen who are studying towards the

award of the Diploma of Applied Science. This College is committed to producing trained, motivated and dedicated officers who will be able to face the challenges of tomorrow's Navy. The College itself is facing another challenge of change. Next year, with the opening of the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra, there will be a fundamental shift of training emphasis here at HMAS *Creswell*. The last planned Diploma Course entered in January this year. These midshipmen will complete their diploma studies under the present system, but as from next year, Degree Stream officers will undertake their tertiary education at the Academy. In essence, this means that the Royal Australian Naval College will be winding down academic education and increasing the emphasis on professional naval training. However, you may rest assured that my central aim is to continue the proud history and traditions of the Naval College and there is no doubt in my mind that we will remain the centre of excellence for training professional naval officers and will continue to graduate young ladies and gentlemen of whom we can be justifiably proud.

Facilities are being modified and upgraded to suit the changed role of the Royal Australian Naval College and new courses have been designed to complement the recent fundamental change in junior officer training policy.

I am most appreciative of the support we receive from the University of New South Wales, particularly the Joint University and College Committees. The members of the Academic Advisory Council: Professor Ratcliffe from the University of New South Wales and Professor Neumann from the Australian National University, have continued to be of tremendous assistance in advising the Royal Australian Naval College in all facets of education.

Sixteen of the graduating midshipmen have completed the academic component of their Diploma of Applied Science. These

midshipmen joined the Royal Australian Naval College two and a half years ago. For the last six months they have been completing their professional naval training which included a seven week cruise in the training ship HMAS *Jervis Bay*.

Twenty-two Supplementary List midshipmen are among the graduates and include females and former sailors. Of the Degree Stream students one will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree, one with a Bachelor of Science and one with a degree in Electrical Engineering.

The training of the graduating officers has been an amalgam of professional and academic study, personal and social development and the instilling of a sense of purpose, dedication and loyalty to the Service and their country. I know that each midshipman will remember the Royal Australian Naval College with a feeling of gratitude and affection. Gratitude for the many hours of instruction received from a competent, dedicated and highly motivated staff, both academic and professional; and affection for the College because this has been their first and most valuable naval experience. This is where they have learned to become officers; and this establishment will always remain their *alma mater*.

I would like to publicly acknowledge the work of all other Creswell staff throughout the year, especially the maintenance and grounds staff. I'm sure you will agree that the appearance of the College is a credit to them.

I must pay special tribute to the parents, relatives and friends of the graduating classes, many of whom have travelled long distances and at great expense to be here today. This is a day for the whole family to remember and be justifiably proud. The transition from young man or woman from a civilian to a naval environment is not an easy one. You have shared with them the traumas of their first few weeks in the Navy. It was over this initial period, in particular, and undoubtedly at other times during their training here they looked to you for guidance, support and encouragement. Without that support, I believe several here today would have fallen by the wayside. We are proud of these young men and women and I am sure you as parents and friends, are equally proud. I commend them on their achievements to date and with the utmost confidence wish them well for the future.

I now ask you Sir to present the prizes and certificates to members of the graduating classes as announced by Lieutenant Nicol.



From the early 1930s to 1958 the Naval College became a beachside playground known as the 'Riviera of the South Pacific'

SPORTING AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

The Governor-General's Cup: Awarded annually for the best individual performance at all sports during the year; 1985—R. W. PLATH

ATHLETICS

Award/Prize	Awarded For	Winner
Carr Trophy	100 m Sprint	1985 N. W. NADER
Clarke Cup	Shot Put	1985 P. J. BIESS
Dowling Shield	400 m	1985 M. W. KORSTEN
Evans Trophy	5 000 m	1985 S. R. MILLER
Franklin Trophy	Open Champion	1985 } M. V. GORDON
Morgan Shield	1 500 m	1985 } R. C. SCHULTE
Smyth Cup	110 m Hurdle	1985 J. E. J. WATSON
		1985 M. V. GORDON

AUSTRALIAN RULES

Father Bresland Cup	Best Exponent	1985 M. J. WADDINGHAM
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CRICKET

Junior House Trophy	Best Bowler	1985 A. GOODALL
Farncomb Cup	Best All-rounder	1985 P. J. BIESS
Morgan Trophy	Best Batsman	1985 J. M. WHITE

CROSS COUNTRY

1 Pint Pewter	Winner of Championship	1985 M. W. KORSTEN
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HOCKEY

Bruce Seymour Trophy	Best Exponent	1985 Q. B. JOBSON
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RUGBY

Burnett Prize	Best Exponent	1985 D. I. BURLING
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SAILING

Peter Sharp Memorial	Single Handed	1985 P. STANFORD
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SOCCER

Benson Bowl	Best Exponent	1985 J. M. WHITE
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SWIMMING

Colin Creswell Cup	Open Champion	1985 J. E. J. WATSON
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TENNIS

Cunningham Cup	Singles Champion	1984 R. J. F. HUMPHRIES
2 × ½ Pint Pewter	Doubles Champions	1984 } J. T. PEACOCK R. J. F. HUMPHRIES

SQUASH

RANC Squash Trophy	Champion	1984 M. J. NOONAN
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DIVISIONAL TROPHIES

Cock Division Trophy—Cock Division Competition

		1984 Session II Jervis
		1985 Session I Jervis
Creswell Cup	Relay Race	1984 Cook Division
Dalton Cup	All Sports	1984 Cook Division
Dechaineux Memorial Trophy	Swimming	1985 University Division
Otto-Albert Trophy	Tug-o-War	1985 Flinders Division
Grimwade Cup	Athletics	1985 University 2 Division
Pixley Cup	Beach Olympics	1985 Flinders Division
Solano Cup	Sailing Endeavours	1985 Jervis Division
Walters Cup	Cross Country	1985 Phillip Division
Interservice College	RANC v RMC Duntroon	1985 RANC
Swimming Carnival	OCS Portsea v RAAF Academy	
	Point Cook v ECS Frognal	

EULOGY TO THE LATE CAPTAIN ROSS BLUE, RAN

At a time when apathy towards military service is quite widespread in our community, one of the consolations I find, is to know that I am serving in the company of such fine men and women as make up the Royal Australian Navy. Captain Ross Blue was without doubt one of the very best of that fine company.

It is therefore a very humbling experience to try to do justice to Ross Blue the naval officer—humbling because when one looks back over the various associations and encounters that one has had with Ross in a span of 30 years, one comes to the confident conclusion that he was the embodiment of all those naval and other manly virtues which go to make a really superb naval officer.

I have a mental picture of him as a cadet on the Naval College Parade Ground—handsome, standing straight as a ramrod, smartly turned out and with just a hint of a smile, slightly mischievous, lurking at the corners of his mouth. I say mischievous but looking back now I see it was the spirit of adventure in Ross—the first hint of a man who is not afraid to dare and win—to seek the adventures of the different and the difficult.

This was later borne out by his choice of specialisation—clearance diving and explosive ordnance disposal—amongst the most rigorous and dangerous occupations he could possibly have chosen. The sort of vocation that often brings out the pirate in a man.

But Ross was no pirate. In his bearing, dress, manner, leadership style and care of his men, as well as his very active participation in their activities, he was one of the most meticulous, exemplary naval officers one could ever meet. His loyalty upwards to his superiors and downwards towards his men was deep and unshakeable. Perhaps I could illustrate what his men thought of him by telling you of a chance conversation I had just two days ago with an Able Seaman Gibson of HMAS *Harman* who had served under Ross' command in HMAS *Jervis Bay*—he commented how sad he was that Captain Blue had passed away and added: 'Captain Blue was the best Captain a man could ever hope to

have'. I regard that unsolicited testimonial from an Able Seaman as being at least as important as anything an Admiral could say to you now.

To remind you that Ross was an Executive Officer of two ships, had two sea commands and also commanded two Clearance Diving Teams, one in Vietnam, is a hasty but impressive glimpse of what the Navy thought of Ross Blue—the confidence and trust it was prepared to place in him.

To illustrate the man he was, I would like to dwell for a moment on his service in Vietnam. Such was his leadership and example that the Secretary of the United States Navy awarded Clearance Diving Team Three, as part of a somewhat larger United States team, a Citation. The Citation is rather too long to quote verbatim but perhaps I can lift from it just a few phrases: 'That it was awarded for exceptionally meritorious service . . . the actions of Clearance Diving Team Three contributed significantly towards curtailing acts of sabotage and the flow of enemy supplies . . . initiative, versatility, reliability and professional competency were displayed in the highest traditions' and so on.

Amongst other notable tasks he and his unit undertook in Vietnam was the safe removal of over 1100 tons of ammunition in a dangerously unstable condition lying near Vung Tau. A USN expert described the execution of this task as follows—and here I quote from the book 'Of Nautilus and Eagles': 'Some of those pieces of ordnance were built to go off when about four ounces of pressure was applied to them. You carried them away in the palm of your hand one at a time—and no juggling!' There's quite a lot more about the doings of the young Lieutenant Ross Blue in 'Of Nautilus and Eagles' but one first-hand story not in the book concerns the incident where his team during its search found a large limpet mine on the hull of the tank landing ship USS *Meeker County*. Ross cleared his team from the area, removed the mine himself and just a few minutes later it detonated spontaneously. During six busy and highly dangerous months

in Vietnam Ross Blue's team didn't lose a single man—eloquent testimony to his leadership, courage and to the high standards he set.

We get another quite different insight into Ross Blue by asking ourselves why it was that Ross was entrusted with command of the junior officers training ship HMAS *Jervis Bay* and then the job of Executive Officer of HMAS *Creswell*, the cradle of young naval officers. Of course the simple answer was that he was a splendid model to put before and to lead young naval officers. It comes as no surprise then to note that his last posting, his first as a Captain, was to that crucial job of Director of Naval Officers Postings where he would have the onerous responsibility of managing the careers of all his brother officers. Yes, the Navy trusted Ross Blue.

Of course, he wasn't by any means just a man of action. He was also a deep thinker, author and keen naval historian. As well as a number of official books and manuals he wrote the book 'United and Undaunted'—a history of the Clearance Diving Branch—partly I suspect because someone had to do it, and also to help weld together a small, sometimes overlooked, but vital element of the Navy—the clearance diving community. Always a team man was Ross.

Of all Captain Blue's qualities the one I most marvel at was his quiet confident composure, spiced with a panache or finesse, call it what you will.

Dare I sum up Ross Blue as the embodiment of all those old-fashioned values—with words not often heard these days—such as patriotism, honour, loyalty, discipline, self-discipline, impeccability in his personal habit

and with a keen sense of humour and a really caring human being. With so much going for him he could have been forgiven for being a bit flashy—suggesting a degree of self importance—but I could detect next to nothing of that in Ross. I strongly believe that his modest comportment sprang from a great inner strength, remarkable self-discipline and the highest imaginable sense of duty—a man who had control of himself.

By now I can feel Ross tugging at my sleeve saying: 'Cut it out—not so much talk—don't be so extravagant'. Well I hear you Ross but some things just have to be said.

I'm reminded at this point of a remark, by way of advice, that a close friend gave me more than twenty years ago. It was to the effect that each one of us should try to leave the world a better place than we found it. Well Ross we salute you for doing your excellent best to leave the world around you a better place, in particular:

We thank you for your unstinting service to your country and your Navy—a shining jewel you fashioned.

We thank you for the splendid example you set for us to follow and for the friendships you shared with us.

I say with triumphant shout: *WELL DONE*, Captain Ross Blue, well done indeed!

BRAVO ZULU

And Ross replies:

'Counsel my family and friends to pick themselves up if they're down; do their duty and be cheerful; above all be cheerful'.

And so we must!

19 September 1985

COLLEGE NOTES

July leave passed far too quickly for all, with many midshipmen taking part in either snow skiing at Mt Buller, walking the steamy wilds of the Kokoda Trail or reaching the dizzy heights of pseudo birdie learning to glide, some midshipmen even went home!

The College settled quickly from the excitement of leave to the study routine of a new session.

The annual RANC v RMC sporting clash worked out very well, for RMC, as RANC did not shine that day, but the courageous RANC fighting spirit is hopeful for next year's home ground advantage.

The Creswell Cup, the almighty challenge, proved to be intense and a great source of humour for the Jazz and Review.

November loomed rapidly and brought with it exams. For each individual, there is a goal, be it to attend ADFA, experience HMAS *Watson*, pass out on time or experience leadership as a Class IIC, all have a common stepping stone, passing exams.

The stripe fever, anxious betting and speculation ended the day before the Passing Out Parade as the announcement of the CM and DMs for 1985 were made from IC.

Passing Out Parade, with its usual formality and ceremony provided a fitting memory for those who did pass out as it will always be their day to remember.

Operation Seatrain was fortunate enough to involve the Attack Class Patrol Boat, HMAS *Attack*, which made the operation highly successful.

1985—Well if it hadn't happened in 1984, then when was it going to happen? We welcomed a new skipper to the helm, Captain P. G. V. Dechaineux, and saw Captain Peter Ross depart HMAS *Creswell* to take command of our Flagship, HMAS *Stalwart*.

The New Entry doubled into life at the College and developed the College's Life Blood—the 'Divvy' spirit which flowed through the divisions and also helped in the development of their pride in the College.

Commander Pixley once again graced the shores of Jervis Bay with his presence for one of the most enjoyable events of the year—the Pixley Cup Beach Olympics. Commander Pixley travelled from his home in Queensland

and was impressed with the keen competition displayed and fine spirit of sportsmanship.

Most Class IIs were fortunate enough to have participated in an initiative exercise for two weeks where an HS 748 dropped the group at Walgett and given a route back to RANC by whatever means available, collecting certain data along the way. (But what was the population of the Gold Coast?)

RANC did extremely well in the ISCS and won the trophy for the first time in many years. The ISCAM championships was a great battle and the College ended up a close third.

June slid into the spotlight again and saw the exams take their toll on body and the Gunroom bar sales!

The College is heading towards ADFA in many ways, as the date of the first entry (January 1986) draws near. Although the College won't have the same academic responsibilities handled in the past, the undertaking of more shorter courses will make up for that. However, RANC will always be what it was to those who lived, competed for, worked in and occasionally disliked despite its changing role for the future.

ID NOTES

As the academic year begins to draw to a close and the urgency to hand in major essays, physics pracs and make plans for Christmas leave become more important (if not vital) let us all reflect on that breed of midshipmen who study for that evasive degree. The year so far has been very successful with many students obtaining good results in the mid year examinations (though some did find themselves more suited to the Creswell Course and the gunroom). No doubt this effort was a result of a conscientious, well organized timetable revolving between the 'rack' and academics block.

With the opening of the new Australian Defence Force Academy, many of us look forward with anticipation to the fact that we will be one of the first to graduate from there in years to come. The Academy will open a completely new concept to our training: as we leave our naval environment for a combined services establishment with our peers in the

other services, taking with us the values and customs that we have adopted during our time at *Creswell*, will ensure that the Navy 'mids' will set standards for the others to follow. The size and scope of the Academy will place the ID students in a new position as we put to use the wide spectrum of courses and ultra-modern facilities offered next year, such as the College link-up computer system, the abundance of engineering facilities, the endless sporting facilities, like the underground pistol range and an indoor swimming pool (no more cold mornings tackling the rigours of Jervis Bay for EMA in summer) also the Academy boasts a rather large gunroom (which will still provide an escape and haven from the rigours of study).

Though of course we will miss the environment of HMAS *Creswell* and its academic staff, who will be able to forget the style of such lecturers as Lieutenant Commander Buchanan and Lieutenant Wotton and their close affection they have for their pride and joy—the over-head projector.

To lump all degree students into one group is a serious mistake as is clearly evident in the character of each particular stream. Here we find the intrepid engineers, a very conscientious breed, who gain a minimum of sleep in order to sustain them for the following day's study; a group which no right-minded 'mid' should model himself on. Burning much midnight oil and living on cups of coffee, this group should be avoided. Scientists, on the other hand, at least pretend to have some conscientious instincts in them, but this is a complete fallacy as many attempt to sub-major in 'rackology'. Many a free period is used to study the phenomenon of deep sleep. Then there is the small but truly elite group—the artists. Sleeping during the day and embarking on his 'rigorous' study program by night, he is a unique character (as is obvious by looking at any cross section of BAs) going into a near coma when contemplating the amount of study needed to become an engineer, and never far from his rack, the BA is the example the others follow.

Each of the degree streamers claims to hold the key to success, ensuring there is never a dull moment. The ID class look forward to further

good results (and Christmas leave) in academics and with anticipation to their arrival at the Academy. Canberra beware!

CLASS IIC

1984/85 saw the largest Class IIC group in recent years, with many of the Degree Stream students 'seeing the light' and choosing to become professional naval officers in contrast to their humdrum University existence. These outsiders were readily accepted back into College life however, to form a close tight-knit unit of Class IIs, eager to meet the challenges of running the RANC.

After the arrival of the New Entry in January, the IICs, under the dubious leadership of Chief Midshipman Finn Blake and his warped bunch of cronies the DMs, Matt Brown, Greg Phelan, Jon White and Peter Quinn, quickly set about the task of turning young civilians into well-drilled, disciplined naval officers and it must be noted that in this regard we nearly succeeded.

On the sporting field, the Class IIs have performed exceedingly well this year with a number of Interservice representatives. Mark Todd had a great year in Rugby, playing both Interservice and for the Navy Colts team, which toured England. Jon White was a last-minute inclusion in the NSW Interservice Soccer team becoming only the second midshipman to do so. Peter Quinn, Greg Phelan, Phil Stanford and Iain Jarvie were all members of the College yacht crew that did so well in the 1984 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Classic.

The Class IIs have been stimulating and enjoying the social life of the College also, with the organization of four gunroom fancy-dress parties. All of these had themes, such as a New Year's Party in February, a 'Back to Academics' party, a 1950s Night and a 21st Century Night. With funds raised by raffles and bribes, the Gunroom Committee has managed to provide a most enjoyable social calendar for the mid's in 1985.

Academics proved little worry to most of us in mid-year 85, with our sights well and truly set on Passing Out Parade in December, but

one of our class, Greg Phelan, found the temptations of the 'Big Ship' too inviting and headed north towards more sunny climes, while Kevin Sharp stepped quickly into his not-yet-cold DMs stripe. As we continue to the end of the year the Class IIs also welcome back that rotund old campaigner and stand-up-if-you-can comedian Matt (Lilo)

Moncrieff, and his obnoxious rodent sidekick Steven (Mouse) O'Keefe, from their cushy Uni lives.

And so, as this writer signs off, it's full steam ahead for Passing Out Parade and then next year as real naval officers we get our first major course to do at . . . you guessed it—**SUNNY CRESWELL!**

CHAPEL NOTES

During 1984 plans were drawn up to combine our two Chapel buildings into one larger multid denominational Chapel. After seeing these plans sit on the shelf for a while we were pleased to receive the go-ahead for this scheme to be funded under the Community Employment Program. The new Chapel will provide seating for 120 and is designed to take advantage of the water views available from the present site. Completion date should be early in 1986.

In July we said farewell to Chaplain Dave O'Connor, who had ministered to the Roman Catholic congregation for two years. He left HMAS *Albatross* to take up a posting at HMAS *Cerberus* and we welcomed Chaplain Max Davis, recently returned from the Advanced Chaplains Course run by the United States Navy. Chaplain Simon Hubbard has continued as the resident Anglican Chaplain, with Chaplain Brian Daniels (Baptist) visiting from HMAS *Albatross*. Reserve Chaplains and civilian clergy have continued to assist from time to time.

During the year we welcomed informal visits by Bishop Harry Goodhew, Anglican Bishop of Wollongong and Bishop Geoffrey Mayne, recently appointed as Catholic Military Vicar.

The Sunday School has suffered some fluctuation in numbers this year with a number of families posting out. Nevertheless, it has continued to be well attended. Our thanks must go to Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Buchanan, Mrs Jane McCabe and Mrs Barbara Mort for their teaching efforts and to Mrs Leonie Abson for the provision of music. Chaplain Hubbard has continued his contact with the children of naval and other families through scripture teaching at Jervis Bay Primary School.

Through the Chapel Fund, we have continued to support Kirinkol, our World Vision boy in Kenya, in whom the Sunday School children have maintained a special interest. Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations combined to gather a special offering for the Ethiopia famine appeal.

Small groups have met at various times throughout the year for fellowship and Bible study. As always we have sought to be involved with local churches and Christian groups

within the community and have welcomed a good number of visitors to our own services. The Military Christian Fellowship has become better established in the area and a very successful day conference was held in Nowra in 1985.

Our thanks to all who have contributed in whatever form to the life of the Church here at HMAS *Creswell*.

JERVIS DIVISION—SESSION 2, 1984

After a wonderful two week leave period, we were all keen to make second session as successful (if not more successful) than the first.

We started the eternal Cock Division race with a good start thanks to the academic ability of a large percentage of the division last session.

The annual cross country saw Nigel Townsend put in a superb performance and Jervis gained a solid 3rd. This was followed up by another third in the Creswell Cup.

Jervis just failed to carry out DM Plath's life-long dream—to win the rugby and cricket trophy. We won the cricket trophy but had to be content with a three-way tie for first in the rugby.

Solaro Cup was a highlight of the year with Phil Stanford coxing 'Currambene', our flagship, to an easy victory. We are now the proud holders of a cup that we last held in 1980.

From all other stories we had, without doubt, the most eventful 'Exped'. The division, under the strict leadership of frustrated soldier Dave Luck, climbed Mt Pigeonhouse and spent an enjoyable few days at a cosy little campsite bordering a creek. 'Spud' Hamilton tried his hand at flying but came off with a sore back and a few bruises, quelling his 'Birdie' aspirations.

Jervis kept up its reputation as 'social division' with 'divi do's' almost every second week. We all enjoyed a Ladies Dining In Night, a Sydney 'breakout', and numerous other events.

Another highlight of the year was the announcement of dux's of the various courses. Greg Sammut taking engineering; Pete Leavy,

science; and a very surprised Adam Grunsell taking arts. This proved that Jervis, with all the time spent enjoying social functions and frequent victories in sport, were still able to excel in our academics.

No doubt the greatest event of the Eighty calendar was the awarding of the 1984 Second Session Cock Division. Jervis won! A very happy DM, Bob Plath, accepted the Trophy from Cook Division. It was due to leadership of the DM and the DO, Lieutenant Greg Mapson, that we had the spirit to take out the trophy. Many thanks for all their devotion.

All in all it was a very successful year for the Division with many things about the Navy, our chosen career, being drummed home and many good times had by all. The friendships were solid, the sporting field successful, the Quarterdeck the domain of Jervis marching, the academics fruitful and the year will stick fondly in our minds.

JERVIS DIVISION— SESSIONS 1 AND 2, 1985

The new 'Grubs' of Jervis Division thought that the 14th day of January 1984 was the darkest of their lives. A new career, a new life had a ring of uncertainty about it, but this was soon to change under the wing of DMIDN Brown. The first few weeks made up of primarily naval subjects also saw the beginnings of a long year of sport.

Events such as the Pixley Cup and Swimming Championships brought out and developed a strong spirit within the Division. There were many great efforts and we were narrowly beaten into fourth place on both occasions. But, this still did not deter the Division.

Sailing was a premier sport for the Division. MIDN Stanford and McHardie were our representatives in the Peter Sharp Memorial Cup which MIDN Stanford took out with superior sailing over the series. The whole division had a part to play in the Forster's Cup where we ran out convincing winners.

The Athletics Carnival, another major event on the calendar, saw a large amount of preparation done and tremendous performances on the day saw the Division

come off with a great second. The result was decided by the last few events where we were narrowly beaten into second. A fine effort by all concerned!

Divisional sport was a real mixture. There were some sports in which we were invincible and others where no amount of trying could defeat talent and skill. We tied with Phillip and Flinders in Rugby having missed a few vital players in our last game. It would be fair to say though, that we won more than we lost.

The Creswell Cup saw us come second to Phillip by a few seconds. A sustained performance by all participants brought us well into contention but we just missed out.

Combine all this sport with academics and professional naval training and Jervis certainly proved a winning Division—the fact that we were duly named Cock Division for the second consecutive session proves this fact. A marvellous feat with which we said goodbye to our old DO, Lieutenant Mapson, and welcomed our new one, Lieutenant Pedley. Both men and our senior sailor, Chief Rooks, have ably run the Division and have always been on hand to lend support.

Jervis was undoubtedly the most social division. Throughout the year, there were many and varied Divvy Do's as well as two extremely enjoyable Ladies Dining-In Nights. All functions were well supported by both the midshipmen and affiliated officers who always made up for a pleasant evening. Culture was always a finer point of the Division and the social activities of the Division reflected this—occasionally.

The amount of talking at Divvy Do's did not however carry over to debating where we pulled off a second. There were fine speeches made but alas, these were too few to capture the 'Golden Jaws' award.

Overall it has been a fortunate year for Jervis Division. On the brief occasions when we were not brilliant, we were certainly calculating, challenging and consistent, along with a great 'divvi-spirit'. The year will live long in the memories of all who were a part of Jervis Division—the good, the bad, the ups, the downs, but most of all the mateship that

was struck up between the Division's members. May this continue beyond 1985 as we struggle for 'Triumphs in our Talons'.

PHILLIP DIVISION

Session I 1985

The 14th January was a strange experience for most of us. Whisked away from our civilian lifestyles we discovered naval life. Quite a shock to the uninitiated, for most weren't used to working a full day. A lot happened in Phillip Division in the first few weeks, and as a result, a Divisional spirit was obtained that was surpassed by no other division.

Soon settling in, sport became a regular practice around the College, and Phillip proved itself to be a major cricketing force. With a great proportion of the First XI coming from the ranks of Phillip Division, we proved to be a major divisional team, coming out winners in many a divisional match.

Our first taste of the real Navy came with the STEP program and our sea day on HMAS *Brisbane*. The life at sea, whilst also being busy, seems to be very rewarding. Thus we took every opportunity to go on sea days on other ships of the Fleet. These included HMAS *Tobruk*, HMAS *Adelaide* and HMAS *Stalwart*.

On the social side, Phillip challenges any other division to out-do them at a divisional function. Whether it be a session on the beach with beer, pies and midnight oil or a sophisticated Ladies Dining-In Night, Phillip time and time again show their skill on the dance floor, or beach, under the leadership of none other than Chief Midshipman Blake and Divisional Midshipman White as his 2nd in Command. The College Mess Dinner was a slightly more reserved affair, however, Phillip did manage to revive the other divisions and an excellent time was had by all.

Well towards the end of session, our dancing shoes were put away as the text books came out. Exams were a worry at first, however, afterwards most were quite pleased with the results they obtained.

Unlike any other division, Phillip saw the end of first session without the loss of any of its members. However, with every rule, there is an exception, and in the final week of

session one, our own Midshipman Sharp was promoted to Divisional Midshipman of Cook Division—a position which he was most happy to accept.

So ended session one, and Phillip Division looks forward in anticipation to conquering the even more strenuous months of session two.

Upon returning from leave and getting back to College life, the aim for Phillip Division in this session was to get off the very bottom of the Cook Division ladder where we had unceremoniously dropped to in the previous session. In sport, Phillip had a good all-round combination. For the first time in a number of years, Phillip Division even beat someone in the Rugby, and went so far as to tie for first place for the trophy. The golf team was unbeatable and we wiped the slate clean. All in all, we won winter sport and nearly so in summer. We also won the session's Divisions and in the end we managed to lift ourselves to third place.

The weekend of 18 August was the first Ladies Dining-In Night held by Phillip Division in this year. It was the first such occasion for all the midshipmen and turned out to be quite a good weekend. The dinner itself was conducted in an orderly manner and with a half time break to ease springs, a few midshipmen found no place to return to—no cutlery, no glasses, no chair, nothing. Unfortunately, there were some short of partners, but most were not perturbed and brought a handsome supply of Shirley's No 17. During the adjournment to the Gunroom after dinner, some of the young ladies were seen to be in the company of a number of different midshipmen, and judging from the situation at the end of the night, there is still hope for most of us. All of the guests enjoyed themselves to the fullest, capping off a learning experience and a most enjoyable weekend.

The Creswell Cup was expected to be a good contest with Phillip confident of taking home the bacon. But this was not to be. Phillip blitzed the first few stages, like the canoeing, and obstacle course, and were slowly pegged back towards the end and finished a close second over the line, but well ahead of the rest.

However, a certain Phillip Division swimmer did not swim on the right side of the buoy, a minor technicality, but it was enough to get the whole Division disqualified and dropped to last. And they make this kind of person a DM the next year?

Early September saw the intake of the Supplementary List 2, who were a blessing in disguise to the Class Is as they took over most of the duties, cleaning stations and all the 'pain in the butt' jobs. They were accepted well into the division and provided some light moments, especially when they made new tracks through the bush and swamps during the ISEX.

As the year closed, we could reflect on a lot of memories as the 'Degs' go to HMAS *Watson* and the 'Crets' take charge of HMAS *Creswell*, with the SLs. May the next GL intake accomplish what Phillip Division 1984 did, and more.

COOK DIVISION SESSION II, 1984

After winning Cook Division in Session I for the second time in a row, Cook members were spurred on to work and hold that 'Cock Chook'. By the end of the year it was to prove a memorable year for Cook.

The beginning of the session our two new 'Cret' Course members, Greg Phelan and Lex Nankervis, proved that the degree stream courses can at times be a little hot to handle.

In sport, we began with a real bang by winning the Interdivision cross country on July 31 in which 16 of the first 47 places were from Cook Division. The runner of the day was John D'Alessandro, who managed 5th place. It was a great team effort by the whole division and a sign of greater things to come. In the other sports we certainly had our ups and downs: we won the hockey, basketball, tennis and softball, whilst our soccer, cricket, and volleyball teams were simply outmatched. The team spirit within our ranks swelled again with the memorable win in the *Creswell* Cup Obstacle Race. Again it was a real team effort in which the most notable events were Ross Taverner's rather unusual golfing habits, and that epic run up Captain's Beach by an exhausted Johnny Mead.

The 'C' team was to dwindle in size unfortunately as we said farewell to John D'Alessandro, Simon Lewis and Andrew Dreghorn to civvy street and we all wish them

the best for the future. By November, from 23 Class Is who joined in January, there were only 14 left . . . but this didn't include our implacable group of SLs who had joined in September. Steve Blenkinsopp, Jaimie Holland, Belinda Mitchell, Dave Roe and Alan Sweetran (two others left early). They proved an invaluable asset not only to cleaning stations, but also to our sports teams.

The year also saw the passing of two BATC courses, and we all hope Shane Thompson, Tony Sheehan and Ian Swift make it to gain their 'wings'.

And whilst on the subject of 'wings', the ICs managed to visit our once pride and joy—the carrier HMAS *Melbourne*, due soon for the scrapyard. The visit resulted in numerous HMAS *Melbourne* memorabilia floating around the deck. Shortly after this, our lovable Chief Mid, Michael Addison, scored a trip to Vila to crew the yacht 'Pacha' back to Jervis Bay in preparation for the 1984 Sydney-Hobart. Addo, Iain Jarvie, and Greg Phelan were all crew members for the race and despite anything they say, really enjoyed their trip to Tassie—indeed it was a real feat that they ever made it there at all in such appalling conditions. Well done fellas!

We shouldn't forget to mention some of the other memorable events of the session—Cook flag-bearers at Sussex Inlet (yes in the days when CPO Marsh was our divvy chief!) Syph Allen driving the PM and the Governor-General out to ships during the year; the College Mess Dinner (at which a certain Cook Class I forgot Mess etiquette) the ISEX for which we'll all remember Mouse O'Keefe; the Queen's Colours of RMC appearing mysteriously in Phil Triffit's car; the Jazz and Revue in which Thorny and Dave Favelle became pop stars; our divisional megalomaniac, Mouse, becoming DM for a week; and Dave Roe's commendation for his work in the SL course (even though the CO did have him worried at one stage!)

At the end of the session, we were still glad to come second in Cook Division because even though everyone had been after us this time, we still held together. Of course none of this great team effort could have happened without our illustrious Class IIs, our DM J. J. Peacock, CPOQMG Welten, and our CDO, Lieutenant Blake, USN.

Farewell and thanks too to John Bailly, 'Waxx' Waldie and Matt Jaeger who all passed out and joined the Fleet in December. Best of luck.

To round off 1984 nicely, we learnt at the dress-rehearsal for the Passing Out Parade the choice of Greg Phelan as DM for the next year and we're sure that big things will once again happen for Cook Division in 1985.

COOK DIVISION SESSION I AND II, 1985

1985 started well for Cook Division with the New Entry class boasting many talents in both sport and academics. This was later to prove correct as a few Divisional 'stars' went on to put their names in the record books . . . notably Rick Schulte won the Franklin Cup for best athlete (shared) after setting a new high jumping record of 1.95 metres. Jason Watson won the Morgan Shield (awarded to winner of 1500 m run) and also champion swimmer, with notable performance in 400 m freestyle, whilst Mark (Max) Lanham was runner up in the Carr Cup for tennis and won the doubles competition, the Burrell Cup. Max later went on to play Interservice tennis and is rated number 2 for the Navy.

The Division, as a team, pulled together well this year and it appears as though three is our lucky number (or unlucky as the case may be). We took 3rd place in all but hockey and softball, however this positioning in no way reflects the enthusiasm and spirit in which we entered all competitions. Our new T-shirts proved a great success with their domination over the other divisions' appearance in sporting and divisional turnouts and our supremacy in hockey and softball, both without a loss, were well rewarded with 1st placing for the two respective sports. In the Pixley Cup, Cook took out the novelty relay, the beach sprints and the 10-man swim relay whilst Jason (Watto) Watson retained the Iron Man for us.

It was not surprising to see numerous Cook members chosen to represent the College in College teams. Congratulations to Midshipmen Streeter, Hargan, Watson, Thompson, Rickards, Sompongkrunk, Lelievre, Nankervis, Lanham and DM Sharp for being awarded Full or Half Colours.

On the academic side, Cook again showed its supremacy with excellent results being awarded to most of the Division. With the continued hard work and study we have all put in this supremacy should be retained. Midshipman Wiltshire was awarded a Captain's Commendation and Midshipman Dunlop received a Director of Studies Commendation.

Debating in first session revealed many a hidden speaking talent and Andrew Manning, Nick Boyden and David Hargan deserve mention for their debate 'That Queensland should Secede from the Commonwealth' in which they dressed up as Joh and Flo and Russ Higgins . . . Cook came a very close second in the competition which was enjoyed by all.

PNT also provided Cook with an opening to yet another success with divisional sharpshooters Chris Jones and Jonathan Morris scoring highly in rifle and pistol shooting respectively whilst many high scores were achieved in week 1 seamanship.

Unlike other divisions, Cook did not suffer a spate of resignations from the new entry, losing only one. Our best wishes go out to Rick Schulte who resigned since he couldn't become a pilot due to excessive height, and to Greg Phelan our original DM who we hope will reach his ambition to sail around the world single-handed. Kevin Sharp took over the reigns as DM for second session and has led the division to many victories.

We also said goodbye to our Divisional Officer, Lieutenant Blake, USN. Congratulations to him on his recent promotion to Lieutenant Commander. We welcomed our new DO, Lieutenant O'Brien, also from the United States Navy, at a very enjoyable Divvy Do at Greenpatch and he has guided us all well the last few months.

Speaking of Divvy Do's, the division has enjoyed many excellent evenings and our Ladies Dining-In Nights deserve special mention since we believe we have the best Dining-In Nights in the College.

Thus, Cook Division has had a very enjoyable year, some of us look forward to going to the Academy next year, some to sea

and others to complete their final year of Diploma at Creswell but I'm sure we'll all keep in touch.

Finally, always remember . . .

'You're not even till you're one up'

FLINDERS DIVISION

Second Session 1984

The beginning of second session 1984 saw Flinders Division improve their position on the Cock Division ladder by moving to third position. The Division was in high spirits after returning from mid-year leave, and it was good to see that the excellent Divisional spirit fostered during session One was still there. Life went on much as it had through the first half of the year, with Napes (the Divisional 'Westie') making his presence felt (such a loud voice for such a little man, still I suppose they breed them loud in Parramatta—they have to make themselves heard above the throaty roars of the many Toranas.) AJ was also noticed by continuing to exit in his own unique style, and offering 'amusing' jokes to lighten up our moods. As in first session, the gunroom continued to see the inside of Bob Humphries' mouth as XXXX after XXXX went to join their ancestors. Flinders Division still managed to head the divisions' list, winning many divisions throughout the session. The College cross country was held this session and Flinders came a very close second to Cook, with 'Flash' Gordon, Milton Tresby and Frithy leading the way. Meanwhile Gudgie, Beau, and the DM (Mick Collins) were doing extremely well in the squash tournament. Another area that Flinders did rather well in was . . . 'REMEDIAL FITNESS TRAINING' with 'Finny' Finlayson, Wolfgang Miko, 'Ercon' McLaren, 'Napes' and Bill Jacomb being some of the inaugural members of the club. However, it is to their credit that all of these gentlemen left the club after a month. Skinna, Gudgie, Ando and DJ also did well in the various races that were held during the session. All in all, Flinders had a reasonably successful session in the sporting department.

Second session also saw the arrival of seven new arrivals to the Division—the SLs, who then proceeded to acquire their boards very quickly (well, most of them) and settle into the College and Division. Chris Carroll certainly

provided the deck and particularly the SLs (who had to endure his sense of humour in class as well) with hours of amusement.

The Division had many enjoyable Divvy Do's throughout the session, including our final one at Coolangatta where we met the 1985 version of the Flinders DO, Lieutenant Clinton Thomas, and had a farewell party to our trusty 1984 DO, Lieutenant Mike Deeks. It was also at this Divvy Do that Lefty, the Divisional Birdie, provided the DO with photographic evidence that birdies and submariners can get on with each other, a point of conjecture between the two for many a month.

Skinna, Gudgie and the DO spent the last three months of 1984 preparing the College challenger 'Pacha' for the Sydney to Hobart. We wish them and the rest of the crew the best of luck.

Finally, the session came to an end with the good news that everyone in the Division would be either continuing on at RANC next year or joining the illustrious ranks of the University midshipmen who live at HMAS *Watson*.

First Session 1985

Well, 1985 had just started when the Navy gathered up 25 of us and threw us at HMAS *Creswell* to be greeted by five GLs and a handful of SLs with a bent, to what seemed to us in our naivety, to make life difficult.

However, having learnt to wash and iron, we started inter-divisional competition, winning the Pixley Cup on Australia Day for our first taste (and by no means our last) of Pusser's cake. Flinders then proceeded to inflict regular defeats on the rest of the College in sport, taking Cock Division points in the swimming, athletics and the tug-of-war, winning without loss the cricket and Australian Rules and putting up convincing displays in all other sport.

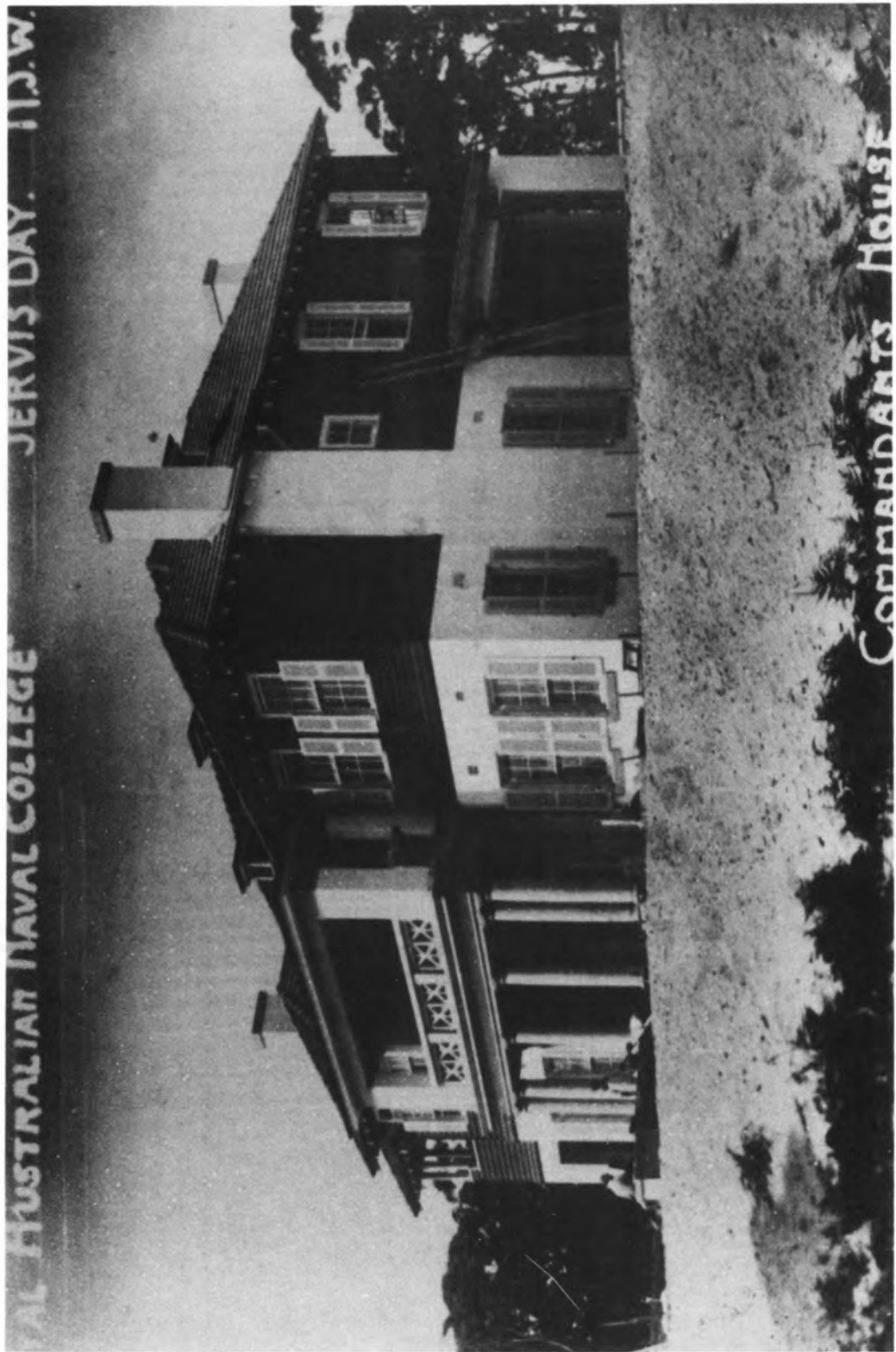
Divisional sporting heroes were Simon Gregg and Michael Harris (swimming), Tim Watson (athletics), our DO Lieutenant Thomas, Clayton Moulds and Phil Roy (Australian Rules) just to name a few. For every sport it seemed there was a good nucleus for a team which with the added enthusiasm of the not so talented, made for good results on the field of play.

The counterbalance however, was our last place in Divisions and the mixed results of PNT. A lift in either of these could have given us Cock Division.

Flinders started late on the social scene. Our first 'Do' was a beauty at Links House. Others since have been just as successful, the diversity of the members of the Division contributing to the fun, yet not detracting from the

solidarity of the premier Division. However, as exams approached the 'Do's' became quieter as the cramming began.

Thus, we came the closest of seconds to Jervis in the Cock Division stakes. With a little more consistency, second session could see us take out the last College Cock Division, as we presently know it.



WILLIAM ROOKE CRESWELL

Regarded as the 'Father' of the Royal Australian Navy, William Rooke Creswell was born on 20 July 1852 in Gibraltar, where his father was a postal official responsible for the receipt and distribution of mails and despatches from England to Gibraltar and the Mediterranean.

In January 1866, aged 13½ years, he joined the training ship *Britannia* and on completion of his training, was appointed as a midshipman to HMS *Phoebe* a frigate, in which he sailed round the world.

He became a Sub-Lieutenant on 20 October 1871 and later joined HMS *Midge* then operating against pirates near Penang. His promotion to Lieutenant on 16 September 1873 had been accelerated for his work in these operations.

Subsequently, he was invalided at home with a bad attack of fever and, on recovery he finally joined HMS *London*—a two decker converted screw ship stationed at Zanzibar as a depot ship for the smaller naval vessels operating against the slave traders. This, he says, was the only active naval work going on at that time with hope of promotion: in this Creswell was to be sadly disappointed.

At the end of his term of active service in the anti-slavery operations, he mentions that, although he and Lieutenant O'Neill were thanked by Lord Salisbury for their work, they had little family or other influence which might have helped gain the coveted step in promotion and that: 'our own Captain's interest in our doings was little more than lukewarm'.

Before leaving Zanzibar, Creswell heard of his father's death: this change for the worse in the family fortune and other considerations made him decide to leave the Navy and try his luck in Australia, where he had visited as a midshipman in 1869. In 1879, as a Lieutenant (retired) with six years seniority, he landed again on these shores with a younger brother to seek their fortune.

In the years that followed, Creswell described how he took part in exploratory expeditions to the Northern Territory and twice went overland with stock from

Northern New South Wales to far North Queensland. During one period of 18 months he slept only once under a roof.

In 1885 Commander John Walcot, the Captain of the South Australian warship *Protector*, an old friend and former shipmate of Creswell, offered him the appointment as first Lieutenant of the ship, which he accepted.

After joining *Protector* on 24 October 1885, Creswell commented: 'To while away the many solitary evenings which, as a bachelor fell to my lot, I began to give shape to some ideas on the subject of Australian Defence and put them on paper'.

He also wrote a series of articles on naval defence for the Adelaide 'Register'. In 1888 in Adelaide, Creswell married Adelaide Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Justice Stone.

In due course, he became Naval Commandant South Australia and Captain of the *Protector*, holding these appointments until 1900.

Federation

On 1 January 1901, all the Colonies were federated as the Commonwealth of Australia. On 1 March of that year the Australian Commonwealth Defence Act was passed, which transferred, in principle, all the Colonial Naval forces ships and establishments to the newly formed Commonwealth; these, however, continued to be administered under State Acts and Regulations until 1904.

Under the Naval Agreement, the Australian Colonies and New Zealand paid the Imperial Government an annual subsidy to provide and man a special group of sea-going ships, known as the Australian Auxiliary Squadron, for the protection of the floating trade in Australasian waters and the defence of certain ports and coaling stations. The ships were under the sole control and orders of the Commander-in-Chief Australian Station, but were to be retained within the limits of the Station and only employed otherwise by consent of the Colonial Governments.

On 28 September 1901, from the Naval Staff Office, Brisbane, Creswell wrote his historic

report on 'The Best Method of Employing Australian Seamen in the Defence of Commerce and Ports'.

In it he attacked the Naval Agreement, advocated the building of a special type of vessel for Australian Defence and the development of a Naval Reserve. He proposed also the establishment of schools for training. His report created widespread interest. The Melbourne 'Age' said in a leading article on 20 December 1901—'The Australian Navy is not a mere sentiment. It is a policy, and a wise policy too'.

An Innovator

Creswell made Australian Communication history in 1903 when he pioneered a successful ship-to-shore radio transmission. Already interested in the new Marconi wireless telegraph, he attended a lecture and a small demonstration in 1902 given by Mr C. E. Barton, an Electrical Engineer at the Brisbane Technical College.

After technical help from Mr Hesketh, Chief Mechanical Engineer-Electric Telegraph Department and Mr Smith, Chief Mechanist-Electric Telegraph Office (who was also a Sub-Lieutenant in the Queensland Naval Brigade) the Navy was ready.

Gayundah fitted with a high bamboo foretop-mast to aid transmission, proceeded to Moreton Bay with Creswell in command.

In St Mary's churchyard at Kangaroo Point, was a shed with wireless equipment and alongside it a 130 feet high mast with the aerial for receiving.

On Friday 10 April 1903 the Brisbane 'Courier' reported that *Gayundah* and *Paluma* were exercising in Moreton Bay and, quote: 'Last night the following message was received by pigeon post from our special representative on board the *Gayundah*:

Gayundah and *Paluma* anchored one and a half miles south of Tangalooma Point. Weather hot, perfect communication maintained with Marconi apparatus—Marconi pole stripped to refit as it is slightly bent'.

The Commonwealth Defence Act of 1903 came into force on 1 March 1904 and, in the first Naval Forces List of the Commonwealth of Australia dated 30 September 1904, Captain W. R. Creswell CMG (RN retired) is shown as

Naval Officer Commanding (Acting) of the Naval Forces of the Commonwealth, also Naval Commandant, Queensland.

Thus, command of the Commonwealth Naval Forces (later to become the Royal Australian Navy) first flowed from the historic Naval Staff Office in Edward Street, Brisbane opposite the Botanical Gardens.

In an amending Act to the Defence Act of 1903, the Administration formed on 12 January 1905, and as Director of Naval Forces, Creswell took over the following 12 vessels from the States:

VICTORIA. Turret ship *Cerberus*, torpedo boats *Countess of Hopetown*, *Childers*, *Lonsdale* and *Nepean* and picket boat *Gordon*.

QUEENSLAND. The gunboats *Gayundah* and *Paluma*, torpedo boats *Midge* and *Mosquito*.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Cruiser *Protector* and one torpedo boat.

As Director, Creswell was also a member of the Defence Council which met in Melbourne on 12 May. The Minister for Defence presented a minute to the Council which stressed the need for garrison, field forces, fixed defences and floating harbour defences. Until these were attended to, creation of a fleet for coastal defence was not justified.

In 1909, Alfred Deakin became Prime Minister and Australia was represented at the Conference by the Honourable J. F. G. Foxton, Minister without portfolio, who had with him Captain Creswell and Colonel Bridges. On 19 August, after the Conference, a meeting was held between Admiralty and Australian representatives at which, it was agreed provisionally with Admiralty proposals, that Australia should provide a fleet unit to consist of:

One Armoured Cruiser (new 'Indomitable' class)—later termed battle cruisers
Three Unarmoured Cruisers ('Bristol' class)
Six Destroyers ('River' class) three Submarines (C Class)

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST—£3 695 000

(The armament of the 'Indomitable' class was 8 × 12" guns, that of the 'Bristols' 8 × 6" guns. Speed of these and the 'River' class destroyers, 25 knots).

The Commonwealth Parliament promptly approved the Naval proposals and sent cables in December 1909 requesting the Admiralty to arrange, without delay, construction of the armoured cruiser ('Indefatigable' type) also of the three unarmoured cruisers ('Bristol' type). As to the six destroyers, three were under construction at the Clyde and it was proposed to build the remaining three in Australia.

1910

On 7 March, the Government accepted a tender from John Brown & Co for the building of the battle-cruiser. In July, Andrew Fisher, whose Government had been returned to power in April, cabled the Admiralty asking that two of the 'Bristol' class cruisers be built in England and tenders called for unwrought material for the third cruiser which would be built in Australia.

In December, on Admiralty recommendation, tenders were accepted for building two 'E' class submarines in place of the three 'C' class previously considered.

On 10 December the Torpedo Boat Destroyers *Yarra* and *Parramatta* arrived in Melbourne—the first units of Australia's new Navy to be completed.

1911—The Royal Australian Navy

On 11 March the Naval Board was reconstituted with the Minister of Defence as President. Creswell, now promoted to Rear Admiral and knighted three months later, became First Naval Member, Captain Bertram Chambers RN and Engineer Captain Clarkson being the Second and Third Naval Members respectively. The Finance and Civil Member was Staff Paymaster Henry Manistry RN also a naval officer.

The first Navy Office was established almost opposite the Law Courts in Lonsdale House, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

1913

The Naval College, temporarily situated at Osborne House, Geelong, Victoria, was officially opened with 28 cadet midshipmen on 1st March in the historic year. Transferred to Jervis Bay in 1915, it was commissioned, appropriately, HMAS *Creswell*.

It was a great event on 4 October when the ships of the Royal Australian Navy entered Sydney harbour. They were the battle cruiser *Australia*, wearing the flat of Rear-Admiral Sir

George Patey, MVO, the cruisers *Melbourne*, *Sydney* and *Encounter* with the destroyers *Warrego*, *Parramatta* and *Yarra*. Many messages of welcome were received; one from Rudyard Kipling read: 'Carry the word to my sisters—to the Queens of the North and South, I have proven faith in the heritage, by more than word of mouth'.

All Naval Establishments in Sydney together with HMS *Penguin* (which became HMAS *Penguin*) were handed over to the Naval Board on 4 July. Admiral Sir George King-Hall, Commander-in-Chief, Australian Station, struck his flag when Rear Admiral Patey arrived, thus bringing to an end Admiralty responsibility for the Station.

The new submarines AE1 and AE2 were ready for the passage to Australia and the cruiser *Brisbane* and destroyers *Torrens*, *Swan* and *Huon* were building in Australia.

War 1914

Ten months later the country was at war, all naval forces were placed at the disposal of the Admiralty and the Australian Fleet Unit paid early dividends. *Australia* sailed at once in search of the German Pacific Squadron as the battle cruiser was the only ship of the line capable of facing the armoured cruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*. In a letter written on 18 August 1914 Admiral Von Spee who commanded the Squadron says that *Australia* alone was superior to his whole squadron and that it was his plain duty to give her a wide berth.

Retirement

In 1919, after receiving a second knighthood, Rear-Admiral Sir William Creswell KCMG, KBE, retired from the Navy and left Melbourne to live in his country home in Victoria. In 1922 he was promoted to Vice-Admiral on the retired list.

He wrote his early memoirs, which he finished in 1931. These covered his service in the Royal Navy from 1866 to 1879 and related some of his experiences during the first years after his arrival in Australia.

Sir William Creswell died on 20 April 1933. He was survived by Lady Creswell, two sons and a daughter, who, as Mrs Noel Vigne, discovered the manuscript of her father's memoirs and, in the 1960's arranged for publication.

Epilogue

As a young Lieutenant of 27, deeply disappointed, he left the Naval Service forever—as he thought, to settle in Australia. For six years he travelled through vast areas of his new homeland from which he gained considerable first hand knowledge.

Then came the offer, at first declined and later accepted, to join *Protector* in South Australia. Here he began to wield his influential pen which was so ably used in succeeding years to further his constant endeavours and which so greatly influenced Australia's future naval history.

As Admiral Creswell wrote in the last pages of his memoirs: 'When I entered the lists to fight for the cause of Australian Naval Defence, I little thought of the magnitude of the struggle in which I had engaged. In point of fact the battle was destined to be waged for three and twenty years—no less'.

So ended the extraordinary career of this great Australian Naval Patriot.



LSPT Simmons instructing LEUT Probert to abseil off Governor's Head



LSPT Simmons instructing MIDN Craft to abseil



MIDN Craft abseiling off Governor's Head



MIDN Argar abseiling off Governor's Head

ADVENTURE TRAINING

Numerous expeditions were undertaken during September 1984 and August 1985, involving all midshipmen and short courses.

Expeditions are usually held over a five day period in which they travel to Morton National Park at a location called Yalwal Creek which is situated on the Shoalhaven River. This locality is ideal for expedition training.

Classes are transported from HMAS *Creswell* to a drop off area along Yalwal Road in which exped staff meet and brief them on the remaining journey to Yalwal Creek, approximately 13 kilometres.

Once they arrive at Yalwal Creek they are directed in groups to various camp sites where they remain for the next five days.

Tuesday morning groups meet at the base camp where they are directed to the various activities for that day.

Canoeing is conducted on the Shoalhaven River, including ditching drills and safety procedures; if rain has fallen in the area, the return journey can be most exciting because of the rapids.

Bush navigation/radio procedures are also taught. Students learn to read map symbols and transmit grid references to one another, prior to circumnavigating Pennikin Hill which takes approximately four hours. During the exercise, various first-aid procedures are carried out, eg the treatment of snake bites and the making of bush stretchers, etc.

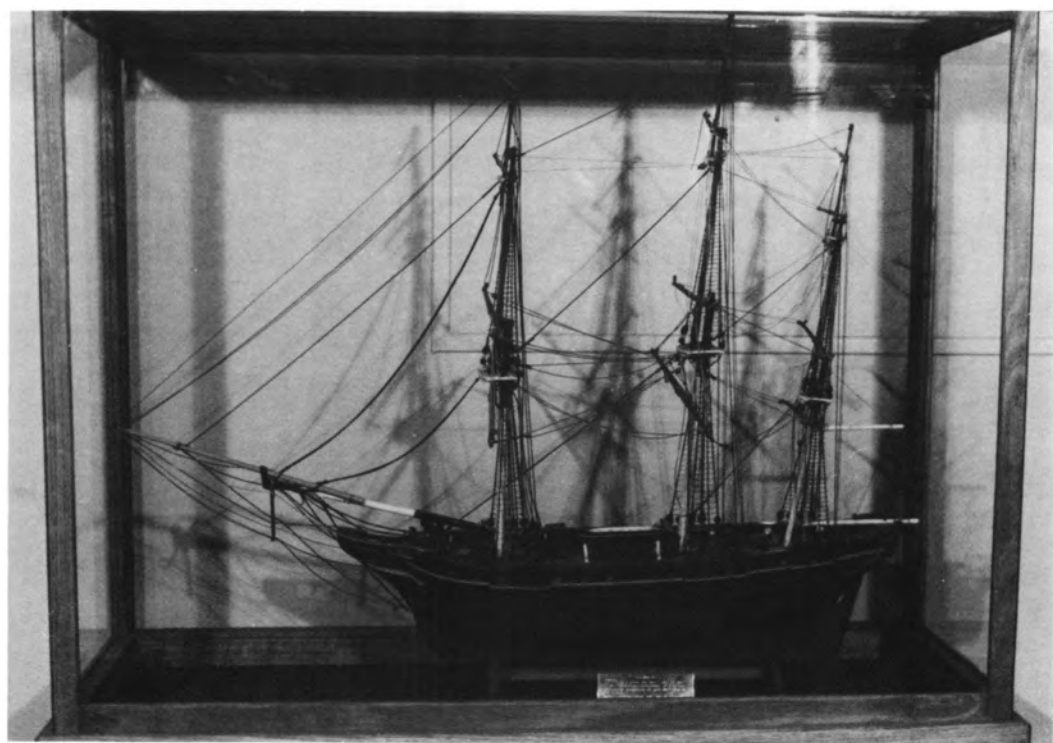
Abseiling, which is most popular, is carried out off the cliffs near the base camp. The College has a very good range of equipment and this always proves to be a most enjoyable day.

During their free time students improve the camp sites and learn about bush hygiene. Thursday night brings a change from ration packs. A stew cooked up by two exped staff and a few songs around the camp fire.

Friday is clean up day, returning camp areas to their natural state, walking out to the pick up area and back to the College.



'Kabuto'



The 'Elizabeth'

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL COLLEGE MUSEUM

Over the past 12 months, a number of new exhibits have been added to the Museum. The Commander of the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Squadron which visited Jervis Bay, Rear Admiral Itoh presented a Kabuto, a miniature traditional warriors helmet and sword, only the fourth such presentation thus far in a goodwill program which has included the following Officer Training Establishments in other countries: the US Naval Academy Annapolis in 1982; the Royal Naval College Dartmouth in 1983 and the Brazilian Naval Academy in 1984.

A new teak case has been constructed to better display one of the Museum's older exhibits, a model of the Mail Packet 'Elizabeth' built in 1810 by her ship's carpenter Thomas Treganowan and subsequently presented to the College by his grandsons. The 'Elizabeth', which used to run between Falmouth and Lisbon has been joined by an accurate model of Cook's 'Endeavour' built to a similar scale and accurately rigged.

These recent acquisitions join a small but valuable collection which includes the uniform of Admiral J. A. Collins, KBE, CB, a member of the first entry into the Naval College in 1913 and subsequently the first Australian to hold the position of what is now Chief of Naval Staff.

Captain Hunter's telescope is displayed alongside a Cameo of Commodore Goodenough (1830-1875), the Commodore of the Australian Squadron of the Royal Navy killed by the inhabitants of Santa Cruz while on a mission of exploration in 1875. Also, a plate used by Nelson and a walking stick used by Vice Admiral Sir William Rourke Creswell, KCMG, KBE, and constructed from the teak deck of the Australian Monitor 'Cerberus' form part of a display which is designed to increase awareness of the importance of maritime history in the development of Australia.



Australian Rules Team

Back Row (L to R): MIDN S. Purcell, MIDN L. Nankervis, ABWTR T. Hunter, MIDN M. S. Waddingham, ABMTP G. Goodall, ABWTR P. Manley, ABCK G. Harnett, MIDN P. R. Steel, MIDN M. Taylor

Middle Row (L to R): MIDN J. Mead, LSSE S. Wacker, MIDN P. Roy, ABCK Wright, POMTP I. Burn (Vice-Captain) MIDN P. Barnes, ABCK R. Brown, MIDN M. Korsten

Front Row (L to R): MIDN A. Aspinall, MIDN D. Dykstra, POWTR M. Dawe (Manager), LEUT C. W. Thomas (Captain/Coach), ABCK P. Green, LSWTR S. Flockton, MIDN R. Bolden

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL 1985

The 1985 Australian Football season heralded the HMAS *Creswell* 'Panthers' return to the South Coast Australian Football League after some years in absence. The return signified not only a return to the SCAFL but to the first grade competition. There was a deal of scepticism from various clubs within the league about the RANCs ability to perform successfully at an 'A' grade level. However, all doubters were soon silenced as the 1985 season unfolded as the most successful year ever.

Training commenced in February and after a short but hard build-up HMAS *Creswell* entered the pre-season knock-out carnival held in Nowra. Although being knocked out narrowly in the second round, it was very pleasing to see some new talented players emerge and some good team combination. The first game followed the next week with seven first grade sides making up the competition. The season comprised two rounds of home and away games and a final four series.

In the first round, HMAS *Creswell* displayed a great deal of application and, although initially many of the players were unsure how successful the side would be, or could be, this uncertainty disappeared as the 'Panthers' wins began to accumulate. After the first round it was very clear that the 'Panthers' had the potential to defeat any other side in the competition.

At the end of the first round HMAS *Creswell* had won five games and suffered only one defeat which was at the hands of Bateman's Bay. RANC stood third only by percentages from Bateman's Bay and Bomaderry.

The second round was as successful as the first with five wins and one loss again. This time Bomaderry defeated HMAS *Creswell* narrowly in the last minor round game of the season. This meant after leading the competition for most of the second half of the season HMAS *Creswell* slipped once again to 3rd position.

After a 'see-sawing' preliminary final against Bomaderry, RANC emerged as victors by 18 points. This was another example of the so-called 'under dogs' prevailing because of a tremendous team effort.

The grand final was poised to be an extremely close and hard-fought game with both Bateman's Bay and the College scoring wins over each other in the home and away games. It was apparent that the 'Panthers' had made it to the grand final more so on determination, effort and endeavour with a number of games being won by the narrowest of margins. The Bay had consistently won its games by larger margins. HMAS *Creswell* did not let this psychological edge effect its resolute attitude however, after a very close struggle for over three quarters the 'Seahawks' kicked a number of crucial goals in the later stages of the game and unfortunately no sufficient reply could be found. It was a disappointing end to a highly successful season.

Lieutenant Clint Thomas won the association Best and Fairest (Tumbridge Medal). This is the first time an RANC player has won this award. The runner up was also a College player, ABCK Gary Harnett, who polled the same number of votes, however took second on a countback.

Key members of the side this year included the defence of LSSE Steve Wacker, ABWTR Peter Manly, ABMTP Gary Woodall, and Midshipman Michael Waddingham, and the centre and followers, Lieutenant Clint Thomas, ABCK Gary Harnett, POMTP Ian Burns, ABCK Paul Green and Midshipman Mark Korsten. Key forwards were POWTR Martin Dawe and ABCK Raymond Brown. A special note of thanks must go to POWTR 'Marty' Dawe for his fantastic work behind the scenes, and to the coach Lieutenant Clint Thomas.



Gold Medal Winners
L to R: Neville Mader, Mark Korsten, Steven Miller, Wayne Gordon, Paul Biess, Jason Watson



Long Jump Winner: MIDN Gordon



MIDN Watson, Captain Dechaineux and Mrs Dechaineux



High Jump Winner: MIDN Alex Howes

ATHLETICS

The two main events on the 1985 athletics calendar were the RANC Championships and the Interservices Colleges Athletics Meeting (ISCAM). The former was held on 16 March and consisted of competition between the four divisions and two teams made up of university midshipmen. As was expected, when midshipmen don their divisional colours, competition is intense. In some events, such as the pole vault, more spirit was evident than

Trophy

Fegen Cup (4 × 100 m Relay)
Smythe Cup ('A' Hurdles)
Morgan Shield ('A' 1500 m)
E. W. Carr Trophy ('A' 100 m)
Clarke Cup (Shotput)
Dowling Shield ('A' 400 m)
Evan Trophy (5000 m)
Grimwade Cup
Franklin Trophy (Champion Athlete)
and One Pint Pewter

skill, but nevertheless the day provided entertainment and spectacle to the many on-lookers. Two RANC records were broken being the high jump by Richard Schulte, jumping a height of 1.95 metres, and the javelin where Michael Rossendell threw the javelin 53.1 metres. At the day's end the 20 university midshipmen were too strong for the other divisions winning the overall competition. The following trophies were awarded during the carnival:

Winner

Flinders Division
MIDN Gordon
MIDN J. Watson
MIDN Mader
MIDN Biess
MIDN Korsten
MIDN Millar
University Division—2D
Two-way tie

MIDN Gordon—1st 110 m Hurdles
1st Triple Jump
2nd 400 m
MIDN Schulte—1st Discus
1st High Jump
2nd 110 m Hurdles

ISCAM

On Friday 22 March the RANC athletics team journeyed to the nation's capital to participate in ISCAM on the Saturday. The carnival was held at the National Athletics Stadium which was being upgraded in preparation for the World Cup Athletics meeting to be held in October.

On Saturday morning, the team visited the stadium to get the feel of the synthetic surface and to have a light warm up. The competition was held in the afternoon and was preceded by a marching display by the RMC band.

The five Colleges competing were RANC, RMC, OCS, RAAFA and ECS. RANC started well, picking up a bronze in 100 m A grade and the 100 m hurdles. These were followed by a powerful run by Mark Korsten in the 800 m A grade. He won in a time of 1 minute 58.3 seconds. He added to this performance by picking up a silver medal in the 400 m later in the day. Our next medal was achieved by Richard Schulte in the high jump by taking a bronze and shortly afterwards by Michael Rossendell performing brilliantly in the javelin and winning a gold with a throw of 48.08 m.

Other good performances included silver medals by Neville Mader in 200 m A grade, Richard Schulte in the discus, and Steven Miller in the 5000 m. These helped RANC move into second place with only one event to go, the 4 × 100 m relay. Unfortunately ECS finished ahead of us and took the points necessary to put us in third place.

The final results were:

1st	RMC	71 points
2nd	ECS	52 points
3rd	RANC	48 points
4th	OCS	44 points
5th	RAAFA	25 points

The following individual results were achieved:

MIDN Korsten:	Gold—800 m; Silver—400 m
MIDN Rossendell:	Gold—Javelin
MIDN Schulte:	Silver—Discus; Bronze—High Jump
MIDN Mader:	Silver—200 m A; Bronze—100 m A
MIDN T. Watson:	Silver—200 m B; Bronze—100 m B
MIDN Miller:	Silver—5000 m
MIDN Gordon:	Bronze—Triple Jump Bronze—110 m Hurdles
MIDN Schulte:	Bronze—4 × 100 m Relay B Keough McCormack Streeter

Colours for athletics were awarded largely on the achievements at ISCAM and were as follows:

Full Colours: MIDN Rossendell, MIDN Gordon, MIDN Korsten, and MIDN Schulte.
Half Colours: MIDN T. Watson and MIDN Mader.



Basketball Team

Back Row (L to R): MIDN M. Wise, MIDN S. Gregg, LEUT R. Fletcher (Coach), MIDN D. Burling, MIDN G. Swinden

Front Row (L to R): MIDN D. Hargan, MIDN S. Dunlop, MIDN P. Barnes, MIDN A. Streeter (Captain), MIDN J. Simpson

RANC BASKETBALL TEAM

The participation of an RANC team in the Shoalhaven Basketball Association winter competition began with a slow start but after many teething problems, the team settled down into a cohesive group. A lack of experienced players produced some headaches and this was further exacerbated by not being able to run the same team each week due to the multitude of other commitments.

During the season, skills gradually improved and the players began to know each others' game but although matches were extremely close RANC managed to only come up with two wins for the season.

Credit must be paid, though, to all players for their attitude and dedication throughout the season for even with the occasional absence of the best players, the team rose as a group to meet these demands and put in a very determined effort each week.

One of the main problems experienced by the team was a lack of height coupled with the inexperience of using this height to advantage. We unfortunately lost out two 'giants' midway through the season—Able Seaman 'Piney' Pyne posted to HMAS *Canberra* and MIDN Richard Schulte resigned. 'Piney' was possessed with natural ball handling skills and used his height well which in turn made the other players more determined to achieve the same level. Although our tallest player, Richard at 6' 4" still required more experience both were sorely missed when they departed.

One of our more experienced players was MIDN David Hargan who although small in stature was big on ability. He was the highest point scorer in the season, and many a time his quickness and agility perplexed the opponents. He was well rewarded for his efforts, by the Association, in being nominated runner-up in the Best and Fairest Player Award for our grade. The teams' congratulations go to him on an excellent season.

Our other very experienced player for this season has been MIDN Alex Streeter. During the competition, Alex captained the side and provided every assistance to the coach Lieutenant Roz Fletcher, in managing and coaching the team. He has excellent ball skills

and although sometimes a little impetuous guided his team well and led by his own motivation and expertise.

Both David and Alex were awarded Full Sporting Colours for basketball on completion of the Winter Sports program.

Other regulars in the team, who performed admirably during the season were MIDN Simon Gregg, Darren Burling and Peter Barnes. Their determination and dedication to improve in all aspects of the game provides a good chance for the team to come very close to winning the summer competition in 'A' Reserve. MIDN Malcolm Wise and Greg Swinden also deserve a mention, for although they didn't have much of a run during the season due to their inexperience, it was comforting to the players on the court, knowing there were reserves on the bench when needed. Late arrivals to the team were MIDN Jimmy Simpson and Simon Dunlop. Their new style and enthusiasm boosted the team immensely.

With the trials for the summer competition having just completed, all augurs well for a very successful season.

CRICKET

The HMAS *Creswell* College Cricket Team, under the management of Lieutenant Nicol, performed reasonably well during the 1984-85 season, in both the organised matches with teams from other schoolboy colleges, and the all-important matches against Navy Office and the team from Naval Support Command.

The College side didn't play in a formal competition but against teams from the Sydney and local area. Some of the teams were: Old Cranbrookians, Chevalier College Bowral, and Sydney Grammar. Results were mixed. However, good wins were posted over Navy Office from Canberra and the Naval Support Command.

The season saw some excellent personal efforts, these coming from Jon White (Captaincy and batting), Paul Biess (batting and bowling) Andrew Keough (batting and bowling) and Adam Goodall (bowling). All of these efforts were rewarded with either full colours (White) or half-colours (Biess, Keough, and Goodall). Other permanent team

members included Midshipmen Todd, Speldewinde, Wood, Gilbert, Frith, Harbot, Plath and O'Leary. Special mention should be made to Midshipmen Mathers and Steel who consistently assisted with the umpiring throughout the season.

Overall, the season was enjoyable for all who participated and most are looking forward to another in 1985-86.

CROSS-COUNTRY

The highlights of the cross-country season consisted of the usual two events, the RANC Cross-Country Championships and the McCaffrey Challenge held between the RANC and Nowra Amateur Athletics Association.

RANC Championships

In breathless anticipation, the competitors crouched at the starting line. Each moment added to the silent urging for the starter to begin the race. Slowly Captain Dechaineux raised the pistol, spoke 'take your marks . . .' and then a firey crack began the 1985 RANC Cross-Country Challenge. At stake was Captain R. H. Walter's Cup, first donated in 1919 and currently held by Cook Division.

After a hard-fought and gut-wrenching team effort, the 1985 winners were the 'mighty green men' (ie) Phillip Division. Final divisional placings were Phillip (1st), Cook (2nd), Flinders (3rd) and Jervis (4th), whilst the first individuals home were MIDN Mark Korsten (Jervis) Lieutenant Clint Thomas (Flinders DO) and MIDN Phil Stanford.

McCaffrey Challenge

The close competition of recent years was not to be when, alas, the Nowra AAA swamped the RANC runners. Results were as follows: Nowra AAA 166 points; HMAS *Creswell* 139 points (based on 1st ten runners home)

Strong performances from HMAS *Creswell* included LS Applegate (19.32:1) and MIDN Korsten (19.50:1).

Marathons run by RANC personnel

Yes, the ultimate test in long distance running, the marathon was attempted (and completed) by four College personnel. The results achieved by these men, who you may consider as either very courageous or totally insane, are as follows:

Lieutenant Adrian Wotton—Interservice

Marathon (Sydney)—3.06:59; MIDN Jason Watson—Adelaide Marathon—3.28:01; Dr Harold Kemp—Adelaide Marathon—3.35:12; Lieutenant Glenn Bridgart—Adelaide Marathon—3.36:11.

HOCKEY SEASON 1985

1985 was a good year for hockey. HMAS *Creswell* entered two teams in the local competition (Shoalhaven Men's Hockey Association) being a 'firsts' team and a combined team with players from HMAS *Albatross*.

The HMAS *Creswell*/HMAS *Albatross* team played well throughout the season providing valuable game experience for participants. So great was their improvement that they held our *Creswell* 'firsts' team to a one all draw at the season's end.

The first's team was more successful in the competition resulting in fourth position. After a resounding victory just before the finals (a five-two victory over Shoalhaven Heads) all looked positive for a good finals round. In the finals we were unlucky not to progress past the semi-final after a close game against Nowra City which went into extra time. Thanks to midshipmen from HMAS *Watson* who helped boost our team during the finals.

HMAS *Creswell* also entered a team in an indoor hockey competition in Nowra. This was enjoyed by all who participated and helped to improve vital ball-handling skills.

After such an enjoyable season the hockey squad looks forward to engaging the RAAF Academy and RMC Duntroon later this year.

Finally, many thanks to Lieutenant Commander Criddle for his guidance and assistance.

LIFE-SAVING REPORT

Life-Saving at the Naval College has changed significantly this year due to the training program introduced by the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia. These changes include the deletion of the old Bronze Cross award and the upgrading of the Bronze Medallion to this standard.

All midshipmen were required to attempt the Senior Swim and Survive Award, which aims to develop a high level of swimming skill, endurance, knowledge of safety and personal

survival ability. This award is the pre-requisite for all rescue awards. As well, all midshipmen were instructed towards the Resuscitation Award, which provides practical experience in the lifesaving techniques of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

In addition to these awards being attempted by all midshipmen, a number of other, more advanced awards were attempted. These included, the Oxygen Equipment Resuscitation Certificate (eight candidates), the Senior Resuscitation Certificate (seven candidates) and the Sub-Aqua Bronze Medallion (eight candidates). All of these candidates were successful.

The Australia Shield is presented to the Defence Force unit which accrues the most points in the year. The Society's awards are graded according to their difficulty, and the total points calculated by points gained per award times the number achieved, divided by the total number of trainees in the unit. This year RANC gained second place, only 120 points behind the Army Training Unit at Middle Head and 1100 points clear of third place. The achievement presents the continued high level of life-saving training which is undertaken at RANC.



Rugby Team

Back Row (L to R): ABMTD Nicols, MIDN Keogh, MIDN Lewis, MIDN Todd, MIDN Jones, MIDN Warren-Smith, MIDN Stanford

Middle Row (L to R): LEUT Naughton (OIC), MIDN Salter, MIDN Biess, LS Simmons (Captain), MIDN Streeter, ABCK Bohm, CPOSY McLaurin (Coach)

Front Row (L to R): MIDN Fitzgerald, MIDN Moncrieff, MIDN Gregg, MIDN Bannister, MIDN Heilscher, MIDN Thompson, MIDN Burling

Inset: ABMTP Hannigan, MIDN Simpson, MIDN Craft, LSAVN Applegate

RUGBY 1985

RANC Rugby enjoyed a most successful season, winning the Far South Coast Rugby Zone premiership convincingly. RANC faced defending premiers Cobargo in the grand final and in a tough match won 13-3.

The team throughout the season consistently played attacking rugby; this, coupled with sound defence, was the foundation of the side's success. The team lost a number of matches when it was clearly the better side—on these occasions poor goalkicking led to defeat. In perspective this may have been good for a young and developing team as it prevented over-confidence. Nevertheless 16 missed penalty goal attempts in the first matches cost the side a great start to the season. Instead of three wins, the team managed one win, draw and loss. Results of matches played are as follows:

FSCRU Competition

- v Moruya—Drew 9-9
- v Cobargo—Won 13-3
- v Bateman's Bay—Lost 4-7
- v Bodalla—Won 25-3
- v Bega—Won 9-6
- v Milton—Drew 6-6
- v Cobargo—Lost 6-13
- v Bateman's Bay—Won 10-0
- v Bodalla—Won 25-12
- v Bega—Won 18-0
- v Milton—Lost 4-10
- v Moruya—Won 10-6
- v Cobargo—Won 4-0 (Major Semi-final)
- v Cobargo—Won 13-3 (Grand Final)

Social

- v Kings—Lost 6-13
- v FSCR2 U/19—Won 24-0
- v JMSDF—Won 23-0
- v RAAF Academy—Won 15-0
- v RMC Duntroon—Lost 7-9

Played 19, won 12, drew 2, lost 5.

The team never had the same 15 players on the field during the season. Fortunately the team was never short of players and possessed more than capable reserves who all had a run at some stage during the season. This depth was a significant factor in RANC's success, with the competition for positions making team members perform or lose their positions.

The inclusion of officers and ship's company was an advantage with experience and leadership giving the midshipmen direction.

The travelling involved in a competition that entered from Jervis Bay to Bega led to a big home team advantage. Unlike the previous session RANC travelled well winning three away matches and losing three. The team was undefeated at home with four wins and two draws. With four competition points from two byes, RANC finished second on 20 points with Cobargo first on 23 points; Milton finished third and Bodalla fourth.

The major semi-final saw Cobargo and RANC meet for the third time. RANC won 4-0 and were unlucky not to score tries on a couple of occasions in an open and fast match. Cobargo defeated Bodalla in the final 12-9 to earn their place in the grand final. This was Cobargo's fourth consecutive grand final appearance and they were favoured by many to win. RANC played magnificent rugby in the grand final winning the premiership in a tense and tough match.

Five social matches were played during the season with RANC winning three, losing two. The loss to Kings was disappointing as an understrength RANC team did not do justice to themselves by not giving their best. The matches against RAAF Academy and Far South Coast U/19 were good performances. The visit by the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force Training Squadron saw an entertaining match in what was the only international fixture of the season. The Japanese commitment was awesome; lacking size and experience they tested RANC throughout the game.

The annual feature match between RMC Duntroon and RANC saw RANC lose 7-9. RMC brimming with confidence was beaten in all facets of play by a determined RANC outfit, except in the penalty count. RANC scored the only try and left RMC tryless but failure to kick goals cost RANC the match.

There were many outstanding individual performances during the season. RANC possessed an excellent pack of forwards who had size, mobility and youth, winning good ball for the backs throughout the season. Midshipman Darryn Burling won the Best and

Fairest award and the Burnett Memorial Trophy for 1985. He played well in the second row with good jumping in the lineout, rugged displays in rucks and mauls, and strong tackling and running in general play.

Midshipman Mark Todd, the pick of the back row, played well in his third season for RANC. He was top try scorer for the second consecutive season. Diminutive Midshipman 'Salty' Salter was always close to the breakdown and was 'man of the match' in the grand final, a fine breakaway who was judged Best Forward.

Lieutenant Andy Naughton showed versatility playing breakaway primarily but also in the second row, lock and winger and added much needed experience to the team, captaining the side on occasion. Skipper LSPTI Paul Simmons also showed his versatility by playing in the centres and switching to breakaway late in the season. He was a solid defender and good attacking player in both positions and was Clubman of the Year. The front row of Midshipman Peter Thomson, Midshipman 'Junior' Heilscher and ABCK 'Bucket' Bolun was the best in the zone. Midshipman 'Bomber' Lewis, a very tough forward, played well in the second row or front row when required but injury toward the end of the season upset the finish of a good season for this solid performer.

The backline was a well-balanced unit, strong in defence and capable in attack. Halfback, ABMTD Lance Nicols, provided good service to his outside men and was very useful with his running and strong tackling. Blockbusting five-eight, Midshipman Simon Gregg, was a superb pivot who always took the right option, an elusive and damaging runner, whose kicking game gained valuable ground—he was the Most Improved Player of the season.

The centre combination of ABMTP Ken Hannigan and Midshipman Paul Biess was solid with penetrative running and strong midfield defence. Ken Hannigan won the Coaches award for his tough defence that stopped opposing players in their tracks. Midshipman Bob Plath, when available, played either centre or winger for RANC for his third season, an excellent prospect for representative football. Midshipman 'Spanner' Bannister, Midshipman Alex Streeter and

LSAVN Dennis Applegate all played on the wing where there was fierce competition for the two positions. These three played well all season and unfortunately at times were all available, making selection a nightmare.

Fullback, Midshipman Andy Keough, played every match during the season. A sound fullback under pressure who cleared well, tackled strongly and chimed into the backline with incisive bursts he was judged Best Back of the Season.

In conclusion, a strong RANC Rugby Team in 1985 achieved some remarkable results. Scoring some 221 points (39 tries) for, with 91 points (eight tries) against. If the side had possessed a consistent goal kicker the team could have improved the ledger. The team deserved all its praises and most importantly everyone enjoyed themselves in what was a good year for RANC Rugby.

Many members of the team have the potential to move onto higher honours in rugby and good luck to them in future.

SAILING

Second session 1984 was a very busy time for the College Sailing Team with a lot of minor series and of course the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race.

The season began fairly late, mainly because of the cold winter water (sailors are real men but they don't like getting cold) with the Gibson Shield. The Gibson Shield, which is held over a series of six races, is sailed not only for interdivisional points but also determines the College Tasar Champion.

The Gibson shield was particularly hard-fought for in 1984 because of the number of good sailors in the College at the time. Sean Anderson, Phil Stanford, Mick Addison and Peter Quinn all turned in good performances throughout the series, and although the overall champion was fairly evident from early on, the minor places were hard yakka to get. The overall result was Sean Anderson (first); Phil Stanford (second); and Mick Addison (third). The divisional points were Flinders (first); Jervis (second); Cook (third); and Phillip (fourth).

The Solarno Cup which is the Inter-divisional Endeavour Series was sailed over the weekend of 23-24 November. After a strongly-

contested series, especially in the minor placings since Jervis dominated first place, it ended up Jervis, Cook, Flinders with Phillip taking out the wooden spoon.

After the success of the 1983 College entry into the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race ('Onya' of Gosford) it was decided to charter another yacht for the 1984 race. After a fair bit of deliberation 'Pacha' a 55' aluminium sloop was chosen.

A delivery crew, of which Lieutenant Mike Deeks, Midshipman Mike Addison, CPO Greg Wilson and LS Dave Gayford were a part, had the 'awful' task of flying to Vila to sail 'Pacha' back to Australia. The trip back, although long (about 10 days) was fairly uneventful except for a heavy wind and striking a whale which fortunately did little damage to the yacht, and they managed to make it to Sydney in one piece.

'Pacha' arrived in Jervis Bay on the 13th October and from that moment on her program was packed for the rest of the year. 'Pacha' sailed in a variety of races gearing up for the Sydney to Hobart. The old salts, Mike Deeks, Chris Gudgin, Peter Quinn and Mike Addison, who had sailed a Sydney to Hobart on 'Onya', used these races and other training days to pass on their sailing knowledge to the new members of the crew, who shaped up very well. The final crew selection for the race was made in late November and was Lieutenant Mike Deeks, skipper, Lieutenant Glenn Bridgart, Midshipmen Michael Addison, Peter Quinn, Chris Gudgin, Warren Reynolds, Greg Phelan, Iain Jarvie and Phil Stanford, CPO Greg Wilson, and Leading Seaman Dave Gayford.

The race itself was a trial for both the crew and the boat. Gale force southerly winds prevailed over the first two days of the race and caused extensive damage to many boats as they beat southwards. The withdrawals from 152 starters numbered 105 and this was the highest ever number of withdrawals. The wind during the race was 60+ knots and the seas were over eight metres but 'Pacha' battled on regardless. After the first few hours of sailing the sails themselves started to give way until after 'blowing out' the number three, four, and the racing mainsail, we had to make do with a storm jib and tri-sail.

After a short stop in Twofold Bay (Eden) to repair sails and other damaged gear, run the engine to recharge the batteries, etc, pump out the water which had flooded onboard, and to cook the crew a hot meal—their first solid food since leaving Sydney two and half days before, we made a fairly quick passage across Bass Strait and down the East coast of Tasmania. On the last morning before finishing 'Pacha' was becalmed in Storm Bay, about 30 miles from the finishing line, for several hours before a southerly gave her a spinnaker run up the Derwent across the line.

'Pacha' finished the 630 nautical mile race in five days, three hours and 19 minutes to be 23rd over the line and 28th on handicap. This time gave us a 4th in Division A of the race and also the Warner Trophy for the best yacht over 0.85 rating which did not win a Division prize. 'Pacha' also won the inaugural Oggin Cup for the best Service yacht on corrected time. From the two Army, two Navy and one Air Force Service entrants, only 'Pacha' finished.

After a great time in Hobart, 'Pacha' was sailed back to Jervis Bay at a more relaxed pace by a return crew which included two females as crew members—Midshipman Jodie Stephenson and Jenny Deeks.

Late in 84 the College took delivery of her new ocean racer, 'Alexander of Creswell' which is a Swarbrick SIII and the yacht was christened by Mrs Ross on the 7th December. 'Alexander' is the Royal Australian Naval College's hopeful in this year's Sydney to Hobart yacht race and crew selection is already in full swing with 'Alex' being used most weekends for sailing training and also in races like The Sydney to Ulladulla which was held over the Easter long weekend.

In January this year, when Midshipmen Quinn and Brown were offered the opportunity to sail 'Yarandoo II', a 40' yacht from Sydney to Adelaide, they jumped at the opportunity. The passage, which lasted 14 days including ports of call, was great sailing experience as well as being great fun. Since there were only four crew members on the yacht the hours spent on watch navigating around (and not over) Gabo Island, through the Bass Strait oil rigs and many other

seafaring hazards, was particularly demanding but not quite as demanding as the runs ashore in Eden, Robe and Adelaide.

The Forster Cup this year provided good experience for all crews who competed and quite a lot of amusement for the spectators as a lot of the crews only had limited sailing experience.

Jervis Division got off to a bit of a lead over the other divisions in the early heats of the series but Flinders and Phillip were never too far behind with Cook floundering in their wakes. The points score was close between Jervis, Phillip and Flinders when the second last race had been sailed and the scene was set for an all-deciding last race. The last race which included the sailing of the Divisional

Endeavours and was worth double points, was the decider. Jervis just managed to scrape in with enough points to beat Flinders with Phillip third and Cook last.

The conditions were light over the whole three races, making it a close hard-fought competition. Some of the competitors were sailing Tasars for the first time, making single-handed sailing very interesting. In the first two races Phil Stanford showed his style by taking out first place both times. The third race was won by George McGuire with Phil coming second. In the first race George had capsized losing his centreboard, which cost him his second placing. After all the points had been tallied, Phil Stanford ended up triumphant, George McGuire second and Finn Blake third.



Back Row (L to R): LEUT Roz Fletcher, MIDN Mark Purcell, LSCK Graham Ashman, MIDN Andrew Aspinall, MIDN Dave Barnes, LEUT Stef Stangret, LEUT Rich O'Brien
Middle Row (L to R): Mrs Leanne Stangret, Helen Thomas, LEUT Clint Thomas, MIDN Belinda Mitchell, MIDN Lynn Connell, MIDN Angie Klumpp
Sitting (L to R): MIDN Mike McCourt, MIDN Barbara Woodruff, CMIDN Finn Blake, MIDN Malcolm Wise
Absent: Russell Hatton while we packed up and Jodie Stephenson who left earlier



Lieutenant Thomas digs his way out

1985 SKIING EXPEDITION

The Navy Ski Club was established over 30 years ago to foster skiing and other Alpine sports among the members of the RAN and their immediate families. The club has no direct connection with the RAN and the club is managed by its members. The club owns three lodges and, as it has been customary, the RAN College midshipmen planned a Skiing Expedition at Mount Buller.

In April, detailed planning commenced. The objective of the Exped was to train midshipmen in cross country and downhill skiing. A large number of midshipmen signed up wishing to have a fantastic time and bookings were made and ski lift tickets reserved. As the financial deadline date drew near, the training staff successfully outnumbered the students by a 3-2 margin.

Unfortunately, the OIC, Lieutenant Richard O'Brien felt a little guilty and openly sought a few more 'token' midshipmen. The response was 40 midshipmen fighting for 15 available spaces. As the financial deadline date again drew near the numbers remained constant but the names changed several times. However, one constant variable (Chief Midshipman Finn Blake) ensured the participation in this Exped of several young ladies who had recently graduated from the College.

Since the Navy Lodge depends on every resident to do the housekeeping chores, ie cooking, cleaning, wood gathering, etc a last minute vacancy ensured an additional staff member could be gainfully employed. LSKC Graham 'Popeye' Ashman became the culinary colonel.

Menus were planned, food organized, vehicles prepared and equipment packed for the trek south. Several of the staff members left for Mount Buller on Saturday 13 July and spent an exciting evening in Benalla—seeing all the sights several times. An early start the next morning was necessary to prepare the lodge for the onslaught of midshipmen later that day. Lieutenant Roz Fletcher was extremely uncomfortable as the car went up the mountain. Steep cliffs with no barriers were inches from the road's edge. Reassuring comments like 'Don't worry, the trees will keep us from going down too far' did not appease here. She didn't settle down even when told the rear tyres had little tread left on them.

As the staff made their way up the mountain, a 19 seater URVAN left the College fully loaded. Food and equipment were packed. After MIDN Angie Klumpp's luggage was loaded there was only five seats available. The URVAN had to arrive on the mountain with 12 passengers and their equipment lashed to the exterior. Luckily there is only one Angie.

The staff arrived safely and proceeded to organize the rooms for the midshipmen ensuring the best rooms were available for themselves. By 1700 July 14, all members of the Ski Exped had arrived minus two who could not make it due to unforeseen circumstances. Chores were assigned and the rooms were occupied before the skiers prepared to 'hit the slopes'. But the only snow available was the little that had fallen that day. Day tickets were almost given away the week before and with this information the already reduced ski lift tickets were again lowered, much to the disappointment of the lift company. We knew that we would bring the snow with us and by midweek all lifts were operating.

It was the best skiing conditions the resort had seen all year. Even with these perfect conditions Roz Fletcher, Helen Thomas and Leanne Stangret only ventured outside once. That was to build a snowman???? snow-person. However, their claim was to ensure the lodge remained at its present location and did not leave port.

The days were well spent meeting the Exped objectives. Many increased their skiing skills and others acquired new knowledge as in Rich O'Brien's case; Lieutenants Clint Thomas and Stef Stangret took Rich to the most difficult run and said 'Meet you at the bottom of the hill, mate'. Halfway down the hill Rich waited for Clint who was testing the snow conditions with his face. When Clint caught up to Rich he said, 'Meet you at the bottom, mate' and took off. Rich had a similar testing technique and was delayed. Shortly before Rich reached the end of the run he heard Stef and Clint say 'Meet you at the top of the hill, mate'. When Rich reached the top of the hill neither Clint nor Stef were in sight and after a short wait Rich returned to the lodge to find Clint and Stef with hot soup and laughing. Rich then realised he had learned the meaning of the word 'Mate'.

Evenings were spent in a very relaxed atmosphere. Being wealthy midshipmen ensured a regular visit to the local disco after midnight. (Prior to midnight there was a cover charge and a slight fee for water). Before going to the disco, the mids challenged the staff to several contests. The mids had an extremely difficult time competing and put all their skill and boasting into a Trivial Pursuit Match. The first mids team had Barbara 'I want to win' Woodruff, Andrew 'I bought cheap gloves' Aspinall, and Mike 'Jimmy Gemini can do it' McCourt. Their second team consisted of Finn 'I've got the nack' Blake, Lyn 'I'll read my book' Connel and Mark 'I can ski uphill' Purcell. The staff teams were Clint 'bottom of the hill, mate' Thomas, Helen 'Koala Kid' Thomas and Stef 'wind break' Stangret with Roz 'Port Services Officer' Fletcher, Leanne 'I'll have a small one' Stangret and Rich O'Brien in the second team. As could have been predicted, the mids lost miserably. They made up ground though on the 3.00 am garbage bag toboggan race down the beginners slope. Clint lost his bag and returned with a frozen backside.

Since the midshipmen have been in the Navy for a short period of time, this ski trip has produced many 'worries'. Dave 'More Bundy' Barnes was out of control while skiing and knocked over a ski instructor and his class. The ski instructor told him to learn how to ski, to which Dave replied 'I did, you taught me'. Also, there was a rumour spreading around the lodge that Mike McCourt purposely ran into a young lady just to escort her to the top of the slope on a T-bar. Malcolm 'Mingo' Wise was seen running into everything on the beginners slope and Finn Blake made an attempt at directing a movie which will never receive rave reviews.

After a fantastic week it was time to leave. Ray 'Call me Roy' Rogers, the manager of the lodge expressed his concern about the group's behaviour when we first arrived and explained the rules and stated that he did not want anyone singing off key outside his window at 4.00 in the morning. He wasn't relieved when he was told that all the midshipmen were good singers but to our credit, at the end of the week he commended the group's behaviour and invited us all back next year.

The final chores were completed and a few went for a last run before heading home. Hank 'The Yank' Hatton must have lost his way because he was nowhere to be found when the loading of the vehicles commenced. There were two 4 wheel drive taxis available to take us down the mountain—one for Angie's luggage and the other for the rest of us.

When we arrived at the car park, we couldn't find the cars as there was about four feet of snow cover. Finn Blake took several hours to dig out 'Ronnie Rover' who serenaded him with the cassette tape 'Ride like the Wind' by Christopher Cross which Finn had inadvertently left on for the week.

But even at the end of the week there were still a few unanswered questions: Why did the staff drive home in silence? and Who checked the oil in the URVAN before leaving???

All in all, a good week was had by everyone.

SOCCER

The College soccer team competed in the second division of the Shoalhaven District Soccer Association, a competition with 21 teams competing in the senior grades.

HMAS *Creswell* was in a pre-season knock-out tournament being defeated by a strong first division Culburra team on corners. This strong showing led to a motion to push HMAS *Creswell* into the first division competition. This motion was defeated due to the predicted losses of several strong players at mid-season.

In regular season play, HMAS *Creswell* performed well maintaining third place by the half way mark. HMAS *Creswell* entered the Nirimba Cup knock-out competition and played extremely well defeating Northern Establishments 3-0.

At mid-season HMAS *Creswell* saw a four week break in play for the mid-year leave period. To have this time off, HMAS *Creswell* played two games a week which proved disastrous. HMAS *Creswell* now tied for fifth place but fought back to tie for fourth place with Milton. HMAS *Creswell* had the greater percentage and so entered the post-season tournament.

The team played extremely well against an older and more experienced Bomaderry team. At the end of regular play the score was tied

at two all. In overtime play, with the score still tied, penalty kicks would determine HMAS *Creswell's* fate. After nine penalty kicks by each team, Bomaderry was the victor.

HMAS *Creswell's* soccer season, with its ups and downs had many impressive wins. One of the season's highlights was the team's victory over the visiting Japanese Training Command. The team's solid performance and exceptional defence downed the visitors 4-0. Two of the HMAS *Creswell* team members, Jon White and Adrian Haig were selected for the Navy's Interservice team.

Special mention must be made of the soccer team's stalwarts: David Frith (Captain), Jon White (team's top scorer), Max Lanham,

Murray Graham, and Warren Wood. The enthusiasm and dedication of these players ensured the team's success. Other solid performers are: Adrian Haig, Ap Sompongrunk, Adam Gilbert, David Lelievre, Adam Goodall (goalkeeper) and Kevin Sharp. The entire team is to be congratulated for a superb effort. The team looks forward to a satisfactory conclusion to this season when the Naval College will compete against the cadets of Duntroon.



RANC Squash Squad

Back Row (L to R): J. Simpson, I. Nelson, LCDR J. Buchanan, D. Barnes, A. Mroz

Front Row (L to R): D. Court, P. Roy, C. Gudgin, M. Noonan, W. Davidson, M. Taylor

SQUASH

Despite the fact that a greater emphasis is again being placed on major sport participation at the College, squash continues to be a popular, well supported minor sport. During the last year as many as four teams, the Cruisers, the Destroyers, the Frigates and the Hunters played in the local Shoalhaven Squash Association Pennant Competition.

In the second half of 1984 the midshipmen's team, the Frigates, were promoted from Division 9 to Division 7. The regular team of Chris Gudgin, Mick Noonan (C), Pete Bowers and Lieutenant Commander D. Hart had guest appearances from Mick Collins and Ken Burleigh. The team performed consistently throughout the competition and was narrowly defeated in the minor semi-final. It was a commendable effort considering its high grading.

Also in the second half of 1984, the Cruisers played in Division 4. The team consisted of POPT J. Grayson, CPOPT R. Thomas, Lieutenant Commander J. Buchanan and Lieutenant S. Rodgers. It proved to be a winning combination as the Cruisers cruised in to the final series and won the Grand Final by the closest of margins.

In a closely contested final, Mick Noonan beat Pete Bowers in the annual College Championships.

With a New Entry joining in January 1985 there were high hopes that some squash stars would swell their ranks. At the grading trials it was obvious that Phil Roy, Jim Simpson, David Court, Bill Davidson and Ian Nelson had held a racquet before. They were immediately placed in teams before other sports coaches could grab them.

The Cruisers played in Division 4 again. Phil Roy played some excellent squash, as did Jim Simpson. They were ably supported by Lieutenant Commander Buchanan and POSTD W. Gallina. Unfortunately, the team was eliminated in the semi-final round.

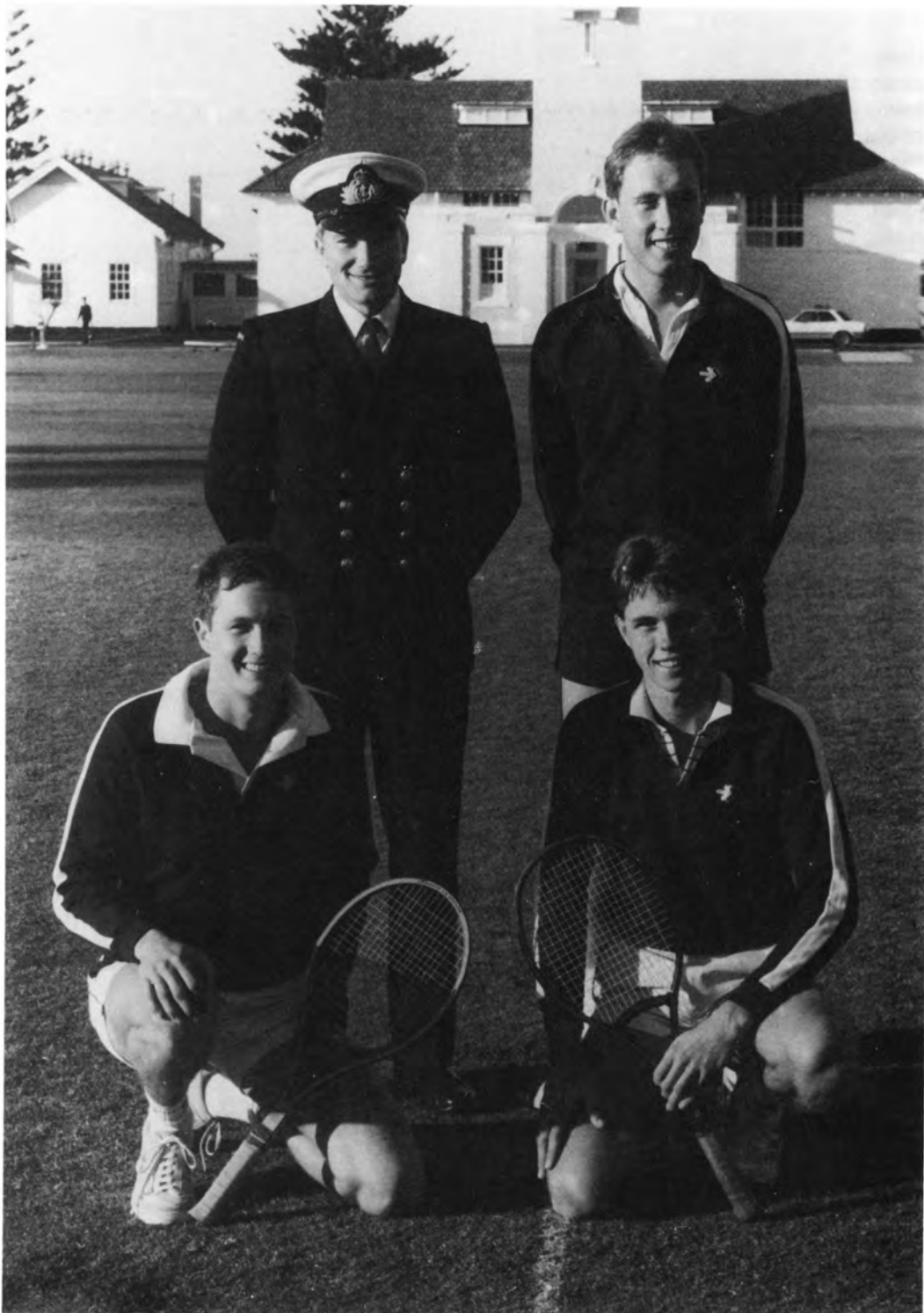
The Frigates stayed in Division 7 for the 1985 Summer Competition. Again the team played well. Many fine wins (and just a few losses) were recorded by Chris Gudgin, Mick Noonan, Bill Davidson and Lieutenant Commander D. Hart. Dave Jarvis and Ken Burleigh were also called on to perform. Like the previous competition, they lost in the minor semi-final.

The four man Hunter team playing in Division 10 gave the local registrar a headache. There were no less than seven official (not to mention unofficial) changes to the team, both in personnel and in position, during the 14 week competition. The opposition teams complained that they never knew whom to expect as their opponents and suggested that the Hunters be renamed 'Pot Luck'. Under Adam Mroz' fine leadership the team struggled early but eventually found form. They reached the final where they were narrowly defeated by the eventual winners. Adam would like to thank Ian Nelson, David Court, Peter Barnes and Mark Taylor for playing regularly and for the many guest appearances made by midshipmen too numerous to mention.

Full colours were awarded to Chris Gudgin, Mike Noonan and Jim Simpson. Pete Bowers, Bill Davidson and Ian Nelson gained half-colours.

As we go to print, performances in the latest pennant competition are encouraging. Lieutenant Commander R. Mittins has joined the Hunters. The other teams remain unchanged but with the untimely resignation of Phil Roy, the Cruisers are lacking a strong number one.

We wish Lieutenant Commander D. Hart every success in his two year exchange posting with the Royal Navy. Finally we thank Lieutenant Commander Buchanan for his support and encouragement throughout the year.



Tennis

Back Row (L to R): LEUT C. Thomas (Coach), MIDN M. Lanham

Front Row (L to R): MIDN R. Jackson, MIDN A. Down

TENNIS REPORT—1985

The 1985 season saw a sudden influx of talent into the tennis team. Four, first years—Roger Jackson, Mark Lanham, Adrian Down and David Barnes comprised a very strong tennis team.

Our first match of the year against RANATE (HMAS *Nirimba*) was cancelled due to the weather. The unseasonable conditions and other commitments deprived the players of many opportunities in which to practice.

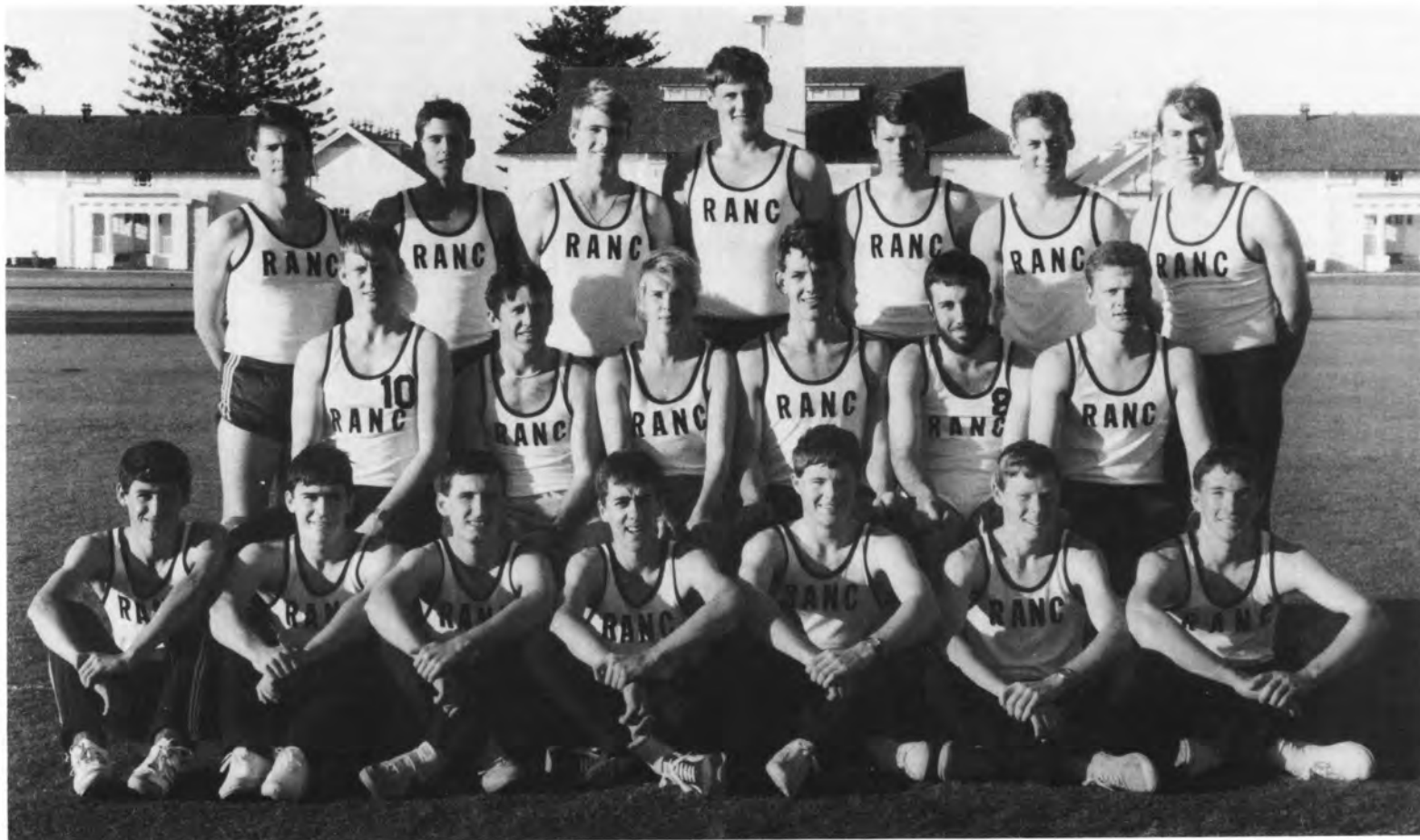
Roger Jackson, Mark Lanham, and Adrian Down tried out for the Interservice Tennis Team. The selection trials incorporated the Carr Cup (singles championship) and the Burrell Cup (doubles championships). These championships are run by the Naval Support Command and are open to all naval personnel serving in New South Wales.

The championships were a walkover for RANC; Roger Jackson and Mark Lanham teamed together to storm through and win the

Burrell Cup without dropping a set. Individually, the same two players overcame all opposition (again without losing a set) to meet in the final of the Carr Cup. After a hard-fought match, played at HMAS *Creswell*, Roger won 6-4, 6-4. In presenting the trophy at the conclusion of the match, the Commanding Officer remarked on the high standard of play and the spirit in which the match had been played.

Roger, Mark and Adrian were all selected to compete in the Interservice Tennis Team. This was played at DSU Randwick and, although the Navy did not win, it provided some much-needed experience. Roger received the 'most promising player' award at the championships.

It is hoped that a number of matches will be arranged this summer before all the HMAS *Creswell* tennis expertise migrates to the Defence Academy in Canberra.



Volleyball

Back Row (L to R): POWTR M. Chee, MIDN D. Barnes, MIDN K. Sharp, MIDN K. Jones, MIDN R. Hatten, MIDN A. Jackman, MIDN S. Mason
Middle Row (L to R): MIDN M. Richards, ABCK P. Creen, SBLT J. Blunden, MIDN Wordsworth, MIDN M. Matthews, MIDN A. Lewis
Front Row (L to R): MIDN J. White, MIDN R. Norsworthy, MIDN R. Dixon, MIDN D. Taverner, MIDN P. Mathes, MIDN A. Gilbert, MIDN R. Slaven
Absent: MIDN A. Forster, MIDN M. Harris

VOLLEYBALL

Participation in the Shoalhaven Amateur Volleyball Association by the Royal Australian Naval College began on a high note in early February with three keen and enthusiastic teams comprising 24 members. This included Sub-Lieutenant Jenny Blunden as Manager/Coach, ABCK Paul 'Creenie' Creen as coach, who gave up much of his own time and energy to assist the midshipmen, and POWTR Mark Chee, who recently joined us from HMAS *Albatross*.

The three teams were graded A, B, and C, and graded according to their ability. A Grade found themselves a little out of their depth by mid-year, but were unable to withdraw and join B Grade. B Grade and C Grade continued

to play well throughout the year but it was C Grade who finally made it to the finals.

By the end of August A Grade (comprised of J. Blunden, A. Jackman, R. Norsworthy, J. White, A. Gilbert, S. Abson and K. Sharp) had fallen behind with only 13 points and last in the competition.

B Grade (D. Taverner, A. Lewis, Wordsworth, M. Richards, R. Dixon, D. Barnes) were also last with 15 points. However, excellent results from C Grade (R. Hatton, M. Matthews, A. Forster, M. Harris, P. Mathers, S. Mason, K. Jones and R. Slaven) who were leading the C Grade competition by 12 September 1985 with 24 points. This sees C Grade into the finals for the 1985 Volleyball competition.



Crossing the Brown River, North of Nauro

Front to Back: MIDN Charles McHardie, LEUT David Hatten, LCDR Jim Buchanan, MIDN Michael Speldewinde



At the top of Brigade Hill

L to R: MIDN Andrew Jackman, Private Don Kakaia, PNGDF, MIDN Rod Norsworthy, MIDN Charles McHardie

KOKODA TRAIL EXPEDITION 1985

During the July leave break at RANC a party of 10 midshipmen led by Lieutenant Commander Buchanan, Lieutenant Bridgart and Lieutenant Hatten journeyed to Papua New Guinea to walk the Kokoda Trail.

The trail, which winds over the Owen Stanley Range, crosses over 100 kilometres of rugged mountains, fast flowing creeks and dense jungle. The Kokoda trail was the scene of bitter fighting between Australian and Japanese troops in 1942, which resulted in the Japanese advance being halted and their forces being pushed back towards the North coast of Papua New Guinea.

Our journey began on July 9th when we left the RAAF base at Richmond and flew via Amberley to Townsville, where we stayed the night. The following morning, courtesy of 'Wallaby Airlines' (35 Squadron RAAF) and their Caribou aircraft, we flew to Port Moresby, arriving late that afternoon.

That night we stayed at Goldie River Barracks, the principal training establishment of the PNG Defence Force. Much of the night was spent preparing our equipment and sampling some of the local beer (South Pacific Lager or SPs).

It was an early start on the morning of the 11th with a quick breakfast and then out to the airport where we were joined by our two PNGDF guides, 'Don' and 'Robert'.

At 0700 we flew out to the village of Kokoda, passing over the terrain we had to walk through. Looking down into the dense rain forest and rugged hills caused some members of the group to have second thoughts about coming.

After 35 minutes, we landed at the village of Kokoda and virtually the entire village turned out to meet us. After visiting the local war museum we began the walk in earnest and soon found ourselves drenched in sweat due to the high temperatures and humidity.

Lieutenant Hatten found the going hard in trousers and soon changed them for a pair of very baggy shorts which assumed near-legend status by the time we had finished the walk.

Soon after passing through the villages of Kovelov and Hoi, the terrain became steeper and harder to climb. By late afternoon, one of our guides (Robert) was in a bad way. He

had a malaria attack, and was unable to keep up with the rest of the group. He continued for a little way but his condition did not improve and he was sent back to Kokoda the following day. Also on this first day the tail end of the party was attacked by a goat and Lieutenant Commander Buchanan and Chuck McHardie only just evaded serious bodily harm.

That night we stayed in a small hut on the outskirts of the village of Isurava, where Michael Speldewinde kept the guides awake by practising his Pidgin English.

The 12th was spent battling our way through dense jungle to Templetons Crossing. We passed through the village of Alola where the people gave us fresh fruit and we, in return, gave them butterscotch and chocolate. In Alola, as with every other village, we found the people very friendly.

The walking was long and hard and Greg Swinden and Dave Lelievre soon found themselves sopping wet, not through rain (which came later) but in sweat.

That night, we camped at Templetons Crossing. During the night, it rained heavily and some people found that their tent building skills were lacking when awoken by their tents crashing on top of them under the weight of water.

On the morning of the 13th, we set out again. The previous night's rain had made the track very muddy and it was not an uncommon sight to see someone disappear from the trail and fall down the slope into dense scrub. 'Chuck' McHardie in particular, seemed to excel at this.

At lunch time, it was decided to split the group, as some wished to visit Lake Myola (an old WWII supply dropping area), whilst others wanted to press on to the relative comfort of the large village of Kagi.

So under the leadership of our guide, Don, midshipmen Cook, Swinden and Lelievre pressed on to Kagi, where they had a wash, received gifts of food from the villagers and spent a comfortable night in the guest house. The other group visited Lake Myola, then returned to a campsite and spent the night in a small leach-infested hut.

After sleeping late, the by now 'old Kagi hands' rose on the morning of Sunday 14th to await the arrival of the second group, who staggered in around 1100. The remainder of the day was spent resting, buying food from the local store to supplement our diet of army ration packs and playing soccer against the village children, where Hordern Wiltshire showed his 'talents'.

We were woken the next morning at 0430 by a rooster crowing under the guest house and we soon proceeded on our way through the villages of Efogi 2 and Efogi 1, up the very steep Brigade Hill to the village of Menari. The guest house at Menari where we stayed the night, caused some concern because of its tendency to sway from side to side as people walked around inside it, but we survived the night!

The Tuesday was spent travelling through a large swamp to the village at Nauro. We thought we had seen plenty of mud in the last few days but nothing came close to the mud encountered this day. A number of creek crossings were undertaken and these were always a highlight, Lieutenant Hatten preferring to slide across the log bridges instead of walking (better safe than sorry!)

At Nauro, very heavy rain made further walking less than attractive and we stayed the night in the local guest house which had a roof and floor but no walls. That night the mosquitoes visited us, Lieutenants Hatten and Bridgart erected their tent inside the hut to escape the winged peril, while others like Rod Norsworthy, covered themselves in insect repellent which worked remarkably well.

The morning of the 17th, as we prepared to leave, one of the villagers showed us three rusted WWII grenades. We soon handed them back to him when we realised that they were still live and only the rust was keeping them 'safe'—no pins. This day we climbed the 'hill of the nine false peaks' to the top of the Maguli Range where we stopped for a break near a number of overgrown foxholes. Kevin Sharp and A. J. Withers began a search for war relics and soon found some old unfired .303 cartridges. This caused the rest of us to search amongst the foxholes and over 70 rounds were found.

Pushing on, we reached Ofi Creek where we had lunch and then after another climb we reached Ua-Ule Creek where we were to stay the night.

After a wash in the creek, we set camp, but no sooner had we done so, than it began to pour rain which it did solidly for over two hours. The creek rose steadily and at 1815 the order was given to move camp to higher ground. A new campsite was selected and cleared by Don whose bush skills were by now keenly appreciated and without whose presence we would have had much more difficulty.

The night was spent comfortably, but Andrew Jackman complained that he got the hardest and rockiest piece of ground in all Papua New Guinea to sleep on.

And so the last day dawned (or so we thought). We climbed up Imita Ridge which was by far the hardest climb, the last 100 metres being a near vertical slope of mud, we then descended the Golden Stairs to the Goldie River, which was crossed. After a short break, we climbed up to Owers Corner, where we thought our transport back to Port Moresby would be waiting.

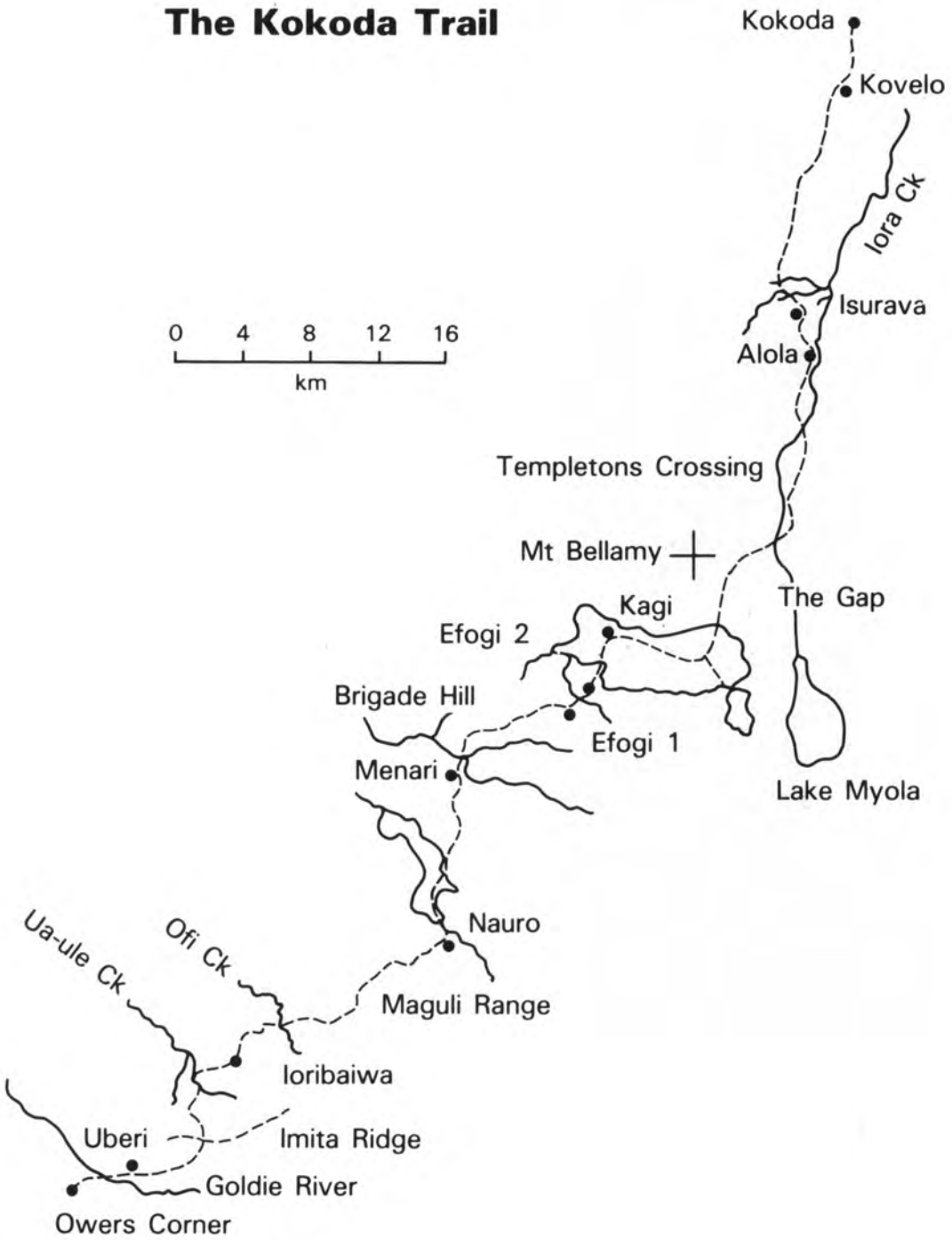
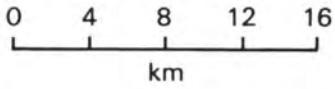
However, this was not to be. As the road to Port Moresby was unsealed, a sudden downpour had caused the bus to leave before we arrived in order that it would not get bogged.

This necessitated a walk of a further six kilometres to a Salvation Army mission, where we stayed the night, and then we walked another six kilometres to McDonalds Corner in the morning where we were able to be picked up by a PNGDF bus.

The next two days were spent recovering in Port Moresby (where we shopped for souvenirs, drank SPs and kicked cane toads). We then travelled by RAAF Caribou to Townsville before heading southward again.

Having walked the Kokoda Trail, many of us said 'never again', some said they would go a second time (and in Lieutenant Bridgart's case, a third time), but we all agreed on one thing: that being that all soldiers who fought in New Guinea (regardless of country), and especially those who fought on the Kokoda Trail were men of exceptional strength, determination and valour. We salute them.

The Kokoda Trail



SEATRAIN

Exercise SEATRAIN was conducted by Class I Diploma Course midshipmen between 30 August and 1 September 1985. The exercise was conducted in GPVs *Bass* and *Banks* operating from Sydney and Jervis Bay respectively. Both vessels were used for basic and damage control training with some ship handling exercises.

While the original plan had been for both vessels to visit Coffs Harbour this was not to

be. Poor weather resulted in both ships sheltering in Port Stephens and the ultimate return to home port without ever reaching Coffs Harbour.

Despite the rough conditions, the exercise was enjoyed by all. It may have been a little difficult to tell at the time as most were too busy being seasick but they were all consoled when the ship's cook (AB Dodd) joined them at the rails.



THEY ALL LOVE JACK (3).

RECOLLECTIONS OF RANC— CHRISTMAS CAPERS AT CRESWELL 1928

I was fortunate enough to have served some time as ship's company 1928/29 at RANC Jervis Bay. It was a pretty good cop for a seaman, amid pleasant surroundings, especially for an ST like me, as an offsider to Clacker Pitt, the LTO. Our job was the electrical maintenance of the classrooms and houses of the officers and Chiefs and POs that resided there. In addition to reading the meters of the houses, one of my jobs was to walk right around the College just before dusk putting on the street lights, they weren't on automatic switches in those days.

We'd had a few days of very heavy rain and I, like the rest of the crew, didn't have a dry stitch in my kit. This particular night I set out to do my rounds, wearing a raincoat but no boots or socks. As I reached the officer's quarters, the Commander, Fogarty Fegen, came out on his verandah, called me over and ordered me to place myself in his report next morning. I duly appeared, to be given a dressing down for setting a bad example to the cadets by appearing barefooted. He sentenced me to seven days stoppage of leave, not much of a punishment really, there was nowhere to go.

That was my first encounter with Commander Fegen, afterwards to achieve immortality, when as Captain of the armed merchant cruiser 'Jervis Bay', he took on the greatest fighting machine in the world at that time, the German pocket battleship 'Admiral Scheer' to protect the convoy. It took 'Scheer' more than an hour to dispose of the 'Jervis Bay', enabling the convoy to reach England only four ships short. He died in the action

for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously. He was really a good bloke, and I count myself proud and lucky to have served under him.

Another of my jobs was to maintain the drill hall clock, the only one in Australia to strike to ship's time, two bells, eight bells, etc—it even altered automatically to dog watch time. I happened to be there when the cadets went on their Christmas 1928 long leave. After 10 months of hectic activity, the last night before an eight week break was sure to bring forth some unusual happenings.

First, they purloined the articulated skeleton on which they were taught physiology and anatomy, from the drill hall, triced a glass in one bony hand, an empty beer bottle in the other, then by means of the ringbolt in its skull, hoisted it to the top of the mast. It was discovered by the duty AB when he tried to bend the ensign on at 0800 the next morning.

Next they borrowed a piglet from one of the PWD workmen who earned a few extra bob by breeding pigs who were fed on the scraps of food from our messes. They covered it with 'pusser's cunгы' (soft soap) then chased the greasy pig around the college.

All told, the cadets had a pretty wild night, they had to be ready to catch the bus at 0430 to take them to Bomaderry to catch the train to Sydney, thence to the four corners of the country. As ship's company, we had little contact with the cadets, but did serve with many of them in later years. I enjoyed my stay there, the quarters were good, the surroundings superb, but I have tasted better food. So ended Christmas 1928.

