



#### AND DAB HANDS AT DRILL TOO

These 'Lucky' 13 Royal Marine Cadets based at HMS Drake earned the title National Champions in the annual Drill and Ceremonial competition at HMS Raleigh.

Luck had nothing to do with it, really—they had worked their way hard to get to the top. First at District level against all the units in Devon and then with the South West Area where the Plymouth unit had to compete against all squads from Bristol and Birmingham.

At HMS Raleigh over the weekend of March 19-21 they were finally up against teams from London, Chatham, Liverpool and Lincoln for the national title.

The day was long—particularly as they were last on at 1630 hours. But their nerve held, and finally the Plymouth 'Bootnecks' were able to pull out all stops and put on the show of a lifetime which won them the prestigious award.

As well as gaining the best in the country recognition, they also came away with the Best Dressed Squad trophy while l/Cpl Anthony Scott-Bell was pipped into second place for the Best Guard Commander.

Drill and Ceremonial is not the only subject the Royal Marine Cadets learn as part of their training syllabus. They cover many of the same subjects as the Royal Marines themselves, including weapon training, shooting and fieldcraft as well as sailing, canoeing, windsurfing and many other activities. 'Active-youth training activities'?

#### MAINTAINING THE TRADITION

Thank you Frank Walsh for the above article sent to you by your daughter in Plymouth. The photograph of modern day cadets featuring your grandson Ashley Howells, standing between the cadets holding the framed awards, balances the picture on the front page of the RMA-WA detachment taken by you on the flight deck of USS JOHN C. STENNIS on Friday 1 October.

OCTOBER



2004

## THE ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION

### Western Australian Branch

Patron: Commodore D.J. ORR, RAN (Rtd.)

Dear Members

Last Friday I had the pleasure along with fourteen of our members of visiting the USS John C. Stennis the aircraft carrier lying off Fremantle. What a size she is with accommodations for 6,200 personnel. No doubt Nick will have some photo's to put into the Bulletin. The visit rekindled happy memories for me of my time on HMS Albion also a carrier but by no means as large as this one is.

Only six sleeps to go till our Annual Corp Birthday Lunch. Your committee is beavering away in an endeavor to make it a memorable one for everybody who attends. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

As work is being undertaken on the Cenotaph on Monument Hill in Fremantle the march on will be in the opposite direction this year. Gordon has assured me that this will not be a problem. Also the contractors have assured me that they will have cleaned the area the day before our parade. As there isn't a general meeting before our Birthday Lunch I look forward to seeing you there.

Allan Buckley-President.



This photograph taken by Frank Walsh of RMA-WA members on the flight deck of the USS John C. Stennis presented a proud image of our association that impressed the officers and crew of the carrier who answered all of our questions and made us very welcome

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE ROYAL  
MARINES ASSOCIATION,  
HELD AT THE NAVY CLUB, TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2004**

Apologies were received from: -

A. Moylett, G. Perkins, G. Chapman, A. Richards, Dave Harris, J. Symes, Karl Guppy, David Minear, Jim Lewis, F. Mason, Jim Wood T. Lynn, Paul Patterson, P.M. Shiner and Chris Reid.

In attendance were: -

C.W. Agate, Jane Short, F. Walsh, N. Aimson, G. Bowden, R. Trunkfield, J. Herd, H. Daniels, John Moore, N. Miller, P. Trevis, J. Clancy-Lowe, Jim Rea, Mike Sibley, A. Wheeler, Tim Harrison, G. Norton, Mick Page, E. Dunn, K. E. Reed, B. Milton Nick Bell, S. Reid, A. Buckley and Bert Macdonald.

The meeting was opened at 2000 hrs.

Minutes of the last meeting proposed by Mick Page, seconded Pat Trevis were accepted as a true record.

Mail Report.

Apart from newsletters and correspondence from RMA's interstate and New Zealand, and kindred associations. Mail had been sent to HM Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip, British Consular General, R.A.N. Cadets at T.S. Canning and various others, regarding both the Corps Birthday Luncheon and our Memorial Service.

The President spoke about a letter he had received asking for a donation from the Association, towards the cost of the proposed Cenotaph in Mandurah. Gordon Norton informed the meeting that the required costs have now been met. It was decided by those members present, not to make a donation.

Treasurer's Report.

Sandie Reid gave her usual concise presentation, showing the Association's funds to be in the black. Carried unanimously.

Welfare Report.

The President informed the meeting that Tony Lynne was having problems with a partially blocked artery. Jason Swales' wife, Kylie, is still unwell with colitis and Charley Bimner is suffering with his chest. The President welcomed Ron Trunkfield to the meeting after his recent operation.

The Memorial Service was discussed and John Clancy-Lowe thanked those members who had offered to help by providing sandwiches etc, and asked for further volunteers to contact him. Various members have been detailed off, to read parts of the Service. Commodore David Orr has kindly agreed to read the Lesson. The President informed us about upgrading works currently being undertaken on Memorial Hill and said that a meeting had been arranged with the contractors in order to ensure the minimum of disruption to our Service. The meeting then went on to discuss the Corps Birthday Luncheon and it was announced that Ken Reid will act as M.C.

The President thanked those members who turned to, for the games night with the Navy. As per usual, Royal gave Jack a hiding and it was - "an excellent night".

The recent Battle of Britain Parade had four members and the three Standard Bearers on Parade. The President commented on the low turnout and asked members to make every effort to attend this event in the future

**Saint Crispin's Day 25 October Speech  
from Henry V by William Shakespeare**

This day is called the feast of Crispian:  
He that outlives this day, and comes safe home,  
Will stand a tip-toe when the day is named,  
And rouse him at the name of Crispian.  
He that shall live this day, and see old age,  
Will yearly on the vigil feast his neighbours,  
And say 'To-morrow is Saint Crispian.'  
Then will he strip his sleeve and show his scars.  
And say 'These wounds I had on Crispin's day.'  
Old men forget: yet all shall be forgot,  
But he'll remember with advantages  
What feats he did that day: then shall our names,  
Familiar in his mouth as household words  
Harry the king, Bedford and Exeter,  
Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and Gloucester,  
Be in their flowing cups freshly remember'd.  
This story shall the good man teach his son;  
And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by,  
From this day to the ending of the world,  
But we in it shall be remember'd;

**We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;  
For he to-day that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,  
This day shall gentle his condition:  
And gentlemen in England now a-bed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.**

The Royal Navy schooner **HMS Pickle**, of 4 guns, was the smallest ship present at the Battle of Trafalgar, and was commanded by Lt. John Richard Lapenotiere. Since a single broadside from any of the ships of the line would have sunk her instantly, she spent most of the time staying out of the way, carrying messages, and later picking up survivors from the French ship *Achille*, which had caught fire and exploded.

news of Falmouth on the dispatches over after the Lapenotiere to the Commander Captain and founded by



The *Pickle* was also the first ship to bring the Nelson's victory to Great Britain, arriving at November 4, 1805. She had been chosen to carry of Vice Admiral Collingwood who had taken death of Nelson. After arriving in Falmouth took a coach to London to deliver the dispatches Admiralty, he was promoted to Master & for his efforts. He was later promoted to Post died in 1843. The Nelson Society of Australia co-Graham Perkins is holding its annual Pickle night at St Michaels Hall on Friday 12th November from 7 pm.

*"Band of Brothers" is a phrase that links Henry V's speech at Agincourt in the play by William Shakespeare, to Nelson's reference to his 'Band Of Brothers' at Trafalgar. It is a sentiment that unites Royal Marines wherever and whenever they served. Although not always able to join in every activity we delight in each others accomplishments. - editor.*

## UNITED KINGDOM EX-SERVICES FEDERATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### REMRANCE PARADE AND SERVICE

To be held at St Georges Cathedral Perth on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2004, service to commence at 1200 hours.

Parade Marshals, Gordon Norton and Peter Mulrennan.

The parade will assemble on the Perth Concert Hall Forecourt. Dress will be blazers or jacket with medals.

Association Standard Bearers muster at 1030 (for pre arranged drill)

The parade will fall in at 1135.

Members, who are unable to march, are requested to make their way straight to the cathedral.

The parade preceded by the Australian Reserve Pipe and Drum's will step off at 1150 and march westward along St Georges Terrace.

The saluting base will be positioned between Government House and the City of Perth Council Chambers.

Prior to reaching the saluting base the President will give the order. Eyes left and Eyes front.

The VIP taking the salute will be Colonel Bill Musson GM.

The Band, followed by the parade will wheel right into Cathedral Avenue. The band will counter march and continue to play, the Standard Bearers will wheel right and march up the steps and form up each side of the cathedral doors. The remainder of the parade will proceed into the cathedral and take their seats.

The VIP's and all invited guests will then enter the Cathedral and take their seats as indicated by the ushers.

The Standards will then be marched in as directed by Peter Mulrennan.

On completion of the service the Standards will be marched out of the Cathedral and form up each side of the Cathedral doors.

The VIP's will make their way out of the Cathedral, followed by the congregation.

All members, their guests and the VIP's are cordially invited to Burt Hall for light refreshments, finger food, tea, coffee, beer and wine

The refreshments are free of charge, but to help offset the cost it is requested that everyone purchase a \$2.00 door-prize ticket in lieu of an entry fee.

To assist with catering would all secretaries please let me have their numbers no later than 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Gordon Norton.

Gordon Norton reminded the meeting of the revenue, which this Association receives from providing parking attendants at the Royal, show and stressed the need for additional volunteers.

Gordon Norton reminded members of Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November as the date for this year's Remembrance Parade. He asked for a large turnout and requested members who would be attending to contact me on 9302 3308 or by e-mail at kayandbertmac@bigpond.com.au by no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The meeting then discussed a proposal from the president that our annual Ladies Night should be changed to an afternoon barbecue at Trigg Beach, Matilda Bay or Whiteman Park. It was decided to ask the ladies for their opinion and they subsequently said that an afternoon barbecue would make a refreshing change. Venue to be decided at a later date. Timings to be promulgated mid-November, but the weekend of 4/5<sup>th</sup> December is looking likely. Watch this space.

### OTHER BUSINESS

The Australian American Society had contacted Frank Walsh reference their, 'Taking a sailor home program'. Members who wishing to participate were invited to contact Frank Walsh after the meeting.

George Bowden thanked his visitors, and Ken Reid in particular, during his recent illness.

John Moore and Ron Trunkfield both thanked the Association for the bottle of rum they had received whilst in the sickbay.

Mike Sibley thanked Jimmy Rae and the team for the efforts towards the active ageing campaign.

Jim then gave the meeting a précis on events during September and focused on the thirty-miler, both as an event in itself and for the social evenings, which have been a tremendous success. In July there was Christmas in the bush, and for the main event, there was a fancy dress night. All who attempted the thirty-miler were able to complete it, which speaks volumes as to the enduring quality of the Commando Spirit and the sheer determination of those taking part. He further went on to remind the meeting of planned events for next year, including canoeing, abseiling, cycling and another Yomp thirty.

The Secretary said that in his opinion, Sylvia Clancy-Lowe was the "Man of the match" for the effort she displayed in completing what was a very arduous thirty miles. The meeting responded with a hearty Bravo Zulu. Well-done Sylvia.

Brian Milton commented about the active ageing group and expressed concern that five out of eight pages were devoted to it in the last Bulletin.

Bulletin Editor, Nick Bell said that the Bulletin was the primary means of communicating with members and supporters of the association, and that he felt that the accomplishments of those members taking part in the active aging activities were of general interest and worth reporting in the Bulletin. Nick agreed that the Bulletin needed to have a balance of reports and articles that represented the range of association activities and encouraged all members to contribute stories and anecdotes for publication. In response to Brian Milton question about Christmas Card availability, Nick Bell explained that a sample would be presented at the October meeting.

Ken Reed asked about the lack of updates on the website, and the secretary explained that the software issue has been a problem and priority has been given to finalising the website.

Sandie Reid announced that Sylvia Clancy-Lowe could provide engraved lapel name badges sourced by her son, at a cost of \$7 each for a minimum order of twenty badges.

### **REMINDER - See Page 6**

**Please advise secretary, Bert Macdonald if you are intending to parade on November 14th for the Remembrance Parade no later than November 1st on 9302 3308 and leave a message, or email kayandbertmac@bigpond.com.au**



*Up the ladder and aboard the 'Liberty Boat' without a moments hesitation*



*Ken Reed, George Bowden, Jim Woods and Frank Walsh command the stern sheets*



*John Herd, Bill Agate and Peter Shiner secure the midships*

## ROYAL MARINES BOARD AMERICAN NUCLEAR POWERED AIRCRAFT CARRIER

Royal Marines from the Western Australian Branch of the Royal Marines Former Association boarded the USS John C. Stennis while the ship was at anchor in Gage Roads off Fremantle.

The 14 strong Special Force, led by RMA-WA President, Allan Buckley included C.W. (Bill) Agate, Frank Walsh, John Herd, Peter Shiner, Nick Bell, Karl Guppy, Pat Trevis, Jim Wood, Brian Milton, George Bowden, Ken Reed, Michael Sibley and association Padre the Rev. Tim Harrison.

In a manoeuvre that brought back memories of their time in the Corps, the marines totally focused on their mission, boarded the 'liberty boat' to be ferried out to the carrier without a backward glance.

The 'Liberty Boat' was a well-found commandeered Cray boat well suited to the task, and the voyage down river was enjoyable with plenty of water front activity to see.

Of special interest was the International Terminal where many of our members made their first landfall on arrival in Australia. On the other side of the harbour could be seen the modern container handling facilities that have greatly increased cargo handling and turn around productivity.

Further down stream just past B-Shed where the Sail training vessel STS *Leeuwin*, and HM Bark *Endeavour* replica are home-ported, the lofty new maritime museum that houses the Australian Americas Cup winning yacht, Australia-2 proudly stands. From this point on with Rouse Head on the port side and Arthur Head on the starboard side the swell increased as we made our way between the piers out to the open sea.

Several US war ships and support vessels were anchored in Gage Roads. The safe anchorage from where Captain James Stirling left his ship HMS *Success* to explore the Swan River in March 1827, and where 2 years later the first settlers arrived on the *Parmelia*.

The *Parmelia* had been grounded on a sand bank from where she was tugged to safety by Captain Fremantle's frigate HMS *Challenger*, after the pioneering settlers had been ferried ashore to Garden Island, where they made their first landing.

There was a flotilla of craft taking sailors and visitors to and from the ships, and we stood off for a while waiting our turn to tie up alongside the stern of the carrier from where we were welcomed aboard the *John C. Stennis*.

We were given a detailed run down on the performance of Tomcat and Hornet fighter aircraft, helicopters and support aircraft and a guided tour of the flight deck by an enthusiastic pilot who told us that flying a Tom Cat was like driving a Mustang whereas flying a Hornet was like driving a Porsche.

The attitude and bearing of the officers and crew of the USS *John C. Stennis* was exemplary. Their pride in themselves, their country and their ship was admirable, and the respect that they gave us as members of the Royal Marines Association of Western Australia was awesome.

We are grateful to everyone from the commander of the Battle Group, Rear Admiral Walsh, to the young sailor who escorted us on our tour and to the Australian American Society who had invited us for making this visit so memorable. *Editor.*



*Pat Trevis and Karl Guppy dominate the starboard side*



*Allan Buckley, Brian Milton, Tim Harrison and Michael Sibley guard the gangway on the port side*



*This fragment of the American Flag salvaged from the World Trade Centre has pride of place in the 'Honor Display' of the USS John C. Stennis.*



### WELCOME ABOARD

*Rear Admiral Walsh accepts an RMA-WA plaque from President Allan Buckley after briefing us on the changed role of his Battle Group in the aftermath of 11 September 2001*