



Junior Recruit Memorial Project Newsletter January 2010

Welcome to Newsletter Number 18



Junior Recruit Memorial Committee

Chairman- Ken Dobbie
Treasurer- Warwick Luttrell
Committee- Paul Harris
Tony Bath
Kev Rowland
Pedro Franklin
Ron Giveen
Patron- RADM B.L Adams AO RANR

Our Charter

This committee was established in 2007 for the purposes of raising funds and to construct and dedicate a memorial to the Junior Recruit Training Scheme.

The committee is representative of both Leeuwin and Cerberus JR's.



Junior Recruit Memorial Dedication Ceremony 13th July 2010

The Junior Recruit Memorial Committee will host the Dedication Ceremony to be held at Leeuwin Barracks at 0930 on 13th July 2010. The gates will be opened from 0830 and the proceedings are expected to conclude by about 1300.

So if you are in town and want to come down to Leeuwin Barracks for the ceremony, just roll up, there is no registration or tickets required.



Some Things You Should Know About the Dedication Ceremony



”Dress of the Day”

It will be mid winter and Fremantle weather is notorious for bringing on the rain at that time of the year. There is no wet weather contingency. The numbers expected to turn up on the day will not make it possible to provide an undercover event. Clothing will need to be warm and suited to an outside event. It may rain so bring a raincoat



“Wear your medals”

There would be very few of us who have not been awarded medals associated with service in the RAN. We would encourage all of you to come along on the day wearing them with pride. On the day family members should also wear the medals of those ex JR’s who are deceased. Just wear them on the right hand side.



”Walk About”-Leeuwin Barracks

Leeuwin Barracks has kindly given approval for one of the old accommodation blocks (Building 16) to be opened on the day of the Dedication Ceremony as well as the old JR’s dining room. We will be using the old dining room on the day to serve morning tea following the Dedication Ceremony. So here is the chance to show the wife and family where and how you lived at Leeuwin. Not all of the Leeuwin site will be accessible as there are security matters to consider. Some areas will be sectioned off and sentries will be placed where needed. We will need to accept that Leeuwin Barracks is a working military base and we are guests.



Disabled Persons Access and Seating

Some of us are not so young these days and standing for any period of time may present some difficulties. We will have seating set aside on the day to meet such circumstances and there will also be disabled parking bays set aside on the parade ground. If there are ex JR's who have special circumstances that we may need to consider please contact me prior to the event and we will do all we can to help. A toilet for disabled persons will be available



Seating

The forecast is for about 3,000 to turn up at the Dedication Ceremony that is to be held immediately in front of the Drill Hall. The area whilst quite large is compromised slightly with established trees and pathways. With all of these issues taken into consideration we will provide seating for most of the expected crowd. The seats will be in the form of plastic moulded chairs plus four small grandstands that will hold a further 200. The layout for seating and general viewing will be quite good and everyone is guaranteed a good view of proceedings. The actual ceremony is not expected to take any longer than 1 1/2 hours so "standing" time will not be too great for those without on a seat.



Wreaths

Don't forget that those who wish to lay wreaths in remembrance of departed ex JR's will need to contact me prior to the Dedication Ceremony. The laying of wreaths will occur at the end of the ceremony and we will need to be able to closely coordinate this on the day. All you need to do is email me with your details. This is to establish the number involved and how the layout will be organised.



Car Parking

At this stage there will not be any parking allowed inside Leeuwin on the Parade ground apart from that set aside for the buses bringing in reunion attendees and for those requiring disabled parking spaces. We will negotiate with Leeuwin Barracks to have one of the side gates opened to allow parking on the sports fields and we will advise the access point when we have the details. The Council car park immediately across the road from Leeuwin Barracks is established primarily for boat trailers and is patrolled by Council Parking Rangers. For those attending the reunion functions and are able access the bus transport arrangements put on by the reunion committee we strongly suggest that you take advantage of that service, as car parking space could be a problem.



First Aid

St John's Ambulance will provide first aid and emergency medical support on the day.



Commemorative Medallions- Last Orders

The sale of Commemorative Medallions will need to close with last orders to be taken on 15 March 2010. This is to allow an orderly manufacturing and delivery process from the foundry at Ballarat. The manufacturing and delivery process can take up to 3 weeks. The display cases are made at a separate facility and can only be ordered in batches of 50 and as such we are planning not to hold surplus and unsold medallions or cases at the completion of the project.

Should we find that there is demand for the medallions after the cut off date we will hold those orders until we can establish that there is enough to do a full cost-recovery manufacturing run, if that cannot be assured we will not proceed.

Leading Junior Recruits-do you remember them?



In 1963 the Junior Recruit Training Scheme adopted a supervisory system that at the time was unique to Leeuwin. Second Term JR's who had shown potential for leadership roles were selected for appointment to *Leading Junior Recruit*. This involved taking on additional responsibilities such as dormitory supervision, taking charge of working parties and a rather general responsibility for maintaining order.

Leading JR's were at the time (1963) entitled to wear a white armband, which carried an emblem of a single anchor not unlike that worn by Leading Seamen but much smaller. LJR's were entitled also to draw an additional One Pound (equivalent to \$2) in their pay packet each fortnight (1963 rates). Given that the pay drawn by JR's in those days was significantly restricted (the balance was banked) the extra money was much prized but also much resented by those who had to live on less. The responsibilities and badge arrangements for LJR's evolved over the years with the badge denoting appointment to a LJR's being sewn onto the uniform rather than worn as an armband.



“Tingira Old Boys Association”

This association was formed out of those who entered the RAN as boys and served in HMAS *Tingira*. Branches of the Association, from what information we have, were established in NSW and Victoria. The objective of the Association was:

To create a closer relationship between all who are eligible for membership.

To assist the widows and children of members

To visit members in hospitals and institutions and at all time to endeavour to

Alleviate hardship amongst members and their families.

The Association was very active right up until the mid 1980's and continued to produce a newspaper called “*Open Sea*”. The word *Tingira* is an aboriginal word meaning open sea.

It is also interesting to read in their various publications that the *Tingira* Old Boys established membership qualifications that included those who enlisted as Junior Recruits at HMAS *Leeuwin*. Their membership qualification reads:

“To have enlisted as a Boy and served a minimum of 90 days service onboard HMAS *Tingira*, or to have served as a Junior Recruit at HMAS *Leeuwin* for a period of 90 days, and was entitled to wear the *Tingira* flash on the shoulder of his uniform”

As such we ex JR's would all be eligible to be members

The information we have was published in the “*Open Sea*” newsletter dated September 1985 so that there is every possibility that there are ex JR’s out there who at some stage were members of the *Tingira Old Boys Association*. We would very much like to hear from any ex JR who established membership or some other form of relationship with the *Tingira Old Boys*.



(Image courtesy of the AWM)

The Membership Tiepin of the *HMAS Tingira Old Boys Association*.

Their motto

“In strength and unity this association will stand forever”.

We also have some records that give us some hope that out there in the community there may be some surviving *Tingira Boys*. They would be at least 89 years of age but given modern medical care veterans of that age are not all that unusual. Similarly we would like to be able to make contact with some of their family members. We have some ex JR’s whose grandparents served in *Tingira* and their family histories make for very interesting reading.

“*Tingira*” Families

One such *Tingira* family contact has come from Bill Eggins, Bill served in the RAN and his father was a *Tingira Boy* who joined the RAN as a Boy in 1917 and saw active service during World War I in the Pacific in *HMAS Fantome*.

Another is Jim Benney, an ex JR from the 40th intake, who recently discovered, when going through some old family photographs that his grandfather served in *Tingira* as a member of the ship’s company.



Lionel Derell EGGINS
Able Seaman 6115
Royal Australian Navy

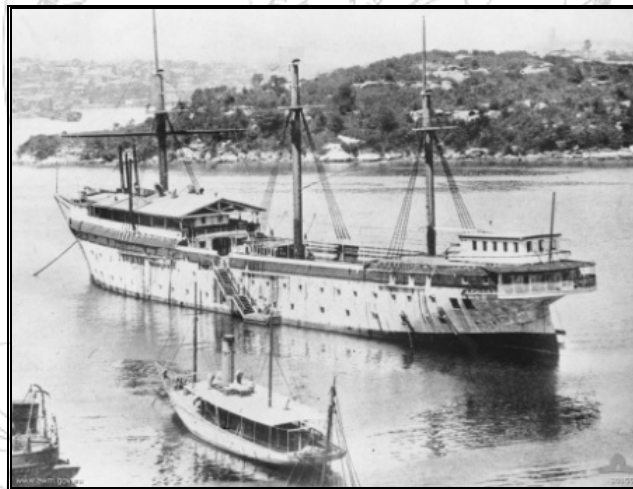
Lionel was born at Southgate August 18th 1902, the son of Frederick and Evelyn Eggins and brother of Muriel, Eric, Evelyn, Iris, Thomas, Myrtle, Lyle, Gregory and Frederick. His education began at Palmers Island School and later continued at Alumny Creek for part of 1915.

He joined the Navy as a cadet on May 9th 1917 on the training ship *Tingira* anchored at Rose Bay. At the age of 17, during the closing months of the war, he served on HMAS *Fantome* patrolling the Pacific Islands around the New Hebrides and Fiji, mainly based at Suva.



(Photo courtesy of Bill Eggins)

“The Ting”



(Image courtesy of the AWM)

The *Tingira* Boys affectionately referred to their ship as *“The Ting”*. HMAS *Tingira* was also known as the *“white lady”*. Painted white with yellow masts and spars she was a prominent figure in Rose Bay. The community of Rose Bay have taken responsibility for maintaining some of the history of *Tingira*.

Can we expect that in the future organisations such as East Fremantle Council or a local Naval Historical group will also seek to maintain the history of the JR Scheme? The responsibility rests in our hands and we should make it happen

I am not sure that JR's ever referred to Leeuwin with an "affectionate" name; if one did exist perhaps you could let us know.



Lest We Forget

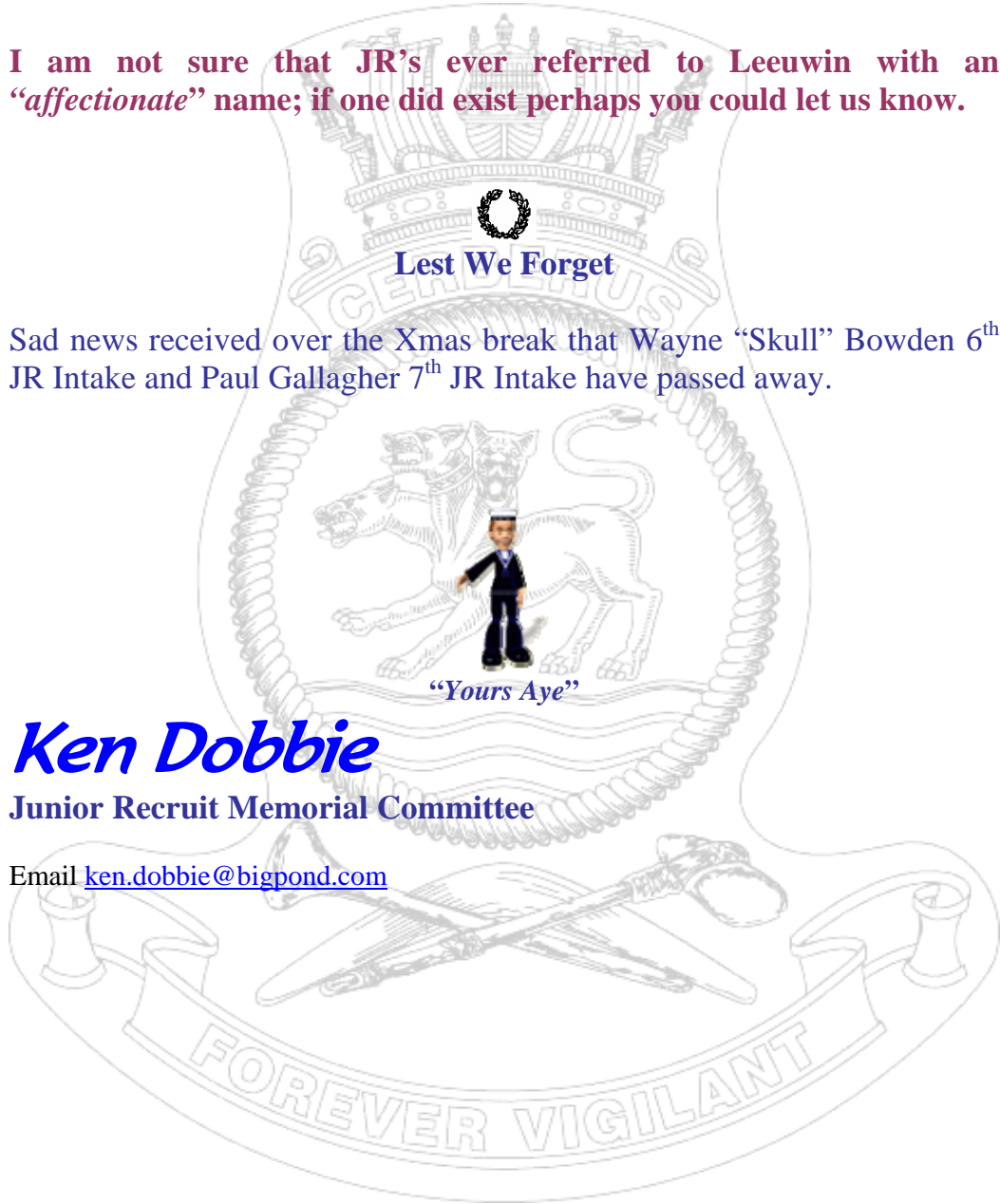
Sad news received over the Xmas break that Wayne "Skull" Bowden 6th JR Intake and Paul Gallagher 7th JR Intake have passed away.

"Yours Aye"

Ken Dobbie

Junior Recruit Memorial Committee

Email ken.dobbie@bigpond.com



**The Commemorative Medallion
Order Form
Last Orders by 15 March 2010**



**Junior Recruit Memorial Fund
50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion
Order Form**

Please Supply:

Number of Medallions Required @ \$85.00 per unit	\$
Engraving of Name and Official Number (optional) @ \$10.00 per unit	\$
Please write below <u>exactly</u> what is to be engraved	
Name & Initials.....	
Official Number.....	
Postage and Handling @ \$7.30	\$
Total Cost (includes GST @10%) <i>(Payment by cheque or money order should be made to the Junior Recruit Memorial Fund Inc. Do not send cash)</i>	\$

Your Name	
Home Address	
Postal Address	
Telephone	
Email Address	

**Please remit cheque or money order with the order form to:
Junior Recruit Memorial Fund Inc
75 Lovett St Devonport Tas 7310
Tel 03 64247198 Email ken.dobbie@bigpond.com**

All proceeds from the sale of the medallions will be passed to the Junior Recruit Memorial Fund.

