

Sick Parade.

If you know someone who is a bit crook,
let us know so we can give them a shout out.



We heard from **Wally Jolley** – and it's good news. Wal says he passed his stitching test where the tumour was and he was expecting to have the colostomy bag removed when he saw his surgeon late in August. He's now off chemo, which he says is great, and all his cancer counts, blood tests and cat scans show the best result. He reckons he's not quite ready to play full back for Richmond just yet, but he's definitely better than he was at Christmas time.



We know a lot of blokes will be glad to hear that!!

Doug Ellacott, who was a Sumpie with 35 Sqn from July 1966 to March 1967, has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. He is currently undergoing radiation therapy at St Andrews Hospital in Toowoomba. The therapy takes 8 weeks and if everything goes according to plan, it should kill all the cancer. He did sign up for a trial that is being run in conjunction with Canadian hospitals/doctors, where they give the radiation treatment over 4 weeks at a raised dose to see if it works as good as the eight week one. The obvious benefits from the shorter course is it will allow more men to get treated.

Selection for the 4 week course was random and as Doug says, he's never won anything, so he copped the 8 week job.

He urges all men to have their prostates checked. He says it might be or feel to be a very invasive thing, having your doctor shove a finger where it shouldn't be, but if it saves your life you'd do it every day. If you do, and they find something while in its early stages, you have very good odds of being fixed.

Get it done!!!!

In Doug's case, the Specialist in Bundaberg said the cancer was contained within the prostate, and hadn't moved into the surrounding area, especially the bones and more importantly, was about 90% fixable. He says after one has passed 70, they don't like to do radical surgery so radiation is the preferred treatment. His Doc also said that the treatment would most likely give him an extra 15 years of life, as opposed to about five if he didn't have it done. It didn't take long to decide.

Doug hopes to have the SERV tag around the neck very soon.