

The RAM.

Vol 47

The Magazine by and for Serving and Ex-RAAF People,
and others.

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The Caribou 50th Anniversary Bash.

Over the weekend of the 8th to the 10th August, 2014, Stew Bonett, (ex Caribou loady) with help from his lovely wife Valia, organized a wonderful and well attended get together at Coffs Harbour. The theme for the weekend was to commemorate the arrival of the first Caribous to land at 38 Squadron at RAAF Richmond on the 22nd April 1964, fifty years ago. It was also to commemorate the arrival of the first Caribous commencing operations in Vietnam as 'RAAF Transport Flight Vietnam' on the 8th August 1964. (In June 1966, 35 Squadron was reformed to take over from RTFV.)



This was the third "Bash" Stew and Valia have organised, the first was back in 2004 to commemorate the 40th anniversary and again in 2009 to commemorate the 45th. We're all looking forward to 2019 for the 55th. Got another one in you Stew???



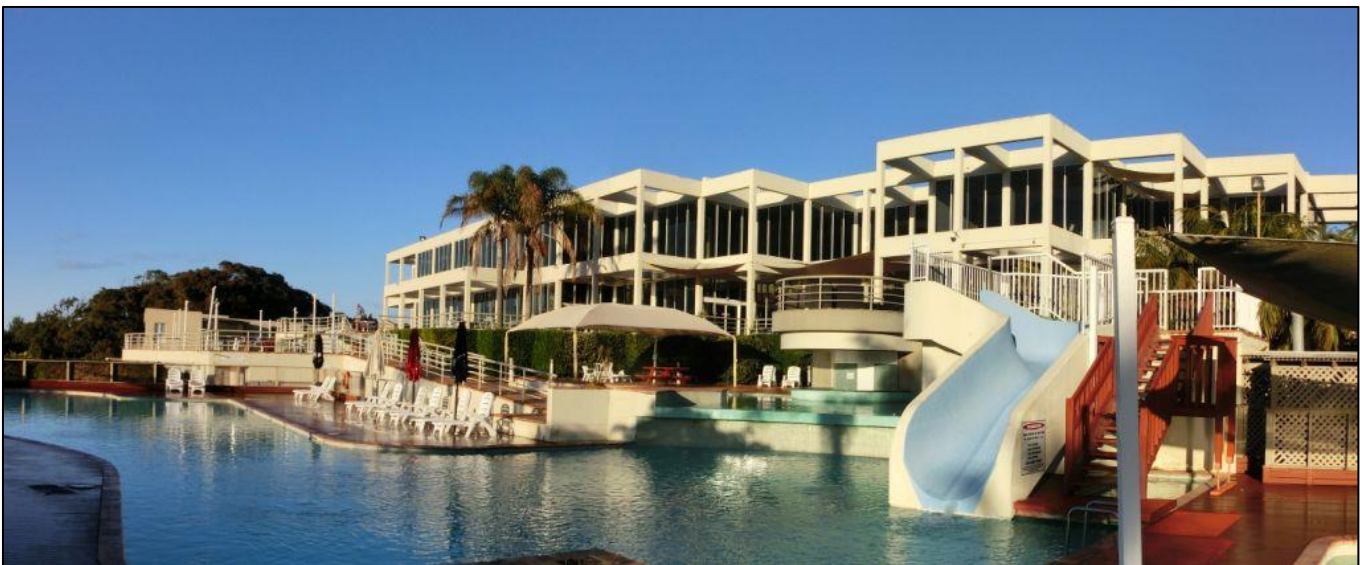
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The weekend started with a Meet and Greet on the Friday night when about 220 people got together in the Resort's ball-room to meet old mates, to enjoy a barbecue dinner, to have a drink, to take up a conversation that was put on hold some 5 years previously and to marvel at how old those other blokes have got since the last "do".

The "Bash" was held at the 135 room Opal Cove Resort which is about 5 kms north of Coffs, on the Highway.



The Resort is right on the beach and has all the facilities you could possibly need. Once settled in, there is no real reason to leave until that terrible check out time arrives. The food is great,

there's 9 holes of golf if you're that way inclined, tennis courts, swimming pool and spa, a gym, a secluded beach to explore, a well-stocked bar and best of all, a wonderful and friendly staff that can't do enough for you.



On arrival and after checking in at Reception, everyone was met by both Valia and Stew and given their weekend "Pack". This consisted of a name tag with identified you to the Resort Staff in order to obtain drinks at discount prices, free drink vouchers, information on activities and amenities available at the Resort and seating arrangements for the Saturday night dinner.

All proceedings ran like clockwork and it was immediately evident that both Stew and Valia had spent an awful lot of time in preparation for the event – a bit like a military operation you could say.

We're all very grateful for your efforts Bonetts – and we're looking forward to the next one...

A doctor held a stethoscope up to a man's chest.
The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand? "
The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"

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After registration, the troops were invited to use the downstairs bar facilities prior to being mustered to the official Meet and Greet later that evening, though it's fair to say a lot didn't need a lot of coaxing.



A little girl asked her father, "How did the human race start?" The father answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and so all mankind was made." Two days later the girl asked her mother the same question. The mother answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved." The confused girl returned to her father and said, "Dad, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Mom said they developed from monkeys?" The father answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your mother told you about hers."

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Jim Cameron, Jim Maguire, Wayne Oldfield.



John McDougall, Lorraine Slattery, Sheena Miller.



Rob Meyer, Don Payne, Lyn Payne.



Neville King, Peter Bolton, Mark Royle.

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Serving members from both 35 Sqn and 38 Sqn were invited and they sent along a bunch of people to help celebrate the occasion and as 35 as yet doesn't have any aeroplanes of its own, they conned 37 Sqn into giving them a ride. Given the choice of either staying and working on base or spending the weekend at a resort on the mid coast of NSW, these people reluctantly agreed to volunteer their time and come along - and we're glad they did.



38 Sqn people from Townsville, L-R: W/O Craig Thomas, FOff Luke Duffey, Sgt Emma Kay, WngCdr Michael Burgess-Orton (CO) and out the front, FOff Chris Davis.

Last week, Ethel checked into a motel on her 68th birthday and she was a bit lonely. She thought, "I'll call one of those men you see advertised in phone books for escorts and sensual massages." She looked through the phone book, found a full page ad for a guy calling himself Tender Tony - a very handsome man with assorted physical skills flexing in the photo. He had all the right muscles in all the right places, thick wavy hair, long powerful legs, dazzling smile, six pack abs and she felt quite certain she could bounce a sixpence off his well oiled butt... She figured, what the heck, nobody will ever know. I'll give him a call... "Good evening, ma'am, how may I help you?!? Oh my, he sounded sooo sexy! Afraid she would lose her nerve if she hesitated, she rushed right in, "Hi, I hear you give a great massage. I'd like you to come to my motel room and give me one. No, wait, I should be straight with you. I'm in town all alone and what I really want is sex. I want it hot, and I want it now. Bring implements, toys, rubber, leather, whips, everything you've got in your bag of tricks. We'll go hot and heavy all night - tie me up, cover me in chocolate syrup and whipped cream, anything and everything, I'm ready!! Now, how does that sound?" He said, "That sounds absolutely fantastic, but you need to press 9 for an outside line."



35 Sqn mightn't have any aeroplanes but they have their banner sorted and it was displayed for all to see.

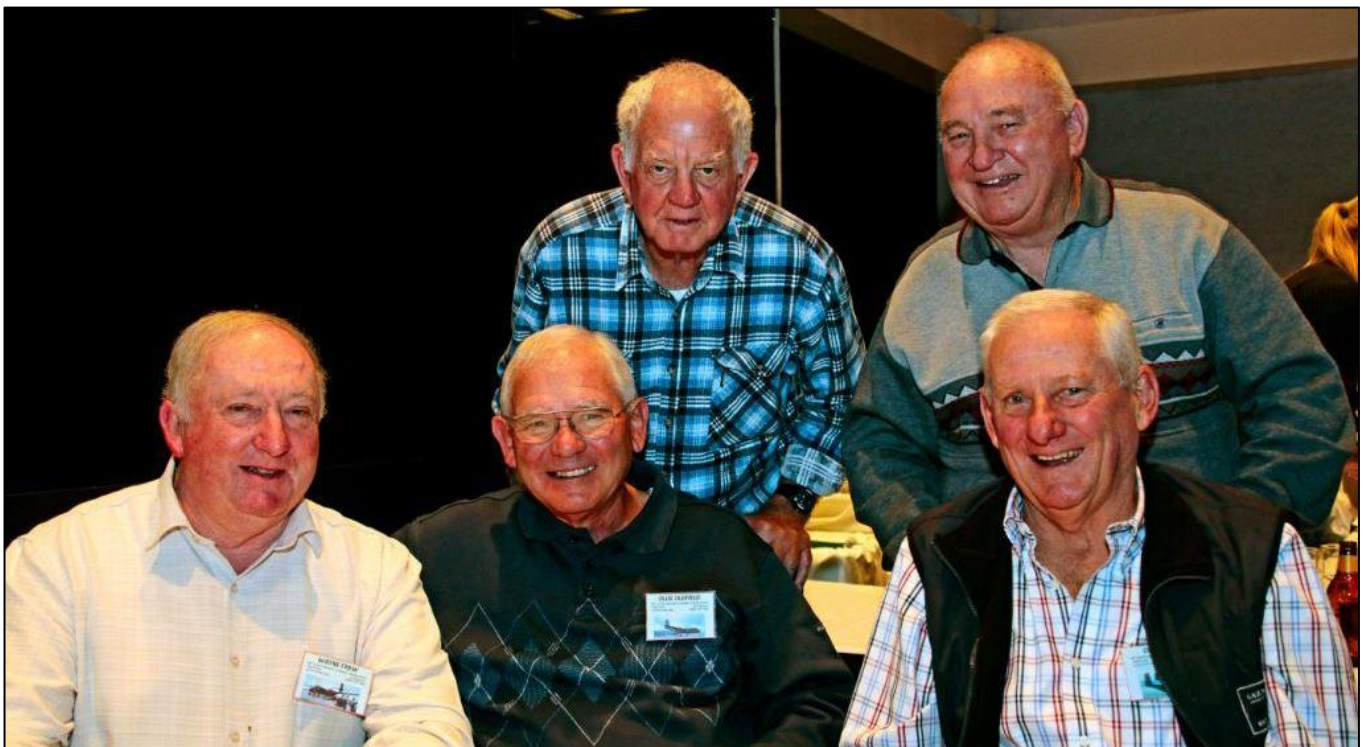
Some of the people who barbecued and "meeted and greeted" are: (all names left to right).



Alex Kelly, Dick Elliott, Sandi Zimmer.



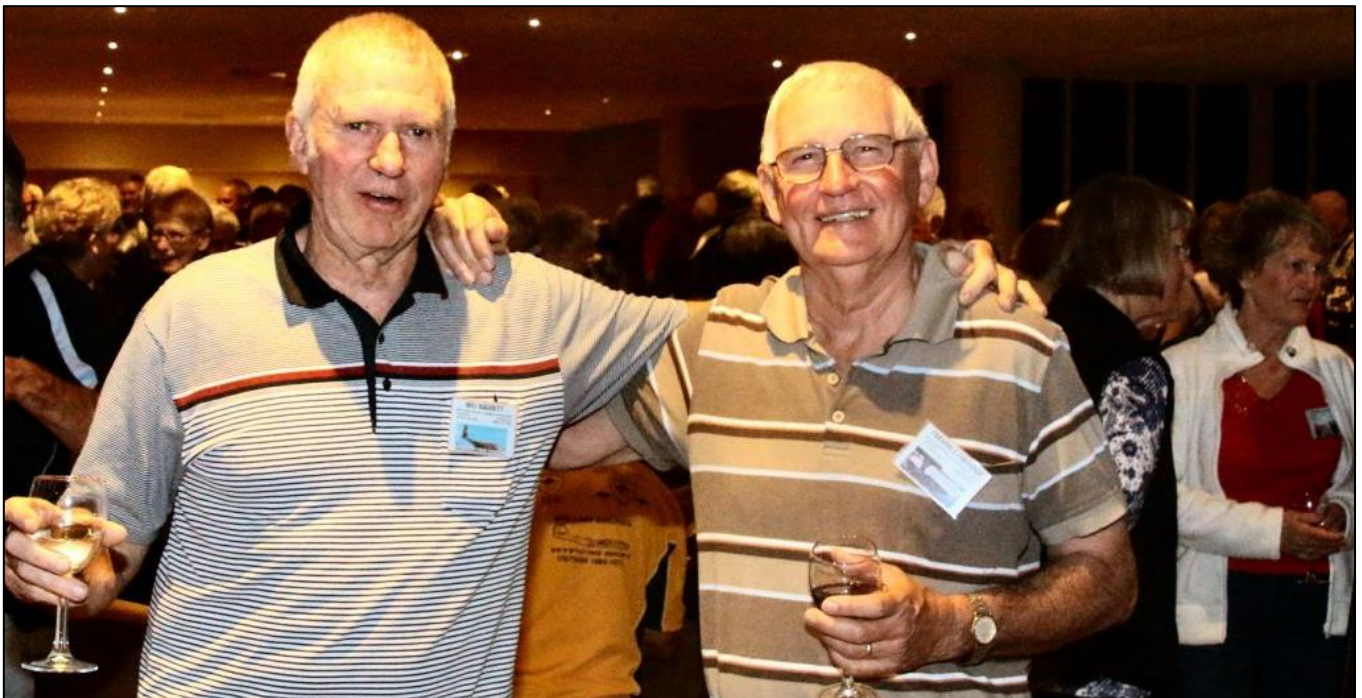
Alison Rose, Gersha Staal, Janelle Eynaud.



Back: Brian "Masta" Bates, Jim Cameron.
Front: Wayne Frew, Wayne Oldfield, Dick Salter.



Bill and Sandra DeBoer.



Bill Baggett, Trevor Etheridge.



Bill Moore, Gloria Gardner.



Chuck Connors, Kathy Kershaw.



Chris and Gerry Reed.



Dave Coomber, Barb Coomber, Steve Gee, Robyn Gee.



Bob and Cathy Williams.

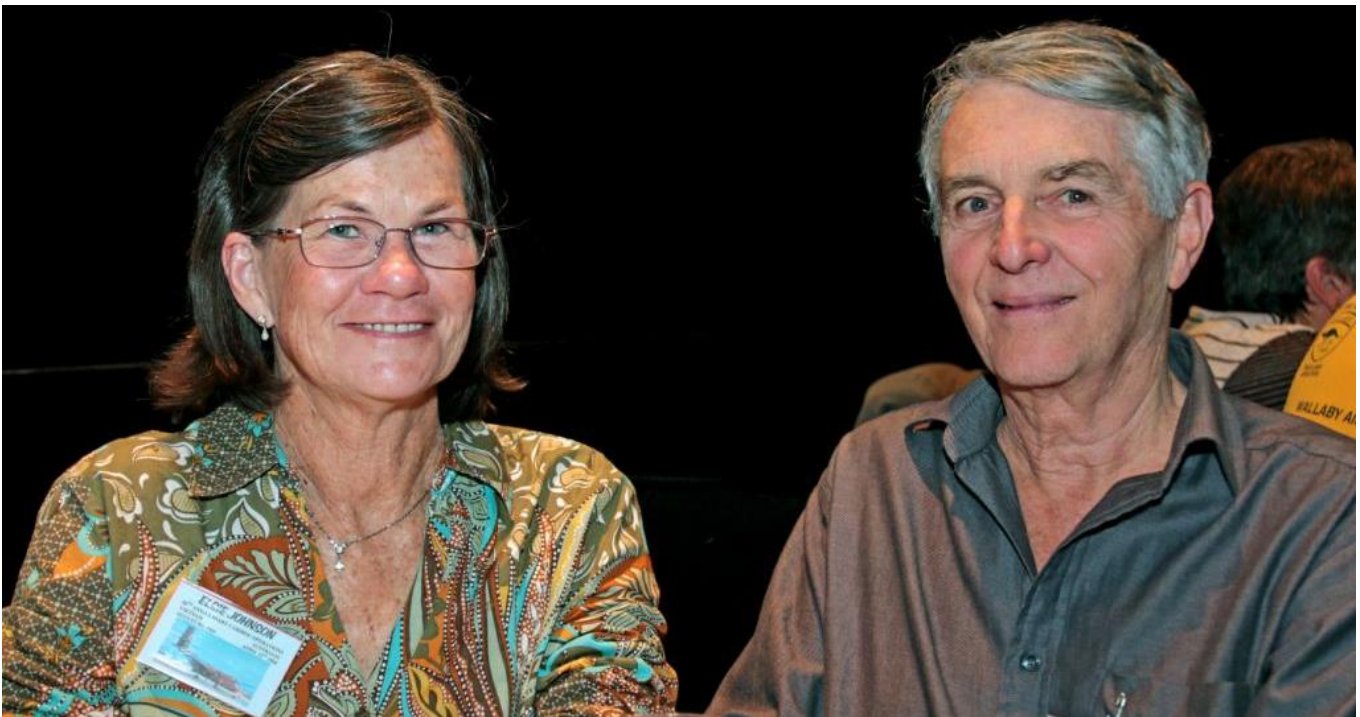


Denise and Wayne Frew.



Bing St John

Dick McGoogan



Elsie and Graham Johnson.

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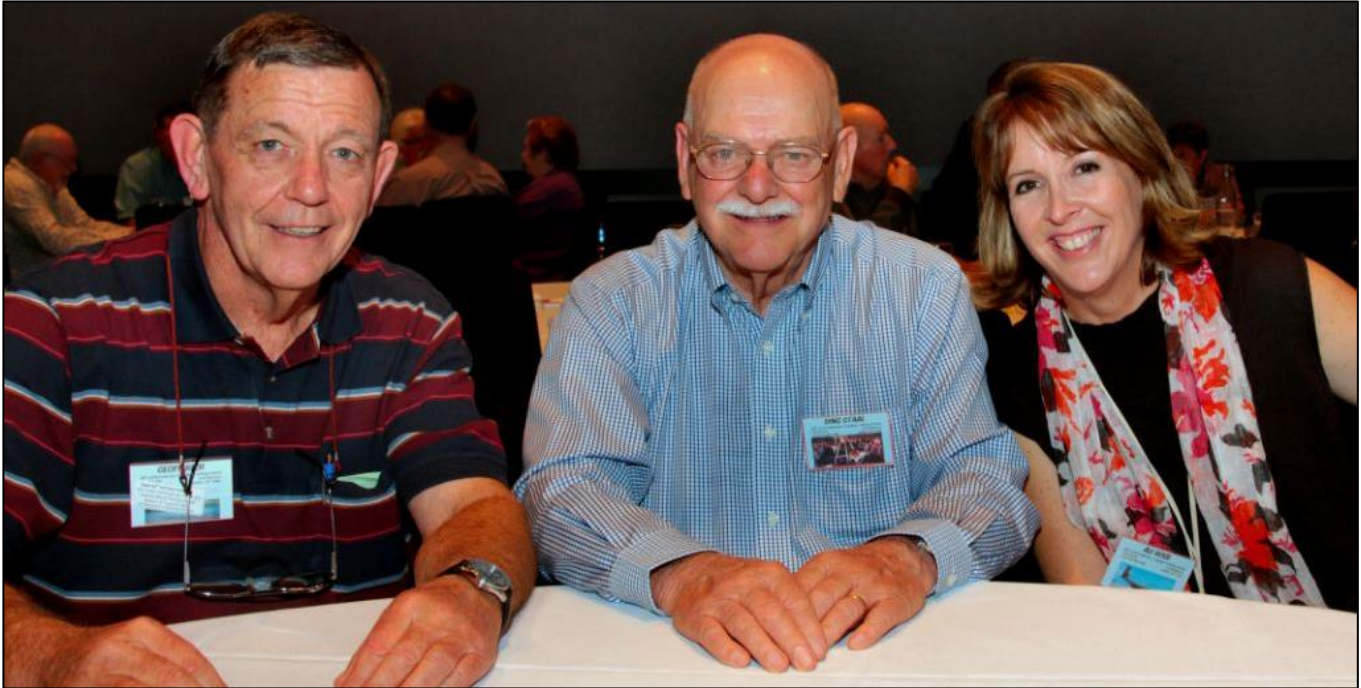
Front: Doug Angus, Rick Richards, Sqn Ldr Ross Benson.
Back: Lucky RAAF bloke, Sandi Zimmer, Alex Kelly.



Peter "Dit" Eaton, John Broughton.



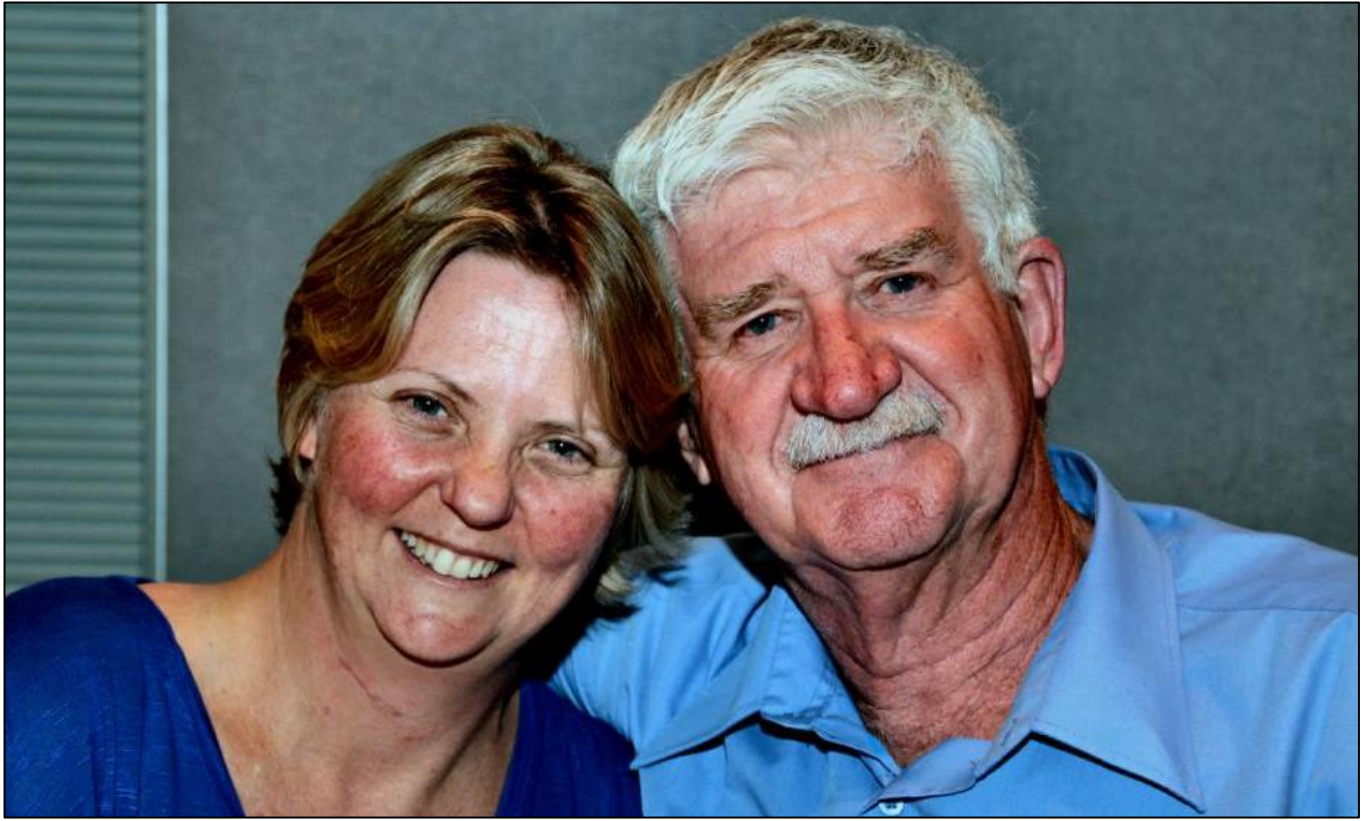
Geoff Brand.



Geoff Rich, Jan "Ding" Staal, Alison Rose.



Gladys and Brian Dyer.



Janelle Eynaud and Trev Benneworth.



Ali Rose, Gersha Staal.

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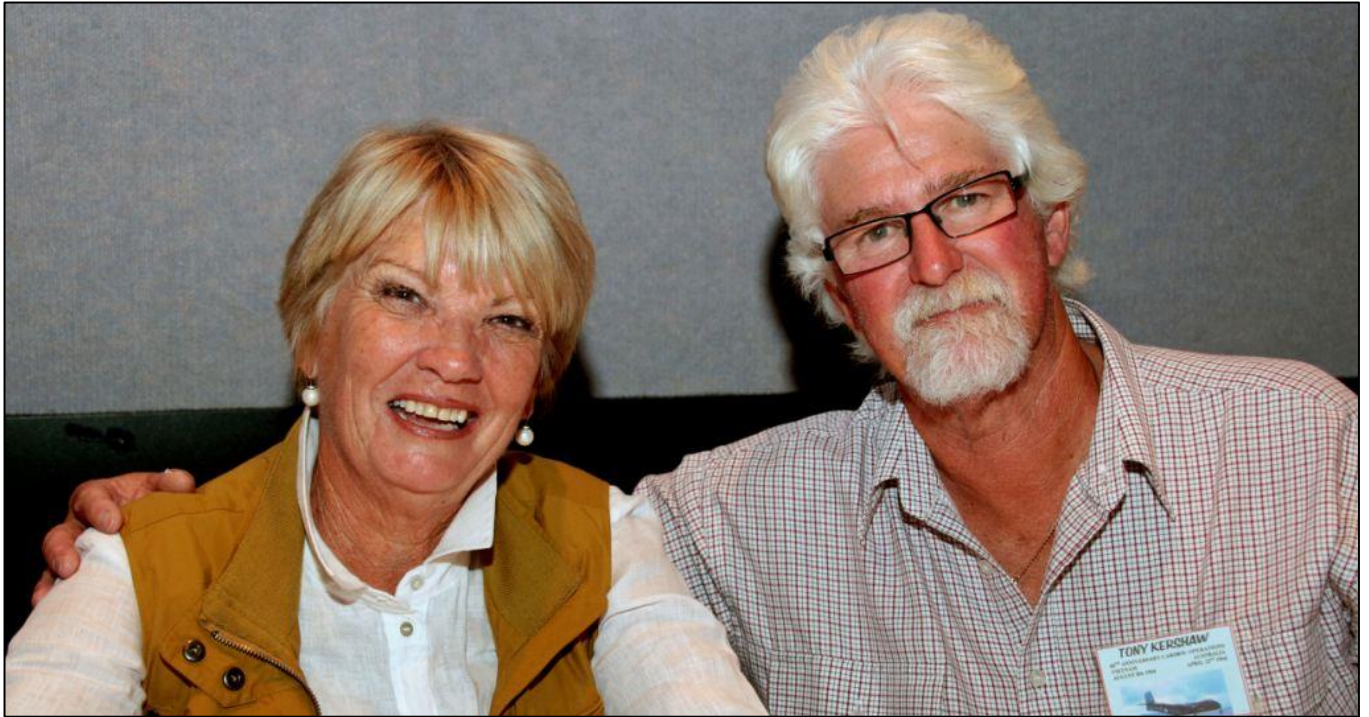
Jock Young, Kevin Johnson.



John "Sambo" Sambrooks.



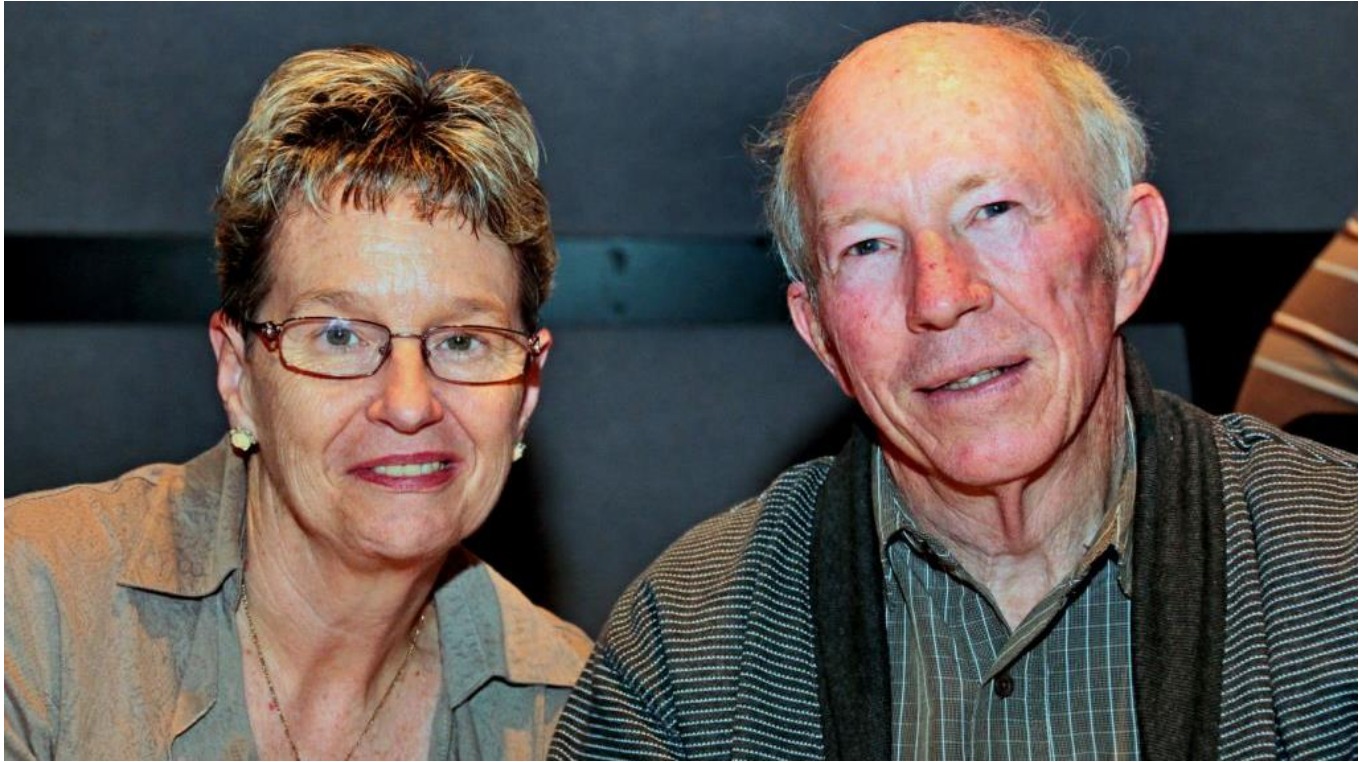
John Webster.



Kathy and John Kershaw.



Keirman French, Ted Crawley.



Kim and Wally Little.

