

Page 3 Girl.

Our lovely page three girl this issue is Marie Roberts.

Marie was born in Scone, NSW, just a few short years ago. Upon leaving school she moved to Newcastle for more job opportunities and while there she met a young and dashing RAAF bloke named Barry who, in 1966, became her husband. He was stationed at Williamstown at the time. They went from Williamstown to Sale in 1968 and after only two years were on the move again, this time to Butterworth, Malaysia.

Like most who were posted to the RAAF's Resort at Butterworth, she certainly enjoyed her 3 year stay, playing sport, learning craft, socialising and like a lot of others she came home with a hand-made copper picture. She and Barry did manage to find a few quiet moments and while there had their third child and like everyone else, formed some very good and lasting friendships.

From Butterworth we were posted to Amberley, again enjoying the RAAF life style and friendship. We were only at Amberley twelve months when our house was flooded by the 1974 floods, again thank heavens for that wonderful RAAF "family" as I had three young children and no child care, not like it is today. Back then I did casual weekend work.



In 1979 we were on the move again, this time to Sydney (2SD and ELO Bankstown) then in January 1983 we headed south to Point Cook.

By now Barry had served 21 years and as the boys were in secondary school we thought it time to, as Barry said, "Pull the pin!"

I had decided maybe I needed to do something with my life and so in 1984 as Barry was discharging from RAAF life, I applied for and got a public service position as a steward at the Officers Mess, Point Cook. It was a job which I really enjoyed. Every now and then I see faces in RAAF publications and recognise them as the young eager men who went through Officer Training School during my time at the Mess.

Rumours were very strong that catering was to be taken over by civilian contractors and luckily a position became vacant at 6Hosp at Laverton and as I wanted to stay in the Public Service I applied for it and was lucky enough to be accepted for the position.





I started at 6 RAAF in 1991 and again enjoyed the job. During my stay there I saw many changes in the RAAF's medical system as well as many to the hospital's name, however, it will always be 6 RAAF to me.

In 2008 the ward closed which only left outpatients/sick parade and I wasn't enjoying my job as much so in 2009 I decided to "pull the pin." Yes I was with Defence for twenty five years . Way back in 1984 I thought I might last six months.



Two of our sons are enjoying civilian life while the youngest is serving and is currently the W.O.D. at Tindal. He joined in 1989 so between the three of us, the Robert's family has "clocked up 72 years." All our boys are married and have given us seven lovely grandchildren.

Both Barry and I have some wonderful memories and wonderful and true friends from our RAAF days . We attend as many reunions as possible, especially Sale and 3SQN. I do believe as we are all aging (gracefully) that it is important, if possible, to attend these reunions.

We don't know who "maybe not at the next one".

There may be no 'I' in team, but there's a 'ME' if you look hard enough.

27 Rad Mechs

Below is a pic of 27 Rad Mechs which ran from Jan 1961 to August 1961. This pic was taken in Feb 1961 and was sent to us by Bob Jordan.

The Course started at Ballarat and was finished at Laverton. These blokes, and a few others, later came back on 19 Rad Techs which started with a total of 20 Air Mechs from which they required 8 Air Techs and 12 Ground Techs and of course all wanted to be Air Techs. The 8-12 split was achieved by pulling names out of a hat.





From the 8 who started only 4 of came out the other end as Air Techs, (including Bob) and the Groundies lost 6 of the 12 who started.

Joe Wilson was later commission as a Pilot and went on to fly Caribous. He did a tour of Vietnam from May 1969 to May 1970 and now lives in Perth WA.



Back Row L-R: Bruce Warring, R King, ? Ball, G Stephens, Tim Gear, G Monteith.

Middle Row L-R: Bob Jordan, Arthur Fry, Keith Fletcher, Noel Fenton, Ian Simper, Don't Know.

Front Row L-R: Joe Wilson, ? Watts, Don't know.

A problem shared is a problem halved,
so is your problem really yours or just half of someone else's?



110 Framies Fitters Course. – 1974

Neil Raabe sent us this.



Right, a 17 year old Mandy Fyfe, arriving at Laverton in 1980 – just about to start her RAAF career on rookies course 267.



Tottenham Boozer (late 1960's)



Airmen's Mess, old boozer and the ladies lounge, otherwise known as the Salle de Autumn. Very imaginative.





COURSE 119 – RATHMINES (March 1953)



Back Row L–R: Sumner?, Kevin Brown, Norman Hobbins, Ron Goodship, Dennis Hallinon, Bill Childs.

Middle Row L–R: Jim McCormack, Gordon Williams, Eric? Bulter, John Beumlant?, Albert Elliot, Stuart Wilson.

Front Row L–R: Harry Murray, Roy Wolmer, Jeff Pasco, Sgt. Haling, Ken Dillon, Reg Tarrilington?, Leslie Cark (Lofty).

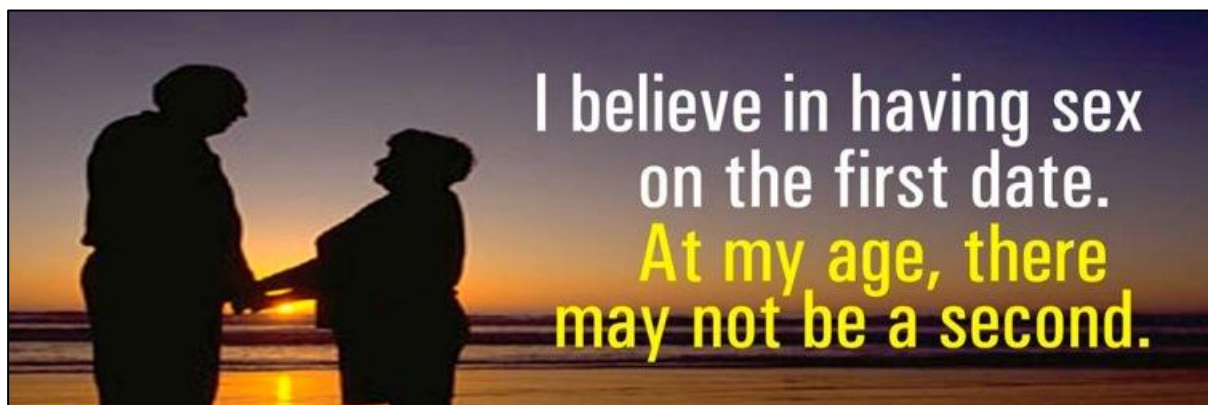
If you can keep your head when all around you have lost theirs,
then you probably haven't understood the seriousness of the situation.

Avionics Course, Wagga (1993)

Rod Turnbull sent us this.



Rod's not all that sure of names, if you can help please do.





Superman Course 1990



Back Row L-R: Tony Defelice, Don't know, Don't know, Don't know, Chris Ponturo, Don't know.

Middle Row L-R: Don't know, Don't know, Don't know, Gary Neighbour, Don't know, Dave Betts.

Seated L-R: Robin Hall, Don't know, Christina Ball, Don't know, Bernadette Bell, Don't know, Don't know.



Laurie Edward sent us this.

He calls it "A blast from the very long past."

His mates of No.7 Radar (Air) A&GRS Ballarat, after being the Guard of Honour at his wedding, at the Wedding reception in Collingwood next to the Town Hall - May '53.

Laurie would like to meet one or two or more of them again.



29 CLKA Course.

Jacqueline Cherry was going through some old stuff and came across this picture of 29 CLKA Course at Wagga in 1980. She says "as the only girl of 8 kids, it's funny that I was also the only girl on this course."

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Jacqueline would be happy to hear from anyone in the pic.



Back row L-R: Steve Johnson, Doug Wilkie, Peter McKay, Trevor Smith.

Middle L-R: Dave De Ryck, Doug McLean, Dave Porter, George Srebrov.

Front Row L-R: Kerry Larence, Len Paterson (Course Instructor), Jacqueline Cherry, Dave Pritchard.