



## Where are they now?

### Course updates.

Phil Witts got in touch, he said: "Hi Trev, Had an idea . What if we do a where are they now based on the Radschool courses. Probably best to do it with the Radtech courses and the RMT courses that came later. Just an item in the Radschool magazine and get people to reply with their own situation and location. Blue Farrell from 3 Sqn association did the same thing but wanted a story of when people discharged and what they did with their lives after the RAAF. My idea is easier and shorter with just the basics of NOW.



I will start with my course 41RTC. (back row – 2nd from left) I am retired with 3 children and 6 grandchildren and live in Endeavour Hills Victoria."



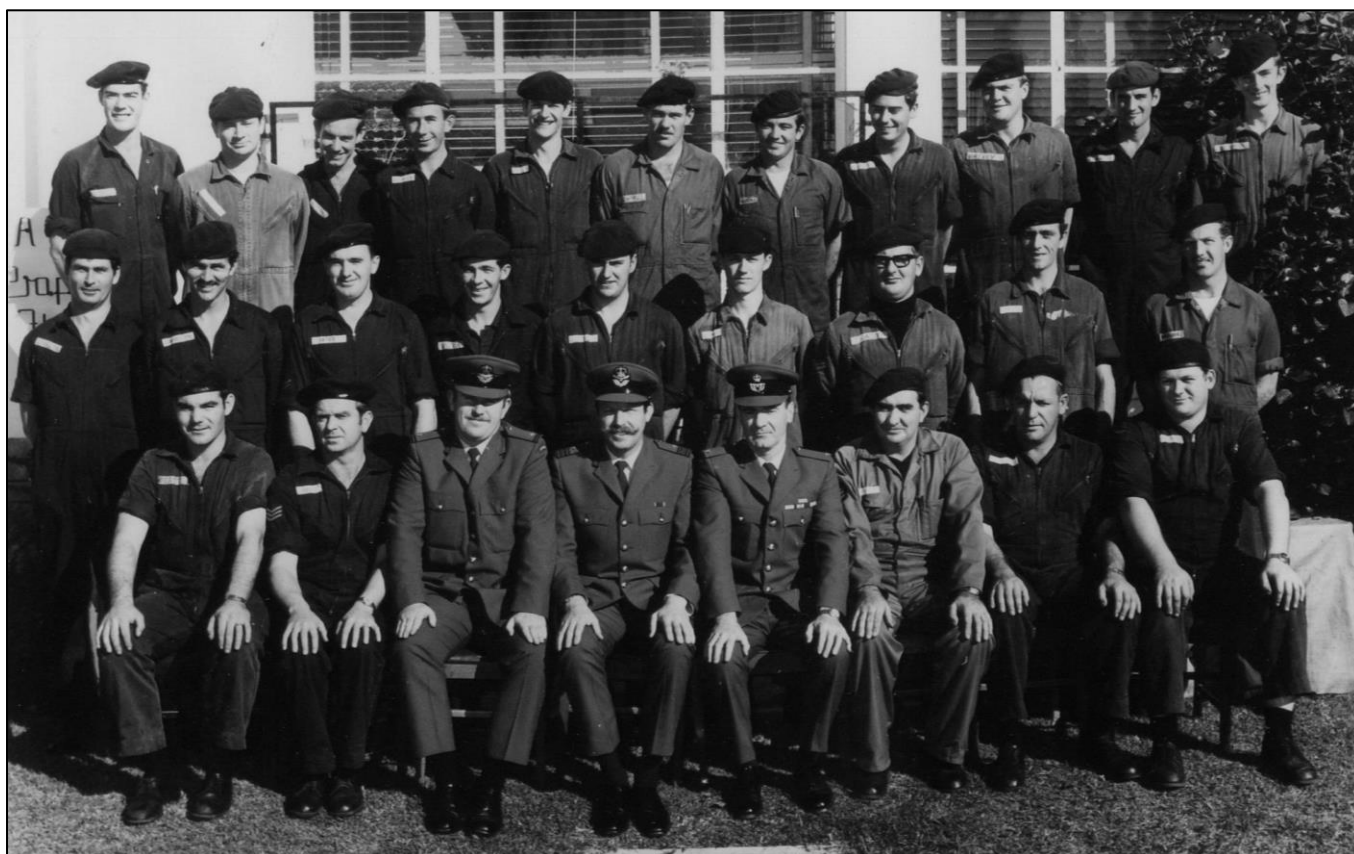
Good idea Phil – I (front row – 5<sup>th</sup> from left) live in Brisbane, am retired, apart from the 8 days a week I spend on the magazine. I have 4 children and 4 grand-kids.

Sadly, when I look at the pic above I can see quite a few faces that are no longer with us – I'm pretty sure I know of 6 that have gone far too early, there could possibly be more. This pic was taken back in 1967, nearly 55 years ago, when we were all mates, all fit young blokes, excited, full of dreams and looking forward to life and what it had in store for us. Time can be so cruel.

If you're in the pic let us know where you are today and also please let us know names of those that are fixing radios in the clouds.

## 2AD Prop Flight

Peter Taylor sent us this pic, he said: "Here's some Sumpies from 2AD Prop Flt sometime prior to May 73 when I arrived there from 3SQN Butterworth. Possibly late 72 as I know a few faces that I can't name but here are those that I do.



**Back Row L-R:** Mick Trommp, George Wooldridge (commissioned during my time there, don't remember, Dick Coffee, Rob Flett, don't remember, don't remember, don't remember, Peter Hartley.

**Centre L-R:** Barry Starling, Les Harrison, don't remember, don't remember, Daryl Cutting, (possibly) Paul O'schadlin, don't remember, don't remember, don't remember,





**Front Row L-R:** Don't remember, SGT Brian Francis Gillis (BFG), don't remember, don't remember, Viv Baker, Gerry White, SGT Barry Fitzell, Don Radburn.

If you can fill in the blanks – please do.

## 97 Engine Mechanics Course – 1967



When I was young I wanted to play the guitar really bad.  
And now, after years of hard work, practice and determination  
I can play the guitar really bad.



## When Sumpies were really Sumpies.



Kev Thompson sent us this – I'm afraid he's right!!







## Wagga 1948



Some of the hundreds of disposal aircraft stored at the entrance to Wagga back in 1948. The entrance to the base can be seen top centre of the pic. Apart from the terrible cost of life, war wastes an enormous amount of equipment.



Wife said, here's \$50, get the dog a jacket, if there's any money left over get yourself a few beers.



## 41 Electrical Fitter's Course, 1967



Ray Zieba (centre front row) sent us this.



Collingwood Supporter!





## Thank You!

On Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> December, the very generous Thai Dang and his lovely wife Diamond, invited up to 200 people to the Landmark Restaurant in Sunnybank (southern suburb of Brisbane) for a “thank you” Christmas get together.

Thai is a Vietnamese. (You can see his story [HERE](#)). Some years ago he was diagnosed with cancer and things were pretty close to being terminal but the good people at the PA hospital in Brisbane gradually coaxed him back to good health.

As a thank you to the doctors and nurses at the PA who helped him through that terrible illness and to those that fought on the side of the South Vietnamese back in the 1960s, for the past few years Thai and Diamond have put on a lavish evening as a way of saying thank you.

Along with many others, Stu Cooper and I were invited.







We were among the 170 other people who enjoyed the evening.



Who hates speeding tickets? – raise your right foot.





Santa was there of course and Stu made sure Santa knew he had been a good boy all year.



And when he wasn't chatting up Santa he was chatting up the pretty girls.



Thien Nguyen, Kim Nguyen, Van Pham.





John Cunnington and his lovely wife Eileen were given, what they hoped, was a lucky ticket by Thien Nguyen. John and Eileen were two of the several members of the Vietnam Vets Assoc Sunshine Coast who travelled down from the Coast to enjoy the evening.



Not to be outdone, Mrs Santa also did the rounds giving out lovely little gifts. Obviously both Stu and I had been good boys because Mrs Santa dropped in.







Thai and Diamond – on behalf of Stu and myself, thank you for your amazing generosity, it was a wonderful gesture, a wonderful evening and we hope to see you at a RAAF Vietnam Lunch in the new year.

## Covid?





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