

Officer Cadet School

Website: www.ocsportsea.org

Passing Parade December 1973



Introduction

In this booklet, we will record the lives of members of our class who have completed their life story. We remember them fondly.

This work has been commenced by Rudi Poldoja as he has gathered information on members of the Scheyville Wing of OCS. As we gain more information, their stories will be added to our list.

If you can assist in building these records, please contact us via the Class Orderly who can assist with getting the story published and added to this book.

Tim Bakker (4 April 1950 – 24 July 2018)



Timothy James Phillips Bakker was born in Sydney, NSW on 4 April 1950. He was raised in a farming community in the Hunter Valley, was educated at Farrer Agricultural College in Tamworth and played Rugby for the School's 1st XV. He was initially a National Serviceman who served in RAA and saw active service in the Vietnam War from 4 May to 5 December 1971 as a Gunner with 104th Field Battery of 12th Field Regiment RAA. On several occasions his battery fired in support of what later turned out to be OCS (Scheyville) classmate Allan Lowe who was, at that time an infantryman in Delta Company, 3RAR, most notably during the *Battle of Long Khanh* (Operation Overlord 6–7 June 1971).

Tim was selected for officer training at the Regular Army Officer Cadet School (OCS) Portsea, to commence his officer training in January 1973. However he, along with 30 other applicants from his class, was allocated to be in the 1/73 Class of the Scheyville Wing of OCS located at the National Service officer training establishment, the Officer Training Unit (OTU), located at Scheyville near Windsor in NSW. He was appointed Colour Sergeant of Blamey Platoon of what was then the Company of Officer Cadets, in the Senior Class remaining at Scheyville after the march-out of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class in June 1973. His was the last of the three OCS (Scheyville) classes. Along with his other 1/73 Class members, he went to Portsea in December 1973 to graduate with his cohort classmates. Always cheerful, his preferred greeting was 'Are you one?' to which the only acceptable reply was 'One what?'

Tim graduated to RAA and was initially allotted to 1st Field Regiment in Brisbane where he served the majority of his subaltern years. He married in the late-1970s and later re-married in September 1981 while posted as Adjutant of 23rd Field Regiment, Kogarah. Shortly afterwards, he moved to the Army School of Instructional Training (ASIT) at Middle Head serving there from 1982 to 1983. He then moved to the School of Artillery at North Head for two back-to-back postings from 1984 to 1987. He then undertook a year's full-time tertiary education in Information Technology during 1988; this was followed by an IT skills-related posting to Headquarters 4th Military District at Keswick Barracks. By late 1990, Army had need of Tim's expertise in Canberra and the prospect of this posting led to his decision to leave the service. He felt he had contributed enough of the best years of his life to the Nation and elected to resign so that he and his family could return home to Scotland Island on the Hawkesbury River for priority family time and personal pursuits. He maintained his interest in Rugby during his military career, occasionally playing for Army at the representative level.

Tim retired from the ARA at the rank of Major on 28 March 1991 after completing 20 years of service. After an eight-week battle with pancreatic cancer, he died on 24 July 2018. He is survived by his widow Therese, daughter Alexandra and son Murray and is fondly remembered by his friends, both military and civilian.

Ray Dousset (21 April 1950 – 29 October 2019)



Raymond Allan Dousset was born in Chelsea, Victoria, on 21 April 1950. After serving for three years with 2nd Commando Company in the Citizen Military Force, Ray joined the ARA in 1970 and undertook Recruit Training at Kapooka where he was awarded Top Recruit of his intake. He was allocated to RAEME and went to Bandiana, completing Corps training and the 48 of 1970 Adult Trades Electronics Course at the RAEME Training Centre. Following this, he was posted to 3rd Base Workshop, Puckapunyal as a Radar Mechanic.

In 1972 he applied and was selected for officer training at the Regular Army Officer Cadet School (OCS), Portsea to commence his officer training in January 1973. However he, along with 30 other applicants from his class, was allocated to be in the 1/73 Class of the Scheyville

Wing of OCS located at the National Service officer training establishment, the Officer Training Unit (OTU), located at Scheyville near Windsor in NSW. Ray was appointed Colour Sergeant of Monash Platoon of what was then the Company of Officer Cadets, in the Senior Class remaining at Scheyville after the march-out of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class in June 1973. His was the last of the three OCS (Scheyville) classes. Along with his other 1/73 Class members, he went to Portsea in December 1973, to graduate with his cohort classmates.

Ray graduated to RAEME and was posted back to 3rd Base Workshop. In July 1976 he achieved his lifelong dream of becoming an Army Pilot and graduated from 23 Army Pilot Basic Course at No1 Flight Flying School, Point Cook. He, along with the other trainees, passed the rigorous training by supporting each other to the maximum; something Ray was known for at Scheyville and for which he was to become known throughout his selfless life. This was followed by completion of Advanced Flying Training Course 1 of 1977 (Rotary Wing). He served until 1981, had a break in his service, becoming a highly-praised rescue chopper pilot working in Gippsland, Victoria and North Queensland and re-joined the Army in 1986 in the Army Reserve, to fly with 1st Aviation Regiment. In 1989 he commenced a period of Continuous Full-Time Service, flying with 162nd Reconnaissance Squadron in 1st Aviation Regiment. After another short break, Ray re-joined the ARA on a Short Service contract, serving a further two years, this time with 5th Aviation Regiment.

By early 1992 Ray had ceased flying at his own request due to emerging mental issues and assumed a Squadron 2IC role but soon after, he was diagnosed as a manic-depressive and medically discharged in September 1992. After the breakdown of his first marriage and a long road to recovery, he eventually embraced religion and did some missionary work in China and Hong Kong with his new partner Suzanne. They adopted a young Chinese girl who had been abandoned, as she suffered with physical and mental limitations and she came back to Australia with them. Ray was the author of two books, 'Rotor in the Green' and 'With Wings as Eagles'. He and Suzanne eventually settled in Mackay, North Queensland enjoying retirement.

Sadly, this was cut short when Ray was killed in a car accident on 29 October 2019. He left behind his wife Suzanne; his children, Michelle, Christine (Matt), Damian (Catharine), Deborah, Joslin (Merv), Chad, Donna (Nathan) and Melinda (Anthony).

Klaus Hahn (25 December 1950 – 3 May 1996)



Klaus Juergen Hahn was born on Christmas Day 1950. He applied and was selected for officer training at the Regular Army Officer Cadet School (OCS) Portsea, to commence his officer training in January 1973. However he, along with 30 other applicants from his class, was allocated to be in the 1/73 Class of the Scheyville Wing of OCS located at the National Service officer training establishment, the Officer Training Unit (OTU), located at Scheyville near Windsor in NSW.

Klaus was in Chauvel Platoon in his Junior Term and was allocated Mike Minchin of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class as his 'Father'. He saw out his time in what was then the Company of Officer Cadets as part of the Senior Class remaining at Scheyville after the march-out of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class in June 1973. He was the last of the three OCS (Scheyville) classes. Along with his other 1/73 Class members, he went to Portsea in December 1973 to graduate with his cohort classmates.

On graduation Klaus was posted to RAA Provost Corps. He died on 3 May 1996, is buried at the Castlebrook Memorial Park at Rouse Hill in Sydney and is survived by his wife Caroline and daughter Jessica.

Mark Walker (1954 - 28 March 2017)



Having previously been a 2LT in the CMF, **Mark (Marcus) John Walker** applied and was selected for officer training at the Regular Army Officer Cadet School (OCS) Portsea, to commence his officer training in January 1973. However he, along with 30 other applicants from his class, was allocated to be in the 1/73 Class of the Scheyville Wing of OCS located at the National Service officer training establishment, the Officer Training Unit (OTU), located at Scheyville near Windsor in NSW.

Mark attained the rank of Corporal in what was then the Company of Officer Cadets, in the Senior Class remaining at Scheyville after the march-out of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class in June 1973. He was the last of the three OCS (Scheyville) classes. Along with his other 1/73 Class members, he went to Portsea in December 1973 to graduate with his cohort classmates.

Mark graduated into AAAvn and was seconded to 1RAR, Townsville in 1974 for two years to gain regimental experience as a junior officer. Upon his return to AAAvn, he attended the RAAF Flying School at Point Cook in 1976. Being unsuccessful at his flying course, he Corps transferred to RAAC in 1975. He served in all ARA RAAC line units: 2nd Cavalry Regiment, Holsworthy, B Squadron 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Townsville and 1st Armoured Regiment, Puckapunyal. Progressing to the rank of Major, his last appointment in the Army was as OC A Squadron 3/4th Cavalry Regiment in Brisbane.

In 1985 Mark moved to Perth with his wife Sue. He was doing very well as Executive Director/CEO of an industry organisation involved in transport training. In 1999 he suffered a severe brain aneurysm whilst on business in Adelaide and nearly died. He was unable to work again after that due to the resultant acquired brain injury.

In April 2016 Mark was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He undertook programs of chemotherapy and radiotherapy but the disease spread and he died at home on 28 March 2017 at age 63. He was not survived by any children.