

Anglican Chaplain Mark Burton consecrated as Bishop in WA

More than 12 Anglican bishops gathered in Perth on June 1 for the consecration of Navy Reserve Chaplain Mark Burton as a Bishop.

For Chaplain Burton the consecration – before a ‘standing room only’ congregation in the chapel of Claremont’s Christ Church Grammar School – signified the end of a lengthy stretch as a Permanent Navy padre and return to the Naval Reserve.

Chap Burton came to the church after training and serving in the RAAF as a nursing officer. He served in a number of Air Force establishments including RAAF Butterworth in Malaysia.

He returned to Australia and underwent training for the Anglican priesthood at Ridley College in Melbourne in 1990, later serving at Werribee and working as examining chaplain to the Archbishop of Melbourne. He was also conferred with a Doctorate of Theology (ThD) for his thesis *The Christian Perspective of the Jewish Holocaust*.

Chap Burton joined the RAN Reserves around the turn of the millennium but soon transferred to the PN serving in HMAS *Cerberus* before being sent for duties in HMAS *Melbourne* on deployment to the Gulf.

Chap Burton returned to take up chaplaincy of the Recruit School at *Cerberus* before taking up duties, at short notice, on board HMAS *Kanimbla* for Operations Sumatra Assist I and II which followed in the wake of the tsunami and earthquake in Banda Aceh, Sabang and Nias.

He was chaplain aboard and ministered to the needs of the shocked dispirited ship’s company of *Kanimbla* after the Shark 02 Sea King tragedy on the island of Nias on April 2, 2005.



Above: NOW - Bishop Mark Burton with Bishop’s crook, mitre and gown after the consecration at Claremont’s Christ Church Grammar School chapel. Pic by Lyn Anderson, courtesy *The Anglican Messenger*

The senior Reserves chaplain, SnrChap Russell Joyce – acting in his civilian capacity as Father Joyce – told Bishop Burton at the consecration: “Your ministry has been appreciated and valued and your friendship with your people affirmed many times by them.

“Whether in the galley peeling potatoes, sitting or talking with a sailor in need of a friend, or in Iraq, on in the horrors of the tsunami, the Nias earthquake or the Sea King tragedy, you were there sharing their pain and their hurt. A shepherd with your people – known, loving and loved.”

Chap Burton became the second Anglican RAN chaplain to be consecrated as a bishop. The first was Chap Hamish Jamison who was appointed Bishop of Carpentaria in 1974 after seven years naval service.

Below: THEN - possibly the most demanding event in the life of a Service Chaplain: Chap Mark Burton conducts a memorial service at Amandraya in remembrance of those who died in the Sea King accident on April 2 last year. About 50 from those onboard HMAS *Kanimbla* ship’s company, including 817 SQN and the primary care reception facility (PCRF) attended the service. Photo shows those paying their respects surrounding a makeshift memorial improvised from a Sea King rear rotor blade. Chap Burton played a vital role in helping ship’s company come to term with the loss in the days following the tragedy. Pic by POCIS Jason McGraw



Swan dive — ANRDT7 deploys to Dunsborough



l. to. r.: CPOCD Des Harris, PODVER Michael Kuipers, PODVR Mark Graham, SMNDVR Jim Edmonds, ABDVR Chris Casey, LSDVR Glen McGraith, LSDVR Stephen Moore, LSDVR Sean Kenwery and LEUT Dave Howard

WA’s Dive Team Seven has completed one of the two minor annual deployments required to maintain currency and took the opportunity to drop in on an old friend.

XO of ANRDT 7 LEUT Dave Howard said the team deployed to Dunsborough on the weekend April 7 to 9 to complete a wharf and hull search of Busselton Jetty and the dive wreck of HMAS *Swan*.

“They were really good dives,” LEUT Howard said, “The conditions for diving both locations were fantastic.

“All divers experienced a minimum of 10 metres visibility during each dive. The location and timing of the training could not have been better.”

LEUT Howard said accommodation at a nearby caravan park and victualing had both been of a very high standard.

“It was about 30 metres to the bottom of *Swan*’s hull,” he said. “We were able to go into the bridge and ops room and you could enter the ship from where the forward gun turret had been removed and travel down through the magazine and along inside the ship.”

The only negative aspect of the deployment, LEUT Howard added, was that the location of *Swan* prevented mobile or

hand held line-of-sight radio communications from the dive site to shore.

“The site required a 20-minute transit via zodiac to the nearest landing point,” he said. “In the event of a diving emergency, this issue would increase risk of personal injury by delaying preparation time of a MEDEVAC.

“This issue would be easily mitigated in future by the inclusion of a VHF or HF portable radio in the zodiac and MEDEVAC vehicle for dives more than one nautical mile from shore.”

LEUT Howard said it was a requirement of the team to undertake one major deployment – where the team is on task for more than eight hours – per annum, and two minor deployments where they are on task for more than six hours away from their own locality.

“Overall the deployment was a success, proving that the reserve team has the capability to deploy small distances for extended periods (in excess of six hours on task),” he said.

“This was the one of two minor deployment-training targets for this financial year and the team is certainly on track for achieving the requirements.”

SUBMARINE RESERVE VACANCIES

Naval Reserve Capability Enhancement Program

- LEUT SMNSM (6 positions)
- LEUT WESM (2 positions)
- LEUT MESM (2 positions)

All positions predominantly sea-going with days allocated for:

- relief
- maintaining currency
- training
- travel

SM FEG is based at FBW (Rockingham, WA) however interstate applicants are encouraged

Positions available from 1 July 2006



Expressions of interest to be directed to SMHRM LCDR Allan Dennison RANR (08) 9553 3678 or allan.dennison@defence.gov.au

