

## Queen's man for the day

Story and pics by Graham Davis

A young Royal Australian Navy Reservist has been the 'Queen's man' for a day.

He is LEUT Matthew Rowe, the aide-de-camp to the Governor of Queensland, Mrs Quentin Bryce.

On Remembrance Day Governor Bryce was in Japan and obviously unable to attend the Remembrance Day service at the Shrine of Remembrance in Brisbane.

Vice Regal representation was still

required so LEUT Rowe stepped forward.

He joined more than 200 men, women and children, many in military uniform, for the 30-minute service.

After listening intently to nine-year-old Kyra Scott from the Ferny Grove State School recite *In Flanders' Field* and a welcome by the RSL State President, Mr Doug Formby, LEUT Rowe led a large number of VIPs and members of the public in laying floral tributes at the base of the Eternal Flame.



Listening intently...LEUT Rowe listens to Kyra Scott, 9, recite *In Flanders' Field*. With them is the State RSL President, Mr Doug Formby.



LEUT Rowe lays a wreath at the Shrine of Remembrance on behalf of the Governor of Queensland

## Three centuries of military service acknowledged

By a Staff Reporter

For long serving DT9 member CPODVR Jim Dunning 2006 has been a year of recognition after belatedly receiving his Defence Long Service Medal and two clasps in recognition of almost 30 years Reserve service.

CPO Dunning's long service milestone is part of a long family tradition of service in the military dating back several hundred years including his Irish maternal great grandfather's two years with the United States Naval Service as a seaman on the USS *Farollones* during the American Civil War.

"On my father's side family members have served all over the world during the era of the British empire including India, Burma, and South Africa during the Zulu and Boer Wars. My father was born in India and like his father before him served with the Royal Horse Artillery and saw service in North Africa and Europe.

"Dad's father won the DCM in East Africa during WW I and one of dad's brothers was killed in action at Arnhem in WW II with the 1st Parachute Battalion during Operation Market Garden. A great uncle was killed at Isandhlwana during the Zulu War of 1879 and several others were killed in the battlefields of France and Flanders during the Great War.

"On leaving the British Army after WWII, dad enlisted in the Australian Army and the family migrated to Australia where my two brothers followed on in dad's footsteps and also joined the Regular Army. Both my brothers have seen periods of active service, the oldest Geoff, in Vietnam and the youngest Steve, in East Timor and Iraq. They are still serving, though as Reservists," said CPO Dunning.

Joining the CMF's Adelaide based 122 SIG SQN in the late 1960s the then Sig Dunning completed three years service during the period of military conscription. Discharging in 1969 CPO Dunning's career as a linesman with Telecom saw him travel the length and breadth of Australia even including a

stint re-establishing telecommunications in Darwin post Cyclone Tracy.

An interest in diving saw CPO Dunning join the newly established DT9 at the former NR Port Division HMAS *Encounter* in August 1980. One of the stalwarts of the team CPO Dunning has experienced many highlights during his 26-year NR career.

Several stints of CFTS in a number of RAN ships saw CPO Dunning posted as ship's Dive supervisor on HMA Ships *Darwin* and *Success* during South East Asian deployments and another included a trip in HMAS *Aware* when she circumnavigated Australia in 1988.

CPO Dunning recounted many fond memories along the way including sea time in the former Reserve vessels, HMA Ships *Banks* and *Bass*. More recently he has also been posted to two of the Navy's heavy landing craft (LCHs), HMA Ships *Labuan* and *Balikpapan* where he

performed diving duties in support of exercises such as Crocodile and Dugong.

"As a diver there has also been plenty of variety from being a ship's diver to beach surveys and shock trials for the Collins Class submarines," he said. "DT9 has been called on to support the Australian Submarine Corporation (ASC) and DSTO during the various stages of the submarines build and trials. Earlier this year we also conducted an exercise in Darwin where we undertook Q Route and MGI surveys."

As the 'senior' member of DT 9 and in the twilight of his career, CPO Dunning is very proud of his family's long tradition of military service which spans three centuries and six generations in the US, British and Australia Defence Forces.

He is optimistic that the tradition will live on in the next generation with one of his nephews currently serving as an officer in the GRES.

CPODVR Jim Dunning receives his Long Service Medal with two clasps recognising nearly 30 years Reserves service from CO NHQ-SA CMDR Andrew Jackman. CPO Dunning wore the Australian Army uniform as a signaller when conscripted during the Vietnam war. He's been in the ANR for 26 years.



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LCDR Allan Dennison RANR (08) 9553 3678 or  
allan.dennison@defence.gov.au

