

Able Seaman Clive REYNOLDS Royal Australian Navy (RAN) S/8213

Clive Reynolds was born at "Burrawong," Cumnock on 18 Apr 1921. His parents were Sylvanus and Stella Reynolds. His siblings were: Percival, born 1917; Margot, born 1918; Diana, born 1923; Vivienne, born 1924; Beverley, born 1925; and David, born 1930.

Clive completed his schooling at the King's School, Parramatta where he had been a successful all-round sportsman. He then attended the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, Richmond, before returning home to "Burrawong".

Australia entered WW2 on 3 Sep 1939. Clive's brother, Percival (known as Pat) enlisted in the Australian Army on 1 Jun 1940, aged 22 yrs. Clive's parents reportedly would not let him enlist until he turned 21yrs. He was then rejected by the Army and Air Force when he tried to enlist as he had a head injury from diving into a creek. He was a part time member of the 26 Btn Volunteer Defence Corps, N30085, from 25 Nov 1942 until he enlisted in the RAN on 15 Mar 1943.

His sister, Doris Vivienne Reynolds, also enlisted in the Australian Army on 13 Sep 1943 and served at the 114 Australian General Hospital, Goulburn, NSW.

Clive served as an Ordinary Seaman at *HMAS Cerberus*, Flinders Naval Base, Victoria, from 15 Mar 1943 to 19 July 1943. During 1943 Clive completed a Torpedo Course, Bren Vickers Lewis and Machine gun drills and firing, and a Submarine Detector course, all with particularly good results.

Able Seaman Clive Reynolds served on *HMAS Echuca* (J252/M252) from 9 Dec 1943. The *Echuca* was one of 60 Bathurst-class corvettes that was commissioned into the RAN on 7 Sep 1942.

Echuca's initial role was as an anti-submarine patrol and convoy escort vessel along the eastern Australia coast and in New Guinea waters. The ship stayed in this role from Oct 1942 – Aug 1944, when it was ordered to Darwin and attached to the United States Seventh Fleet's Survey Group. The *Echuca* performed survey duties until the end of WW2.

Clive was reported in the *Wellington Times* – 14 Jun 1943, p8, as being recently on leave with his parents at "Burrawong." *The Molong Express and Western District Advertiser* – 10 Mar 1944, p5, also reported: "Clive, son of Mr and Mrs SR Reynolds, who is attached to the RAN, is home on leave. Clive, who looks the picture of health, is very enthusiastic about his job and says the Navy is top of the services, although during heavy storms at sea a Corvette can be very uncomfortable."

While still in the RAN, Clive Reynolds married Judith Crockford at the chapel of the King's College on 17 Mar 1945. His brother Pat was best man, and his sister Vivienne was one of the bridesmaids.

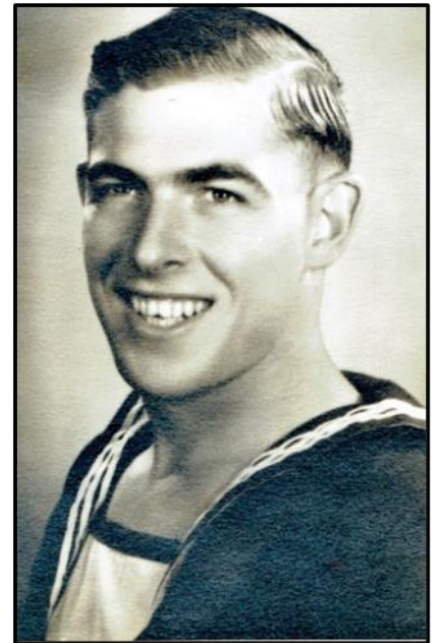


Clive served on *HMAS Echuca* as a Submarine Detector operator (ASPICS) for 4 hour demanding shifts and also manning an Oerlikon Cannon for 4 hours. He completed his service on the *Echuca* on 21 Nov 1945 and was discharged from the Royal Australian Navy on 11 Jan 1946, while stationed at the HMAS *Rushcutter* Naval Base, Sydney.

The Molong Express and Western District Advertiser – 7 Jan 1946, p6, reported on a

welcome home to servicewomen and men at the Red Cross Ball, held in the Cumnock Picture Theatre, on New Year's Eve. As well as an exceptionally large crowd from the district, Clive and Pat Reynolds were two of many Cumnock service personnel who attended the welcome home function.

Clive and Judith lived at Burrawong after his discharge from the RAN and they had a daughter, Caroline, born in 1947. Clive became secretary of the Cumnock Show Society from 1946 to 1950.



Clive was a renowned Rugby Union player and as Captain of the Cumnock Rugby union team, he was appointed as vice-captain in a combined Country Rugby Union team, which played the British Isles team at Canberra on 9 August 1952. His cousin, Max Reynolds, was also included in the team.

Judith and Clive Reynolds divorced in 1950 and Clive remarried to Moira Triggs, of "Merri Merrigal," Lake Cargelligo, on 12 Aug 1952, at St. Stephen's Church, Macquarie Street, Sydney. The couple lived at "Burrawong" until establishing a home on "Merri-Burra," a property of 1,000 acres, in 1964. Clive and Moira had two daughters, Penny and Jane.

Moira and Clive retired in 1980 to the township of Cumnock to live at the homestead, Notlimah, built in 1911 by George and Grace Black.

Clive died suddenly of a heart attack on 12 Aug 1983, aged 63 years. He was privately cremated at Orange. Moira continues to live at Notlimah, and is a valued member of the Cumnock community.

An obituary published in the *Cumnock Progress Review* - 17 Aug 1983, reported:



"Clive's greatest interest was probably Agricultural Shows and in particular, the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW, of which he became President. He gave much of his time to the Cumnock Show and held the offices of Secretary and President. He leant most to horse events and showed ponies with success including the Sydney Royal. He kept an interest in all rural respects and was a keen advocate and promoter of Cattle Junior Judging events..."

Having been a successful all round sport of the Kings School, he kept his love for all sport. He played for Combined Country in Rugby Union, for district cricket teams, was a one time President of the Cumnock Tennis Club, and in later years gave much of his time and effort to the Cumnock Golf Club...

One of his long time involvements was with the Cumnock War Memorial Park. Having helped from its beginnings to build it and the R.S.L. Hall, he became the R.S.L. representative on the Park Committee and took a personal interest in its development and the maintenance of its facilities...

Clive was also a serving member of the Molong Hospital board.

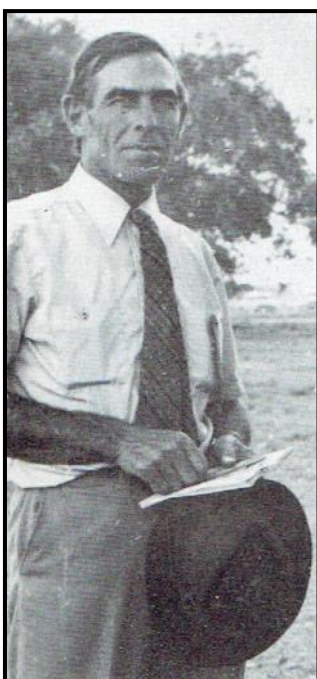
It is obvious that Clive will be greatly missed and he will be hard to replace in the community."

Clive Reynolds is featured in:

"The Crossroads" by Joan Marriott, 1993, and

"The Molong & District Servicemen and Servicewomen's Portrait Gallery" by Helen Haynes, 2009.

Compiled by Dianne Strahan & Val McKenzie, July 2020



Above top: *The Land*, 15 Aug 1952, p28, wedding of Moira Trigg & Clive Reynolds.

Left: Clive Reynolds, President of the Cumnock P.A. & H. Association, 1975 Cumnock Show.

Above: Plaque and tree in the Cumnock Memorial Park in tribute to Clive Reynolds.