



Credit: Bob Stephens BEM, Crewman.

Pre-1965 Training:

In 1962, (prior to the acquisition of the aircraft), Keith Wadling was the first to go to the USA for on-the-job training (OJT) with the US Navy and Army and after his return to Australia, he trained Gordon 'Stinky' Buttress GM, Ted Ramsay, Bill Boyd (deceased), then later in that year trained Bill Harrington AFM (deceased) and James 'Jim' Roche.

Note: In 1965, A/FSGT Keith Wadling was awarded The Queen's Commendation for valuable service to the RAAF.

No 1 Course: January-November 1965.

Conducted at RAAF Base Fairbairn.

Chief Instructor was CAPT Marty DONOHUE USAF, assisted by FSGT Ted RAMSAY and A/SGT Bill HARRINGTON AFM (deceased).

Dennis OLSEN OAM MID, Bruce SHEARER, Neville 'Sinky/Nev/Nifty' SINKINSON, David 'Blue' COLLINS MID, Victor 'Vic' WILLIAMS, John 'Snow' COUGHLAN CGM (deceased), Brian 'Ox' TAYLOR, Kerin 'Kerry' WILLIAMS, Garry 'Cactus' MCCARTHY, John NEATHERWAY, John 'Jake' HENSON and Bob STOYLES DFM.

Note: There is one photo available at present, but it only includes four of the twelve members.

No 2 Course: September - December 1966.

David 'Dave' MEHEGAN, William 'Bill' MCCREADIE, Ron 'On Guard' GARDNER, Jan 'Joe' HECK, Geoffrey 'Geoff' CLARK and Lindsay FANKHAUSER.

Note: The course photo indicates Dave Mehegan as absent.

No 3 Course: ... November 1967.

Greg LOVE MID, John 'JP' PARSONS MID, Jan 'Kiwi' KIEWIET MID, Rod 'Ranga' RANGER DFM, Peter 'Pete' AMOS (deceased), John 'Jock' YORKE DFM, Malcolm 'Mal' ANTAW, Chris TYLER (deceased) and Edward 'Eddy/Ted' BARTLETT.

Note: Unfortunately, no official course photo was taken, as some crewmen were immediately deployed to Vietnam and others on Army exercises.

Interim Training:

Trevor 'Fred' MONAHAN, who served as a Gunner with No 9 Squadron in Vietnam during the period September 1966 to September 1967, was trained to fill the role as a Crewman at No 5 Squadron RAAF Base Fairbairn and officially qualified on 2nd February 1968.

No 4 Course: ... March 1968.

Dave 'Combat' MOLES DFM, Andy LAPINS, Pete ARMSTRONG, Geoffrey 'Geoff' SMITH MID, Monty JESINOWSKI, Rowland 'Fred' FERRY (deceased), Alan LAMB and Wayne 'Ray' HAY.

Note: Absent in the course photo is Fred Ferry (deceased).

No 5 Course: ... 24th April 1968 – 22nd July 1968.

Pete 'Robbo' ROBINSON, Terry 'Pinky' PINKERTON DFM, Kerry 'Shippy' SHIPP DFM, Felix PARKER OAM, Geoffrey 'Geoff/Scobes' SCOBIE, Colin 'Col' HENDY, George SHEEHAN, Robert 'Bob' BURTENSHAW, Tony 'The Flying Cook' REYNOLDS-HUNTLEY, Don NEIL, Alan 'Al' JONES and George EDWARDS DFM (deceased).

Note: Absent in the course graduation photo taken on 05 August 1968 is Alan Jones and George Edwards DFM (deceased).

No 6 Course: ... 10th February – 18th July 1969.

Neville 'Nev' PRATT, Steve 'Milly' MILSTED (deceased), Anthony 'Jamie' MORAN (deceased), Richard MCLAREN, Alan 'Al' SEWELL (deceased), Barry BIRCHAM MID, Gerard 'Gerry' MAPSTONE OAM JP, Glen 'Duncan' McNAIR (deceased), Edward 'Ted' MAXWELL, Garry 'Two Dogs' JONES AFM (deceased), John 'Scouse' WARBRICK and Joe 'Joey' PETTIT MID.

No 7 Course: ... October 1969 – February 1970.

Bob 'Chuck' STEPHENS BEM (G), Pete VIDLER (deceased), Ruediger 'Rudy' MECH, Pete JOHNSON, Brian 'Blue/Hot Rocks' ROWLEY (deceased), Ken 'Inkwell' TANSWELL, Kerry 'Pugsley/The Brat' MILLARD, Alan 'Rocky' BLOXSOM (deceased), Trevor 'TH' HAMILL DFM (deceased), Bill 'Billy' CROUCH AFM (deceased), Alan 'Tangles' BIELBY (deceased) and Neville 'Nifty Nev' SINKINSON (doing a refresher course).

No 8 Course: ... August 1970.

Frederick 'Fred' BROWN AFM, Barry BERTRAM, John MURPHY, Geoff IRVIN, Pete 'Watto' WATSON AFM, Paul 'Snow' BATTERHAM, Bob WALLER and Barry 'Grock' ROLFE.

No 9 Course: ... 1970.

Steve 'Dorrie' RUSSELL, Stephen 'Steve' HARTIGAN, Klaus WENDT (deceased), Ian McGARRY, Ray 'Mongo' MORRISON BM QCVSA, Thom 'Kaj/Mover/Mac the Knife' KAJEVIC (deceased), Bob 'Bung' THOMPSON and Garry 'Suntan' SUNNERS.

No 10 Course: ... 1971.

Adrian 'Shep' SHEPLEY, Kevin 'Bones' DRANSFIELD, Noel 'Shagga' SHEA and Maurice 'Maurie' SUMMERS.

Note:

1. I, (Bob Stephens), have elected to conclude with No 10 Crewman Course, as this was the last course that I was associated with prior to my discharge from the RAAF at Fairbairn in December 1972.
2. I have also elected to concentrate on No 9 and No 5 Squadron crewman training and other associated information, without necessarily going into 9 Squadron operations in Vietnam and the squadron role at Amberley.

Course information below added by Lance Haslewood.

No 11 Course: ... September 1973.

Geoff GARRARD (deceased), Brian FERGUSON, Bob MITCHELL, Tony 'Block' MOORE, John 'Robbo' ROBSON, Peter 'Shorty' SHAMBROOK.

No 12 Course: ... 1974.

Graham 'Chinaman' ALDRIDGE, John GOUNDREY, Merv HARDING, Peter 'Pedro' INGLIS AFM, Trevor PLEASS, Brian 'Flowers' ROSE (deceased), Peter WATTIE (deceased), Brian 'Firey' WILSON (deceased).

No 13 Course: ... 1974.

Bill GOODWIN, Neil McCAMISH, Dave 'Doggie' RUSSELL AFM, Gary 'Slim' REEVE.

No 14 Course: ... May - July 1975.

John 'Gibbo' GIBSON, Lance 'Luscious' HASLEWOOD JP (QUAL), Peter 'Porky' PRANIESS, Shane 'Spencer' STORER, Wayne THODAY.

No 15 Course: ... November 1975.

Pat DARCY, Rick HARDY (deceased), Terry WYATT.

No 16 Course: ... July 1976.

Bob COOK, Peter LUCK, Mike RYAN, Rodney SMITH, Greg STEELE (deceased).

No 17 Course: ... November 1976.

Bill BROWN, Kerry HARDY, Garth HUTCHINSON, Kym MANUEL, Ross McLACHLIN, Russ MEIKLE, Paddy SINCLAIR, Tony 'Majid' VAN GENT.

No 18 Course: ... 1977.

Greg BUSHNELL, Martin CAMPBELL, John PORTER, Sandy ROMAN AFM (deceased), Paul 'Misunda' STANDING.

No 19 Course: ... May 1978.

Mick BROWN, Marc MacDONALD, Trevor SHORTEN, Bruce WARRING.

No 20 Course: ... 1978.

Gary COOLING, Howden 'Sparra' FARRAR, Gary SAUNDERS, Steve YOUNG.

No 21 Course: ... 1978.

Chris 'Geck' ELLIS, Michael DUDLEY, Robert GILDARE, Chris WHITE, John WROBLEWSKI.

No 22 Course: ... 1979.

Michael ATTRIDGE, Tom BIGGAR.

No 23 Course: ... May 1980.

Ian BAWDEN, Peter BUCKLEY, Peter DEANE, Peter HILL, Peter KENNEDY, Joe KOZEY, Warren MARTIN, Bruce PITT, Rick WEATHERALL (deceased).

No 24 Course: ... 1980.

Brian HAMILTON, John 'Dog' MADDIGAN AM, John 'Pav' PAWLIN, Ronald PRETLOVE, Neville 'Revs' ROBIN, Joe RUTINA.

No 25 Course: ... 1981.

Garry DAVIS, Bruce MOORE, Greg MILLEN, Tony STEWART, Doug STOCKWELL.

No 26 Course: ... 1981.

Bob HARVEY, John IBELL, Richard LOPORATI, Ian MAGUIRE, Robert SWANWICK.

Loadmaster Rotary Wing.



1/84 Course: ... 1984.

Ken BAILEY, David McCANN OAM (M), OAM (G), Peter O'BRIEN, Peter RENTON, Jeff ROSENBOOM, Michael ROUTLEDGE, Wayne SILVERMAN, Ian WALTERS.

1/85 Course: ... 1985.

Dean GATES, Brian GREEN, Peter KAAC, Pat McMAHON, Gary SUTHERS, Paul TRANTER.

1/86 Course: ... 1986.

Stephen BAILEY (did not qualify), John BOATMAN, Nick BRADSHAW, David DUNHAM, Peter HAYTON, Andrew HISLOP, Paul LINEHAM, Trevor THOMPSON.

2/86 Course: ... 1986.

Grendell ANTONY, Ian BRAZILL (deceased), Dick GARFORTH, Kev SCHERR, Mick WILSON (deceased).

1/87 Course: ... 1987.

Robert BELL, Murray SPRIGGS BM.