
Bernard John Higgins

From Certificate of the service of Royal Australian Naval Reserve, my father Bernard John Higgins, cook (s) F5025 D.O.B. 16 August 1926, Yarloop, W.A. Date of enlistment 22 April 1943, Fremantle, W.A. Date of discharge 19 June, 1946 from H.M.A.S. Leeuwin.

Cook (s) on the following ships:

- Cerberus – 22 April 1943 to 16 March 1944
- Stuart – 17 March 1944 to 9 May 1944
- Leeuwin – 10 May 1944 to 1 June 1944
- Boom Defence Fremantle – 2 June 1944 to 7 July 1944
- Leeuwin – 8 July 1944 to 11 July 1944
- Basilisk – 12 July 1944 to 31 March 1945
- Magnetic (Basilisk) – 1 April 1945 to 12 August 1945
- Leeuwin – 13 August 1945 to 5 October 1945
- Lismore – 6 October 1945 to 31 October 1945
- Leeuwin – 1 November 1945 to 9 November 1945
- Leeuwin 11 – 10 November 1945 to 5 March 1946
- Leeuwin – 6 March 1946 to 19 June 1946

I believe he was at New Guinea, as I have seen a photo. Dad never spoke about anything of his time with the navy. Which is sad. I do have his hand written cookbook and a small pocket book with some names and addresses of men he knew on the ships, some drawings and jokes. Dad passed away 5 June 1977, aged 52, leaving his young wife Helen and 5 daughters.