

## **ROY ACKRILL - 1925circa -16 SEPT 2007**

Sad to hear the news about Roy Ackrill crossing the bar, it came too late for any of us to attend his funeral. He had been ill for several years a couple of our lads visited him recently in Hornsby Hospital when he collapsed on a journey north from his home in Batemans bay Southern NSW.

The last time I spoke to him six or seven months ago now he intimated that he was running on empty so to speak, the cancer had drained him.

Unfortunately none of us ever got to meet him, he never attended any of our functions as he was always too busy running his business in the early days.

On the one occasion I went to Bateman's Bay to meet him he couldn't make it.

Then in more recent times his illness slowed him down, on several occasions I spent quite some hours talking to him on the phone mostly about his war time adventures that read like something out of "Boys own Adventures"

From being a regular MN seaman he went as an TX124 (is that the correct term) engineer in the RN, ending up on MGBs in the Aegean from there to the SBS (Small boat service) a commando unit in that area and later against the Japanese in the East.

Altogether an amazing story, I asked him to write it all down but he said he couldn't as he had signed the "Official secrets act" but would leave his story posthumously.

I hope he has.



Roy called in to see John in Raymond Terrace—photo early 2007 I think.

*Terry Hales*