



## FEATURE

# Reg Young ~ celebrating 100 years!

Reg Young was born on 10 January 1921 in Withycombe, England. He was one of six children, and the second eldest. He was an active Mason – a member of the Semper Fidelis Masonic Lodge.

Reg was a radio operator in the British Royal Navy. He saw service on aircraft carriers and on shore.

He served on anti-aircraft ship HMS Carlisle and the aircraft carrier HMS Indomitable. Reg was part of an emergency crew on The 'Mighty Hood' when it sailed to Scotland. On two occasions Reg served on ships which subsequently were lost. He was a crew member on one of the ships despatched to Tokyo Bay for the surrender ceremony in 1945.

Reg was discharged from the British Navy in Sydney Harbour. He was given the choice of free passage back to England or, his choice, Australian citizenship rights on a British Passport to remain in Australia. He secured a job with Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) York Street Sydney and later Overseas Telecommunications Commission at La Perouse.

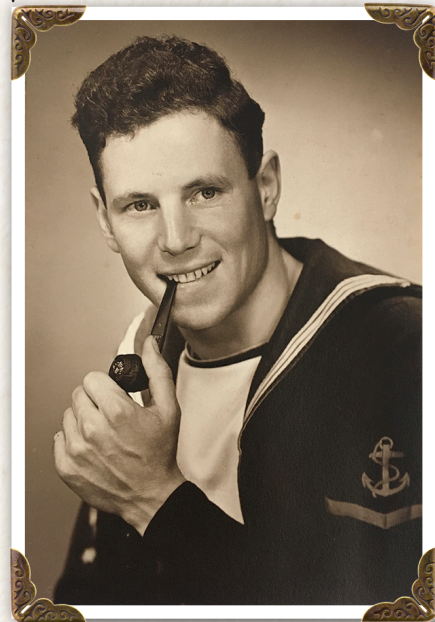
He married Mary Reilly on 12 March 1949. They have three children, 2 sons and 1 daughter and 5 grand-daughters.

Following OTC employment Reg founded the Pet Shop at Brookvale.

The Dalmatian saga began when Reg bought Freckles (Dubrovnik Mescal) in 1954 from Irene Mackinolty (Beaudalla Dalmatians) and Cuth and Ruth Matthews of Dubrovnik Dalmatians, Chelsea Farm, Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills, which was later purchased by Harry Spira who built a vet hospital. Freckles' pedigree boasted an imported sire and champion dam.

Not many households had cars back then. However, Reg owned a motorbike and much to the horror of the breeders, six weeks old Freckles was transported home in a brief case balanced on the bike's petrol tank.

Freckles was shown in 1957/58 by Reg although (according to a family member) "Freckles (typical Dalmatian) did not listen to Reg."



**CH. DUBROVNIK MESCAL**  
s. Kerford Kyle (imp UK)  
d. Ch. Dubrovnik Salona

Dumledeer Dalmatians began with the first litter from Freckles, sired by Fawdry Theodore who was owned by Julie Lawson. When Reg registered the litter, he was unaware of kennel names. In choosing the prefix his mind travelled back to England and the little thatched cottage in which he was born – "Dumledeer Cottage". This prefix was accepted and the litter was registered over the counter.

At the start, Reg was involved in showing. However, his direction changed as Mary became more involved.

In the early 1960s Reg established a flourishing business in Brookvale selling fresh meat for cats and dogs. As they were attending dog shows Reg grabbed the opportunity to sell dog accessories, displayed on a spotted frame named the "Dog House".

This was the birth of Showaquipment, the show bus business. howaquipment was established in Elanora Heights then moved Brookvale. What began as products being displayed on trestles, moved to a caravan fitted with shelving, then the blue van which transported display shelving, and finally into the refitted bus (of which there were two).





*The "Showaquipment" Caravan*



*The "Showaquipment" 2nd Bus*



Many exhibitors will fondly remember 'the bus' at Orchard Hills (see pictured left). Reg solved all problems from the orderly array of dog accessories.

In the mid 1960s the wholesale business, Challenge Dog Supplies, was established in Elanora Heights. Imported grooming products, leads, check chains (and more) were added to the range of goods sold. Training webbing leads for obedience clubs were created by Reg in club colours. Challenge subsequently moved to Dee Why, then Brookvale and subsequently to Collaroy where it is operated by Mary and Reg's son, Philip.

Reg retired at 98 years to enjoy his garden at Elanora. His chosen words encapsulating his beliefs are from Mark Twain - "Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest."

*Thanks Reg Young for your valued contribution  
and congratulations on reaching 100 years  
this year!*



*Words: Anne Brown (Dallydom Dalmatians)  
& Dianne Wright (Starswept Dalmatians)*

