



Captain K.C. Campbell

[1912 – 1997]



Captain Campbell was President of the Club 1968 - 69

Kenneth Carlisle Campbell was born on 20 October 1912 in Brisbane. His father was Norman Carlisle Campbell [1877-1946] and his mother Eva Mary (née Robinson) [1886-1961]. He was the eldest of their five children. His siblings were Joyce Evelyn [1916-2004]; Waverley Norman [1919-1921), Cecil Robinson [1921-1987] and Ailsa Jean [b.1927].

Campbell left Brisbane State High School after completing the Junior Certificate. He studied industrial chemistry (2 years) and mechanical drawing (2 years) and worked at his father's river transport business.

On 6 June 1940 in Brisbane Ken married Mina Marian (née Hart) [1914-2006]. The family lived at St Lucia and later at Fig Tree Pocket. They had four children:

Roderick Carlisle	[b.1941]	Managing Director of Riverside Coal and later Riverside Marine 1988 to 1999, and Chairman 1992 to 1999. Director of Campbell Bros Ltd.
Hume Kenneth	[b.1945]	Chairman of Riverside Marine
Maryon Catherine	[b.1950]	Director of Riverside Marine
Fiona Tulk (now Wright)	[b.1957]	Director of Riverside Marine

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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Ken Campbell's military service is summarized below:

3 June 1939	Enlists in 61 st Battalion ("The Queensland Scottish") (Q27613)
26 July 1940	Promoted Lieutenant
29 April 1941	Promoted Temporary Captain
1 September 1942	Promoted Captain and appointed OC, C Company
26 September 1941	Called up for Full Time Duty
10 July 1942	volunteered to AIF (QX36033)
July 1942	embarked for New Guinea
25 August 1942	The battalion, as part of 7 th Brigade, engaged the Japanese in the Battle of Milne Bay. It remained at Milne Bay until March 1943, then reformed in Port Moresby and returned to Australia in November 1943. During his time in New Guinea Captain Campbell suffered badly from malaria and was evacuated to hospital several times.
20 June 1944	On posting as Staff Captain "A" Qld LoC Area, Campbell marched out of 61 st Battalion prior to its deployment to Madang in New Guinea, and subsequently to Bougainville. After he recovered from malaria Ken was posted to Victoria Barracks, Brisbane where he joined one of the RAE Small Ships Companies which operated small vessels in the estuaries and rivers of New Guinea.
17 April 1946.	Captain Campbell was demobilised

Ken's father, Norman Carlisle Campbell, and his uncle Colin Tait Campbell, founded the Riverside Coal Transport Company in 1926. The company was formed to barge coal from the Moggill Colliery at Riverview on the Bremer River to the City Electric Light Co located on the river below where the Parliamentary Annexe stands today.

From its beginnings barging coal it has become one of the leading marine companies in Australia. The company is now known as Riverside Marine. In Western Australia it performs towage services for the gas tankers entering and leaving Dampier for Woodside and operates BHP's tugs docking and undocking iron ore carriers at Port Headland. In Queensland the company operates ferry services between Townsville and Magnetic Island, operates two research vessels on behalf of the Institute of Marine Science in Townsville and is the main provider of dredged construction sand to the concrete industry in Brisbane. The Company remains family-owned and directed.

After his father's death in 1946, Ken became Chairman of Riverside Coal Transport Company, and was a director of other companies - including Campbell Bros Ltd and Queensland Cement and Lime Co Ltd.

He joined the Club in 1946. He was elected to the Committee in 1963 and was Vice-President in 1966-67. President in 1968-69, he served as Immediate Past President in 1970-72.

Under his presidency, the Berry Street access block to the Club's lower level was purchased for \$18,000 in 1969. His term of office was marked by steady increase in numbers of members and an active social programme.

Captain Campbell died in Brisbane on 28 December 1997.



Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports, and sundry documents
- NAA Service Records
- Contribution from Captain Campbell's son Rod Campbell in October 2020.