

## Australian Hydrographic Office - Wollongong News Item

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### The Australian Hydrographic Service bids farewell to Mr Robert (Bob) Walker

On 29 Jan 2007, a long-serving member of the Australian Hydrographic Office retired from Government Service after some 36 years. Bob was farewelled by many colleagues and friends and showered with gifts and best wishes.

Bob started out with the NSW Dept of Lands on 27 January 1970 as a cartographic draftsman in Sydney before moving to the Central Mapping Authority in Bathurst in 1976. His link with the Australian Hydrographic Service commenced in August of 1982 when, as a Drafting Officer Grade 1, he worked at the office when it was located at the ably named premises at Walker Street North Sydney. He progressively moved on to other assignments as he was promoted up the APS ladder, moving with the office to its current location in Wollongong as the Manager of Coordination and Training in 1994.

In 1997 Bob was instrumental in the release of the first digital hydrographic product *Seafarer*<sup>®</sup> RNC. After this his job title changed several times due to reorganisations of the office, but Bob's main role was the marketing and promotion of the growing range of digital products under the *Seafarer*<sup>®</sup> logo as well as manuscript products and on-line services. He was also instrumental in the improvement of the Office's corporate image through the design of Brand Navy compatible product artwork, product advertisements and marketing materials.

Bob has been one of the office stalwarts over many years and he will be greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues. Somehow we don't think that Bob's 'retirement' will be a sedentary one.



**Photo 1:** Shows Mr Robert Walker surrounded by his farewell gifts.

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