



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mateship lures families to the Bay

Mateship was a big part of the reason the Cook family relocated to Hervey Bay.

After 20 years in the British navy Steven Cook decided it was time to try something else.

"I joined the navy straight out of school, and then all of a sudden I was 40 and decided I wanted to do something else so we headed for Australia," he said.

The family of four, wife Angela, daughter Louise and son Oliver left Portsmouth in England and landed in Adelaide in 2006 where Mr Cook had a job as a refrigeration technician.

The job didn't last and the family didn't really like the Adelaide weather so in 2007 they headed to Hervey Bay to catch up with their best friends the Jesseps (Colin and Sarah and children Simon, Laura and Samuel).

"Colin and I were friends as teenagers and joined the navy together," Mr Cook said.

"Our families lived in the same street in Portsmouth. Colin retired from the navy one year before I did and headed for Australia and came straight to Hervey Bay."

With 20 years naval experience Mr Cook thought Hervey Bay would be a good place to find a job in the marine industry.

As luck would have it he landed a job dealing with water and is the works supervisor at the Wide Bay Water workshops and Colin is the maintenance supervisor at the foundry in Maryborough.

The Cooks were among 12 people who participated in a Citizenship Ceremony at the Fraser Coast Regional Council Hervey Bay administration centre this week.

Others to take to oath of allegiance were:
Constance and James Baron; Colin Barrett; Jacqueline Grima, Elizabeth Dobrowolski; Jennifer Duncan; and Mervyn and Valerie Evans.

CAPTION: Welcome aboard .. Fraser Coast Regional Council Mayor Mick Kruger welcomes the Cook family, Oliver, Steven, Louise and Angela to the Bay as Australian citizens.

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