7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association Inc



Seven News

MAY 2004

Issue 2/2004

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NATIONAL 7RAR REUNION 2006

The planning committee in WA has come up with the following tentative timetable of events:-

• Sun 23 April 2006 Sub-Unit reunions.

• Mon 24 April 2006 Family Memorial & BBQ in Kings

Park.

Tue 25 April 2006 ANZAC Day services.

• Wed 26 April 2006 Reunion Dinner all to attend.

The above dates vary from those advised in the Feb issue of Seven News. The change has been made to include the ANZAC Day activities for the unit to march through the streets of Perth an activity not available in a Capital city on other than this day.

More specifics will be included in the next issue of Seven News later this year, i.e. proposed loc of dinner, recommended locs for caravans hotel/motel accommodation and means of travel available. Be prepared to commit yourself to the activity to allow firmer planning to take place.

FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE

- 1. Reunion 2006 information.
- 2. Editorial/Contents.
- 3 New Members/Re-enlistees.
- 4. Sick Parade.
- 5 The end of an Era, Trooping of the Old Colours/Presentation of New Colours.
- 9 Old Colours at Kapooka for Laying up.
- 11. Pictorial History.
- 13. Vale.
- 14. ASSIST Program.
- 16. Mortality Report.
- 17. Wagga Wagga AGM Minutes.
- 25. ANZAC Day Reports.
- 27. 2004 Calendar/Special Raffle.
- 28. Traveling North with Arthur Holzhauser.
- 30. The Best from the West.
- 37. ANZAC Day Melbourne.
- 39. Membership Form.

To all members, please keep the articles coming in for the Newsletter to keep us all informed as to what is happening around the country. Remember you are my best researchers/columnists and you are on the spot wherever you are.

It is important that news of interests reaches all members of the Association no matter how trivial it may seem to you it will be of interest to someone.

Tony Keech XO/Editor



all members. message to please check your details on the address label of this Newsletter. The top line shows your financial status to the year e.g. 2007, if your label has a red dot on it vou are un-financial so in the interests of all financial members please update your membership. Membership renewal form on page 39. It also comes to notice that many members with email addresses change these regularly and fail to let me know, please email me when this occurs.

I try to keep abreast of members whereabouts but if you don't tell me when you move my crystal ball goes blank, keep me posted it helps save money on postage. Last but by no means least,

PLESASE DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL, THE POSTAL SERVICE IS SAFE IF YOU SEND CHEQUES OR MONEY ORDERS BUT NOT WITH CASH. TALLY HO!

Tony Keech XO/ED

NEW MEMBERS/RE - ENLISTEES

John Sidney BertJohn Stanley BoltPO Box 7468 Mort StreetTEXASLITHGOW

QLD 4385 - C7 2nd Tour NSW 2790 - C/CHQ 2nd Tour Ph (m) 0417 120 662 Ph (h) (02) 6352 2637

Graham Frederick Colton

John Patrick Coffey

12 Athel Tree Crescent

BRADBURY

Ph (h) 08 9795 5528 Ph (h) (02) 4625 5414

email : jandicoffey@iprimus.com.au

Ross Frederick Croft

184 Collins Street

KALGOORLIE

BROADFORD

WAS 2000 OF 1 THE

Thomas Robert Partridge Peter Noel Douglas
"Garland Park" 54 Garland Road
BUNDANOON BALDIVIS

NSW 2578 CO'S POSUM PILOT WA 6161 - RECON 2ND Ph (h) (02) 4883 6895 (2nd Tour) Ph (h) (08) 9523 2011

Email: tombevpartridge@dodo.com.au

Email:gbccon@dragnet.com.au

email: RossCroft@bigpond.com

Patrick James Crough
33 Balanche Street
73 Acacia Avenue
WAHGUNYAH
LEETON
VIC 3687 - A1 1ST
NSW 2705 ENGRS ATT C 2ND

Ph (h) (02) 6033 0817 Ph (h) (02) 6953 3867

NEW MEMBERS/RE - ENLISTEES

Terry (Dog) Gogoll 57 Wharparilla Drive ECHUCA VIC 3564 - A1 2ND Ph (h) (03) 5482 4974 Richard (Rick) James Low 2/28 Munt Street BAYSWATER WA 6053 - C9 2ND Ph (h) (08) 9246 0745

Robert Henry Sexton
Narlingup Road
KOJONUP
WA 6395 - D12 1ST
Ph (h) (08) 9832 3069
Email: jaros@wn.com.au

SICK PARADE

We have some of our members who have been reported sick in the last couple of weeks, Andy Mattay, OC D Coy /BHQ 2nd tour, Ron McLeod PNRS 2nd tour and Mike Williams, 106 Battery, FO Party C Coy 1st tour.

On behalf of all the members of the Association and also those who are not members but who served with both Andy, Ron and Mike we wish them all the best in their fight against the illness and remember them in our prayers, may the Lord watch over them.

ASSOCIATION TIES

A new supply of Association ties will be available next month, the style is the same as the first one, i.e. Regimental Badge surmounting 7RAR. Cost will be \$30 each plus postage and handling.

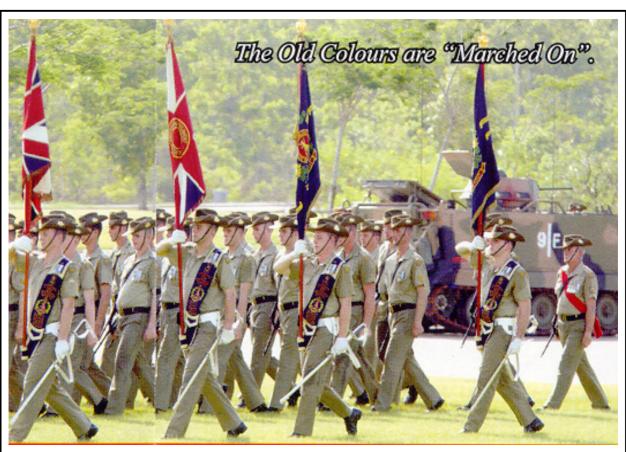
Tony Keech XO/ED

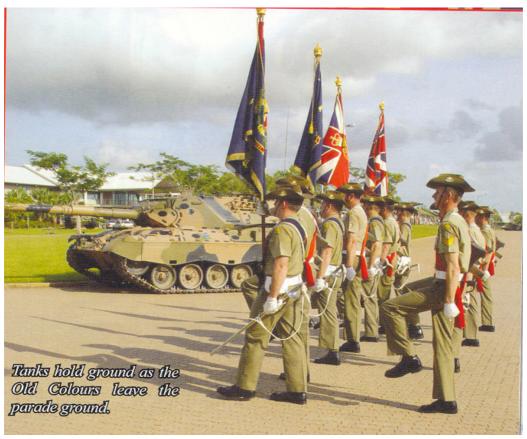
THE END OF AN ERA

In the Northern Territory's oppressive heat, on Wednesday 3rd December 2003, the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia presented a new set of Colours to the 5th/7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (Mechanised). Celebrating the 30th anniversary of amalgamation, in 1973, of the 5th and 7th Battalions, and the birth of the new 5th/7th Battalion, the "Old" Colours were "trooped" for the last time before the "New" Colours were presented. With 1st Armoured Regiment's (Leopard) tanks and Battalion Armoured Personnel Carrier, "Holding Ground" on all four sides 5/7RAR (Mech), including Mascot Private Quintus Septimus - a 10 year-old Bengal Tiger - "Trooped the Colours" at Palmerston's Robertson Barracks in Darwin.



Colour Ensigns, Lieutenants Justin Bywater, Michael Buchanan, David French and Paul Graham accept the Old Colours from the RSM, Warrant Officer Craig Moffat.







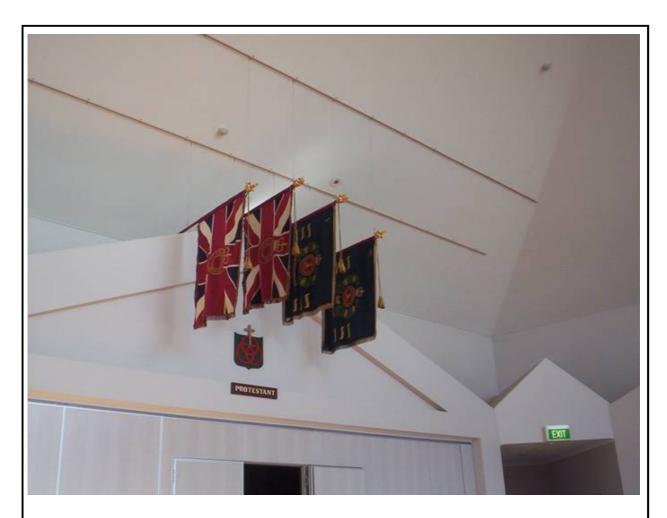
The New Colours of 5th/7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (Mechanised).



The New Colours during a General Salute.







Previous page:-

Old Colours of 5/7 RAR (Mech) being marched up to the Soldier's Chapel for Laying Up ceremony.

Old Colours laid on table inside the Chapel with CO, Colours Ensigns and RSM 5/7RAR.

Above:-

Both sets of Colours hanging from the ceiling inside the foyer of the Soldier's Chapel Army Recruit Training Centre, Kapooka. See website later for some more photographs.



7RAR

The Two Tours of Vietnam

As Seen Through a Soldier's Eyes

Order form next page, time is running out, to date 433 copies ordered which means we will have to use Association Funds to cover the cost of production. Only 1000 copies will be printed so, ORDER NOW OR MISS OUT. Launch date around Aug/Sep2004.

The 7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association Two Tours of Vietnam Order Form

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their orders personally.

The following members initially charged their order for the Pictorial History to a credit card, this service is no longer available to members, the members listed below are requested to forward payment to the association, (cheque/money order) ASAP.

Trevor Skinner \$90, Terry Vogt \$90, Peter Stott \$90, Glenda James \$90, Mick O'Halloran \$270, Chris Ashenden \$90, William Folder \$90, Peter Lutley \$180, Les Kail \$90, Patricia Frost \$90, Doug Fieldhouse \$180, John Sutherland \$90, Jim Slavin \$90, Del Stickland \$360, Vic Wynands \$90, Kevin Hill \$90, Jim Hardie \$90, Lindsay Hicks \$90, John Davies \$180, Tony Blake \$90, and Alan Wendell \$90.

Delivery of the books will be arranged when printing has been completed, depending on the number of orders from each location a local arrangement will be investigated. Notice of the method of delivery will be advised when arrangements have been concluded.



<u>Vale</u>

As one by one, the autumn leaves fall in the forest deep.

So one by one, to each must come the touch of sleep.

As one by one, the roses burst awake again beyond the light.



So one by one, the soul shall awaken beyond the night.

It is with sincere regret that I report the death of our former comrades in arms.

Gordon Jennings, B Coy 1st Tour: passed away Oct 2003

Donald Malcolm Wann, D Coy 2nd Tour: passed away 17 Feb 2004

At the going down of the Sun and in the morning we will remember them;

Lest we forget.

(AN EXTRACT FROM THE VIETNAM VETERANS NEWSLETTER)

APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING THE ASSIST PROGRAM

In morbidity of Vietnam veterans: A study of the Health of Australia's Vietnam Veteran Community Released by DVA, in May: it was reported that children of Vietnam veterans had a substantially higher rate of suicide than that experienced by the general Australian community.

This report was based on a self reported survey of 49,944 male veterans about their own and their children's health. A validation study was carried out by the Australian Institute of Health & Welfare Canberra, and this study estimated that the number of suicides was in fact more than three times that of the general Australian community.

The sex distribution of veterans children is strongly male dominated, as 90% of the validated suicides were males. This is identical to national patterns, where 81% of suicides in the 10-39 age group between 1986 and 1997 were male.

In June 2001 Bob Tyrell held direct talks with the RSL, VVAA and VVFA with a view to having a united approach to introducing (ASIST) Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training into the veteran community as a way of helping to reduce these alarming Figures.

In August 2001, in a joint press release, DVA, RSL, VVAA and VVFA announced the commencement of the ASIST (Project), and we began courses throughout Australia commencing in Brisbane that same year. Over several issues of This Newsletter Bob has endeavoured to keep you informed of the course progress, and will continue to keep those interested parties informed through direct contact with him. Even more so now, as the project has developed into the full program we have today, and a lessening of the impetus given on its outset, it is important that we remain focused on the ASIST PROGRAM.

Any member of the Veteran community, including wives and partners and adult children, who wish further information and interested in participating in a course in their local area, are asked to contact Bob Tyrell directly via the phone numbers and times below.

"In closing, I would like you all to give some serious consideration in taking part in a ASIST PROGRAM COURSE. By doing so you will be helping to reduce the tragic statistics within our Veteran Community. It's all about caring for one another, and reaching out and supporting our MATES. FAMILIES and FRIENDS in their hour of need".

"Till next update, regards and take care".

Bob Tyrell

National Vice President VVFA

Sub-Committee on Project ASIST

Adviser National Younger Veterans Forum

Phone: (02) 6286 4837

Mobile: 0428 392 214 Mondat to Friday - 1000hrs to 15oohrs only.

Email: bobt@webone.com.au

We urge ALL members of the Veteran Community, RSL Clubs, Vietnam Veterans Associations Branches, and the Vietnam Veterans Federation of Australia Branches, as well as their respective local communities to get behind this very worthwhile program, to help those children in need of our support.

Please circulate the form on the following page to any of your friends or family who fall into the category of the veteran community. It is by cooperating with these programs that we provide the responsible organisations with the information to assist the community in combating these problems.

VETERANS MORTALITY REPORT

As you are aware, Vietnam Veterans are dying at a rate higher than while on active service. This situation is perhaps a natural phenomenon—compared to non-serving members of the public, who might die of an illness which is equally distributed through the population of the same age group. The Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (NSW Branch) Inc. has for many years maintained records of the deaths of Vietnam Veterans and the cause of death if known. This has proved invaluable regarding the health standards of Vietnam Veterans when compared to the general public.

We seek your assistance in reporting the death of Vietnam Veterans, past or recent, to allow the Federation to expand and preserve it's record base. Kindly circulate a copy of this page through your RSL Club, Unit or Corps reunions and meetings and raise it as an issue. The information gained from these reports will greatly assist all Vietnam Veterans and their families regarding future claims for benefits.

PLEASE PRINT

Veteran's Name		SVC No:
SVN Unit	T	Гоиг Dates
Cause of death (if kn		d UK - Unknown O - Other)
Date of death (if kno	оw <u>л</u>)	
Location at time of o	leath (State & Town)	
Your name	Ac	ldress
		StatePost Code
Phone No:	Signature	
Please return to :-	The Welfare Officer PO Box 170 GRANVILLE NSW 2142	Fax (02) 9682 6134

Duty First

7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held at the Wagga Wagga RSL Club Saturday 24 April 2004

- 1. The President declared the meeting opened at 1000hrs, apologies were tendered for the following members:- Gen Grey, Ted Lewis, Ray Waters, Peter Leeson, Don Matthews, David Webster, Pat Boland, Ian MacKay, Rod Lyons, Jim Husband, Roger Wainwright, Paul Greenhalgh, Ron McLeod, Mike Williams and John Sutherland.
- 2. The minutes of the 2003 AGM were read by the XO

<u>Moved Peter Preston, Seconded Ray Rosenow, that the minutes as read be accepted.</u>

Motion Carried.

3. The following reports were presented to the meeting:-

(a) President - David Kibbey:-

- (i) The President welcomed those present and asked if there were any wives or partners that would like to attend. He reported that the committee was very pleased with the ceremony and atmosphere of the laying up of the colours parade held yesterday and thanked those that attended. He thanked General Grey, Commandant RCT and the 5/7RAR contingent for their attendance and role in the success of the Parade. He said all members of the Association should be proud of the dignified way in which 7RAR fallen had been commemorated.
- (ii) The President outlined the purpose of the meeting was to elect the Associations Committee of Management and to report on its affairs. The objects of the Association were read.

- (iii) The President said that over the reporting period the Association had continued to prosper and had met its charter. Good progress in a number of areas had been made, membership had increased from 882 to 944, finances had been improved by about \$10,000.
- (iv) Commemorative activities had included the triennial Reunion, Suoi Chau Pha Day, Remembrance Day at the Garrison Chapel, ANZAC Day and the laying up of Colours. 2/7th Battalion Association had been completely integrated into the Association and was being properly fostered.
- (v) The Pictorial History had been progressed significantly and was on track for its launch later in the year. A 5/7RAR Association had been formed. Association congratulations had been extended to His Excellency the Governor General on his appointment.
- (vi) The Management Committee met six times over the period, four Association members had passed away during the period. and a high level of comradeship was being shown around the country which was encouraged.

<u>Moved Richard Hylard Seconded Bob Harrison that</u> the President's report be accepted.

Motion carried.

(b) Executive Officer/Editor Tony Keech:-

(i) During this reporting period the strength of the Association has grown from 882 to 944 this includes 53 from the 2/7th Bn AIF. During the reporting period three issues of Seven News were published with the emphasis on member related articles. Reports from around the country were submitted by individuals on behalf of each state, and other subjects of interest were included. Preliminary planning has begun for the administrative support to get members and their wives/partners and guests to Perth for the 2006 reunion. If you haven't already returned the questionnaire published in the last Seven News then please do so, this will enable me to speak to the travel agents to organize trains or special discounts for airplane travel.

- (ii) As advised in the newsletters unfortunately many of our mates left the parade ground here on earth to find peace on the parade ground in the sky. May they rest in peace, Lest We Forget. The upkeep and maintenance of membership records, preparation and dispatch of the Seven News and the general overseeing of Association activities keep me very busy. Major activities during the period were well attended in particular ANZAC Day 2003, and also the very successful Reunion 2003 in Wagga Wagga. I think I saw the biggest crowd lining the streets in Sydney and the attendances were very good in all states from all reports.
- (iii) I would ask members from around the country to get organised and submit some state related news, WA is the only state to submit a regular report of their activities. In closing, my aim for the remainder of my tenure, however long that may be is to ensure that the membership is involved as much as possible via newsletters and any other means available.

<u>Moved Kevin Gillett Seconded Richard Hylard that</u> The Executive Officer's report be accepted.

Motion carried.

(c) Treasurer: Bernie Cox:-

(i) Income for the period:-

Ordinary activities	Members Subs Donations Sales of merchandise Reunion 2003 Total	\$ 7,761.00 \$ 1,070.00 \$ 1,466.00 \$47,452.00 \$57,452.00
	Grant from DVA Interest	\$ 1,000.00 \$ <u>1,873.00</u>
	Total income	\$ <u>60,332.00</u>

(ii) Expenses for period:-

Bank charges	\$ 17.00
Seven News/Postage	\$ 7,914.00
Tele/Office sup/misc	\$ 4,967.00
Depreciation	\$ 1,272.00
Stock reduction	\$ 1,750.00
Reunion	\$ <u>35,026.00</u>

Total expenses \$50,946.00

(iii) Cash

Cash at Bank	\$18,268.00
Cash on Deposit	\$46,860.00

Total \$65,128.00

Audit opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of the 7th Battalion the Royal Australian Regiment Inc presents fairly in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements for the financial position, the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended 29 February 2004.

M.A. MOLONEY CPA Canberra 18 April 2004

> <u>Moved Ray Rosenow seconded Barry Laurenceson</u> <u>That the Treasurer's report be accepted.</u>

Motion carried.

(d) Secretary/Webmasters Report for www. 7RAR.asn.au

- (i) Interest in the Website continues to grow and interestingly 1 0 % of visits are from the USA. Total hits during April came to 48,000 at an average of 1500 plus every day. I note that in my 2003 report hits for the month prior to the AGM were 25,000 thus we have effectively doubled our presence on the world wide web in 12 months
- (ii) The website continues to improve and I recently changed the back colour to a green to counter some complaints I had about the black background. Website development is on-going as I learn more and pick up more ideas from the internet and from reading. If you, the membership have any suggestions for improvements or something you would be interested in seeing included in what is, after all, your website, then please email me at kev@kevgillett.net
- (iii) Routine Orders Part III. This is a newly designed page that allows for a two way flow of information. It is based on Movable Type, a programme used by Bloggers for daily comments. The advantage for members is that you can leave an immediate message or response by simply clicking on 'comments' at the end of each post and entering your thoughts. Movable Type has the capability to post pictures as well, so if you have 'now and then' photos or wedding pictures or any other pictorial info you would like to share with us then email them to me with a story line. Think of Routine Orders Part III as a newspaper.
- (iv) At the 2004 AGM in Wagga members requested a page and photos to cover the Laying up of our Colours at the Soldiers Chapel. This has been started, is available on line and will be completed when more photos are available. Particular mention was made of a photo of the Colours as displayed at the Chapel. By the time you read this these pics should be available.
- (v) The next set of pages to come on line will be Literature. This will cover poetry, short stories and other items of interest. I am currently working on the story of the development of the M16 and as we all know the M16 is a case example of bureaucracy gone mad.

(vi) Once again, if you have any writings, poetry or pointers to an interesting subject then email me.

Happy surfing, Kev Gillett

<u>Moved Terry Bryceson</u> <u>Seconded Mark Moloney that the Secretary's Report be accepted.</u>

Motion carried.

4. The President declared all positions on the current Committee of Management vacant and handed the chair over to the Executive Officer to conduct the election of a new Committee of Management. Mr Jim Husband has requested not to be considered for re-election as Vice President, all other members of the Committee have indicated their intention to stand for re-election.

Nomination for President David Kibbey.

Moved Dave Evans Seconded Richard Hylard elected unopposed.

Nomination for Senior Vice-President Ross Ellis.

<u>Moved Kevin Gillett Seconded Peter Preston.</u> <u>elected unopposed.</u>

The meeting agreed in the absence of other nominations the remainder of current members be who have indicated their intentions to stand for re-election be re-elected.

<u>Moved Brian Lorback</u> <u>Seconded Barry Laurenceson</u> All members were elected unopposed.

Mark Moloney was re-appointed as the Honorary Auditor and Peter Morrison was re-appointed as the Honorary Legal Officer.

- 5. The President, David Kibbey assumed the chair and thanked the meeting for his re-election and congratulated all those members re-elected to the Committee of Management and also confirmed that Mindy Sutherland (wives, widows & welfare) and Ian MacKay (2/7th Association) as Liaison Officers for the next year. The priorities for the next year were Reunion planning, The Pictorial Project, fundraising and support to the members. He encouraged others to nominate for committee positions at next years AGM.
- 6. The President congratulated and thanked Jim Husband for his indispensable work in the foundation and establishment of the Association and his wise input over many years and wished him well in his retirement from Management Committee.
- 7. The President proposed and XO seconded that Association Life Membership be accorded to David Webster for his outstanding contributions to the Association over many years and ongoing work particularly on the pictorial Project.

Carried unanimously.

8. The President led discussion on the payment of an honorarium to the Executive Officer for his exemplary performance of duty, dedication and personal commitment to the Association over the eight years of his tenure.

<u>Moved Ray Rosenow</u> <u>Seconded Richard Hylard the a sum</u> of \$1,000.00 be paid as an honorarium to the <u>Executive Officer.</u>

Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. General Business:-
- (a) Project updates:-) Pictorial History Ross Ellis:-
- (i) The meeting was advised the Pictorial History was approaching the final printing stage, a draft black and white copy of the project was available for viewing and also confirmation of some missing names and captions.

- (ii) This draft will be taken to Sydney on ANZAC Day to allow those present at the Sydney march to provide further information on the missing names. The draft will then be sent to WA for their input before the final print is made. Once all efforts have been exhausted to fill in the blanks the book will be ready for printing. General Grey has arranged for the Chief of the Defence Force, General Cosgrove to launch the book at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, with the consent of the Commandant Brigadier Chris Appleton, sometime in Aug/Sep 2004. Notice will be given as soon as possible to allow maximum attendance at the launch.
- (b) 7 Bn AIF Gonfalon (Report from Rod Lyons):-
- (i) At the final meeting of the 2/7th Bn AIF the 7RAR Association was asked to organise a new Gonfalon for the 7th Bn AIF to replace the old one being used at the ceremonial functions at the Garrison Chapel. Rod Lyons agreed to run with this task, currently all the design matters have been finalised and the detail will be sent to India for the production of the Gonfalon ready for Remembrance Day activities. All costs for this have been met by the 2/7th Bn AIF.
- (c) Financial Sub-Committee:-
- (i) Richard Hylard raised the subject of a sub-committee to be formed to advise the Management Committee on matters affecting the finances of the Association. This proposal will be further considered by Management Committee.

Moved Richard Hylard Seconded Brian Lorback that consideration be given to a sub-committee being formed to provide advice to the Management Committee on financial matters.

Motion carried.

- 10. The Ode was recited by all present.
- 11. The President declared the meeting closed at 11.15am.

ANZAC DAY FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY FRASER ISLAND

Good day "Pig's". Thought I would send a photo of the Dawn Service at Orchard Beach on Fraser Island. Not too shabby huh! Was outstanding day we had upwards of 300 turn up and we feted all day. The Fraser Island RSL they have no building but they have a great bunch of people who live on the island and run this on a yearly basis. In attendance from 7RAR was my good self, Sid Ockendon both from Charlie company 2nd tour 9 Platoon, also in the picture from left to right is Bruce Cox, Sid Ockendon. Terry Tracy not a veteran but a top mate, his brother Peter Tracy 8RAR 2nd, and Dave Strahan 6RAR 1st. I hope all my fellow pigs had a fantastic ANZAC DAY ONE AND ALL!

Bruce Cox.





CANBERRA

In the crisp morning air of the Nation's Capital a crowd of about 15,000 attended the Dawn Service at the AWM. Later in the bright sunlight of a winters day a huge crowd was present to see a large contingent of veterans march up ANZAC Parade past the Governor General who took the salute, and a new but very welcome procedure of being seated in tiered seating for the service at the Stone of Remembrance, unfortunately no photographs available. Post parade there were many venues used to gather and remember old times together with mates.

2004 CALENDER		
8 Aug 2 004	Lunch to commemorate the Battle of Suoi Chau Pha, if attending please contact Bill Fogarty on Ph (02) 6454 2358.	
18 Aug 2004	38th Anniversary of the battle of Long Tan, Vietnam Veterans Day, local arrangements apply, no planned Association activity.	
31 Aug 2004	C Coy 1st Tour reunion Tweed Heads.	
1 Sep 2004	39th Birthday 7RAR, (do your own thing).	
3 Sep 2004	Cut-off date for articles for inclusion in the 3/2004 Seven News.	
Oct 2004	Annual Pilgrimage for Seventh Battalions to Puckapunyal.	
23 Oct 2004	2/7th Battalion raised 1939.	
14 Nov 2004	Seventh Battalions Remembrance Day service, Garrison Church, The Rocks.	
23 Nov 2004	Birthday, The Royal Australian Regiment, 1948.	
23 Nov 2004	Cut-off date for articles for inclusion in 4/2004 Seven News.	
3 Dec 2004	Birthday 5/7RAR (Mech).	

Don't forget the Soui Chau Pha lunch on Sun 8 Aug 2003 at the Saigon Restaurant, Pearce, ACT, please phone Bill Fogarty if you intend going Ph (02) 6454 2358.

SPECIAL RAFFLE

Contrary to advice in the last Seven News the special raffle was not drawn in Wagga Wagga and is still open, it will be drawn at the Suoi Chau Pha lunch on 8 Aug. We need to cover the cost of freighting the photo to the furthest location in the country in case the winner is from Port Hedland. If you are interested please send your order to me by Wed 6 Aug 2004.

The winner will be published in the Sep issue of the Seven News.

Tony Keech XO/ED

TRAVELLING NORTH WITH ARTHUR HOLZHAUSER

I've just returned from a trip to Cairns and had a great time catching up with some of the boys from 3 Pl A Coy 2nd tour. Called into Townsville and had dinner with Ray Moika, his address is:- Unit 3, 62 Holdel St, Rosslea, Qld. While in Cairns I received a call from Dennis "Jonesy" Jones (Vic) who had been holidaying in Port Douglas and was flying out the next day from Cairns.

After tracking down Doug "Chad" Lennon, we met at the Cairns airport, Chad turned up with a photographer and a reporter from the Cairns Post, the following day was a photo and storey of Viet Diggers meeting after 33 years. Chris "Father" Campbell-Thomson also got a mention as a legend and was promoted to Commanding Officer. A great night out the following night at the Cairns RSL and after much wine, beer and rum Chad, Farther and myself made a commitment to attend the next reunion, wherever.

Leaving Cairns, we dropped into Airlie Beach and talked to Ab Paulette and Glenda into accompanying us to Mackay for the night. Here after a great afternoon at the Mackay Bowls Club, we met up with John "Twink" Readdy and his wife Trish for another great night out. It was great to get back to Boyne Island and let the liver dry out. Father also said, "Let it be known that if any of his boys pass through Cairns without looking him up "#Watch Out#".

Regards Arthur Holzhauser.

Some photos of the trip next page,

Photo 1: Chad Lennon, Father and Arthur.

Photo 2: Dennis Jones, Arthur and Chad at Cairns Airport.





THE BEST FROM THE WEST

G'Day from WA to all PIGS everywhere.

ANZAC DAY

Well, what can I say? Perth turned on another fantastic Anzac Day, even with the changes to the march-route brought on by the construction of the Mandurah Rail Tunnel. Thanks to all those who turned up to march, I believe we had about 100 marching this year, not counting a few guys from 161 Recce Flight, 9 Sqdn and Medical Corps, who asked if they could march with us "because you guys always have fun". Of course we said yes, the more the merrier. Our numbers this year were also bolstered by a number of guys who had come over for the CHARLIE COY 2nd Tour Reunion. (see following story by John Sexton). Our banner was carried by John Davies and Ross DeGrey, flanked as always by John Bell carrying the flag honouring his brother Alec Bell and Albert Jacob, carrying a flag for his uncle Paul Navarre. Thanks for your attendance each year guys, always greatly appreciated. Graham Edwards led the march and as we neared the saluting dais, the Governor of WA, Lt Gen. John Sanderson could be heard to say "Well done the PIGS". Once again, the crowds were fantastic and the weather just "perfect", fine and sunny and 32. In fact, for those starting to get a bit thin on top, there were a few sunburnt noggins by the end of the day. Amongst those in attendance, and I can't name them all, were: Gavin Rodie, Gordon Dickson, Don Cruden, Jock Henderson, Geoff Mick O'Halloran, Dale Marshall, Rick Low, Spunky Fieldhouse, John Bolst and his daughter Sonia, Ross DeGrey, Bob Copeland, Wally Kleszcz, Ray Lamont, Keith Battersby, Barry Hutchins, Geoff Lawson, Bob Dixon, Steve Chamarette, Edwards, Peter Davies, Noel Bell, Ian McNee, Bluey Dunne, Graham Steele, Graham Edwards, Merv Eaton, Betty Baty (Widow of Jim), Charlie Matheson, Peter Curley, Frank Moloney, Bob Curry, Casey Epskamp, Ian Garthwaite, Dave Ingles, Les Kail, Ned Madson, Daryl Kennedy, Alex Mackenzie, Geoff Murray, Vic Neimanis, Carol Randall, Graham Roberts, John Sexton, Bob Simpson, Joe Van Der Wal, Betty West (Alan was crook, more later), Peter Weymouth, Gary Williams and Mel Young.

After the march, Rigby's Tavern upstairs was the venue for much drink, food and yarns etc. A few notable absentees this year were Alan West, who was recovering from bypass surgery (great to see Betty in attendance and get well soon mate) and Peter Vlachou, who also had a bit of a health scare but is on the road to recovery and he and Sandra are getting set to visit Greece for the Olympic games. (Hope you two have a great trip and help us win a few gold medals). Julia Jacob, sister of Paul Navarre was also AWOL but assures us that she'll be there next year. Curly Schaper and family, we missed you this year, where were you? AWOL or MIA? All in all, a TOP day with a great bunch of people.

CHARLIE COY 2nd Tour Reunion PERTH (notes by John Sexton)

The annual get together of the above was held in PERTH and the following EASTERN STATERS came over to enjoy our WESTERN hospitality. Helen & Ian (Horse) TIMMS (QLD), Sue & Kevin (Kev) HARRIS (NSW), Margaret & Jeff (Klackers) KLAR (VIC), Janine & Des PITTS (VIC – friends of Klackers), Maureen & Ian (Flappers) REID (QLD), Christine & Garry (Strico) STRICKLAND (QLD), Sharron & Len (Lenny) SMITH (NSW), Halina & George FRYDRICH plus their son Nathan (SA), Michael (Chuck) BERRY (VIC) & Rob (Jungles) STRACHAN (SA).

We all booked into the Brownlea Apartments in Bulwer St which was only a short walking distance to the HYDE PARK Hotel, close to public transport and a 30 minute stroll into Perth itself so I was told, (the pub was only 526 paces away). The theme for the ANZAC week was DO YOUR OWN THING, except for the day itself. On the day we all marched and met up with a number of the WA boys some names are Kevin Montague, Bob Moffart, Steve Noble, Ric Low, Mick & Joan O'Halloran, Dale & Debbie Marshall, Gary & Teresa Williams, Les & Deidre Kail, Ned & Sue Madson and Betty Baty. Also present were John DUNCAN's mother Norma & sister, whom "Flappers" tracked down (John was our MEDIC in VN and sadly passed away a few years ago).

His sister by the way worked in the same office with Mick O'Halloran. Anyway, we all had a good day (hardly any flak jackets needed). Some of us went on a WINE CRUISE on the SWAN RIVER which was an all day affair (so was the FREE PLONK) suffice to say we all had a great time and ended up quite P----D. A few of us also went down to MANDURAH to Mick's place where we did a little fishing (the biggest caught was a 300 kilo MICK FISH). If you believe that you will also believe that MICK was the BEST SOLDIER in C Coy. Sorry Mick, could not help myself but many thanks to JOAN & yourself for a great day.

Hope everyone enjoyed WA and had a safe trip home.

Don't forget the next REUNION will be in SA. Looking forward to seeing you all in 2005.

Best wishes John & Jill Sexton.

ANZAC DAY IN MELBOURNE (notes by Brian Griffiths)

Melbourne was the venue & Danny Grey was the host for this years gathering of the "Usual Suspects" Joan & I put the car on The Indian Pacific & headed to Adelaide where we had a lovely couple of days with Bluey & Annie Millett, weather was sensational for golf (& drinking). On the way to Melbourne called in at Ballarat for a couple of short sharp ones with J B & Jules Berry who couldn't make it to Melbourne for ANZAC Day.

The Prince of Wales pub was the meeting place before the march. Those in attendance were Doc Straskye (NSW) Bluey & Colleen Rodgers (QLD) Stumpy & Margaret Greenough (SA) Bluey & Annie Millett (SA) Peter & Wendy Ward (VIC) Danny Grey & a special appearance by Steve Pinwell who a lot of the blokes hadn't seen for 35 years. Also there were my brother Kev (3RAR) his son Sean currently serving in Townsville, my Dad Bill (W W 11) & our daughter Leanne who lives in Melbourne.

A few blokes I caught up with at the March were Pockets Mc Lennan, Roo Dowley, Mike O'Brien, Ian Dunn & Mick McMillan.

The day after ANZAC Day Danny put on a great BBQ where all the "Suspects" attended, it was great to catch up with Danny's sons Adam & Luke with their families. Another couple of days socializing in Melbourne & most livers had had enough before heading home. However Bluey& Colleen & Joan & I headed to Port Germien in SA to Stumpy & Margaret's where we had a lovely couple of days before we left our cars there & headed up on The Ghan for a week in Alice Springs & Ayers Rock where Bluey & I further enhanced our prospects of getting on Jim Beams Xmas card list.

On our return Stumpy & Margaret took us down to the Yorke Peninsula for a great couple of days, some really beautiful places down there, before we all headed home. Next year Doc will be the host in Sydney & 2006 Griffo & Joan to coincide with the Battalion Reunion in Perth. Thanks & best wishes to all.

Griffo & Joan.

WARNING ORDERS:-

1. VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY - Sunday 15 August 2004

Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, May Drive, Kings Park On parade 1000-1030 hrs March behind the banner 1045 hrs Service commences 1100 hrs Medals to be worn. Light refreshments and entertainment available. We want a large contingent marching.

2. ANNUAL PIGS SWILL:-

We intend to rotate the venues to try and even up travelling by members.

This year's PIGS SWILL will be held at the Kalamunda RSL Club

Tentatively booked for Sunday 21 November 2004.

Keith Battersby is organising a 3-course meal.

Drinks at Club prices.

More details to follow.

3. National 7RAR reunion – Perth 2006:- (also see front page)

Centred around Anzac Day 2006

Tentative events timetable:

- Sun 23 April 2006 Sub-Unit reunions
- Mon 24 April 2006 Family B-B-Q & service in Kings Park
- Tue 25 April 2006 Anzac Day
- Wed 26 April 2006 Reunion Dinner
- Thu 27 April 2006 Disperse

Steve Chamarette is chairman of the organising committee. We will be looking for WA volunteers to help organise sub-unit functions.

More details to follow as they come to hand.

NAMETAGS

What, haven't got a nametag? Well here's your chance to pick up one for yourself and your lady/wife/partner. Each tag costs \$10.00, which includes postage to anywhere in Australia. To order, just call Spunky on (08) 9275 8598 and it will take about two to three weeks.



PIGS 'N' PARTNERS LUNCH

A lunch has been organised, details passed out on Anzac Day, at the RSL Club in Perth for Tuesday 25 May 2004, for PIGS to take out their long-suffering PARTNERS for lunch to show them how much we really appreciate them. At this stage we are booked in for about 25, more details in the next newsletter.

LOOKING FOR EX-NATIONAL SERVICEMEN

Frank Moloney is looking for old friends from Pucka days – George Turpin, Peter Nisson, Jerry Packington. If anyone can put him in touch with any of these guys, contact Frank on (08) 9495 1414.

TPD ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS EXTENSION

Don Cruden represented our state branch at the opening of the new lounge room at the Totally & Partially Disabled Veterans Headquarters at Baldivis recently. Don reports that the addition is a wonderful effort by their association and is a credit to them. We held our last ANNUAL PIGS SWILL there last year and it was great, so due to our intention of rotating venues for the PIGS SWILL, we hope to get back there soon.

WELL DONE STEVE

Steve Chamarette has been appointed to the WA Wheat Board, beating the likes of ex-politicians Winston Crane and Hendy Cowan for the position. Well done Steve!

FUNNY

A seaman meets a pirate in a bar, and they take turns boasting of their adventures on the high seas. The seaman notes that the pirate has a peg-leg, a hook, and an eyepatch.

The seaman asks "So, how did you end up with the peg-leg?" The pirate replies "We were in a storm at sea, and I was swept overboard into a school of sharks. Just as my men were pulling me out a shark bit my leg off."

"Wow!" said the seaman. "What about your hook"?

"Well...", replied the pirate, "While my men and I were plundering in the middle east, I was caught stealing from a merchant and the punishment for theft in the middle east is the loss of the hand that steals"

"Incredible!" remarked the seaman. "How did you get the eyepatch?" "A sea gull dropping fell into my eye.", replied the pirate.

"You lost your eye to a sea gull dropping?" the sailor asked incredulously.

"Well...", said the pirate, "...it was my first day with the hook."

NEWSLETTER

Remember, the newsletter is only as good as the contents, so please contact Geoff Murray if you have anything to report, no matter how trivial. Geoff can be contacted on:

(08) 9448 3109 at home and (08) 9323 4579 at work, or email geoff.murray@mainroads.wa.gov.au.

Cheers Geoff Murray

NOTICE - BOOK OF INTEREST

A new book of interest to ex 3 RAR 1957-59 and 1963-65 Malaya tour. My Side of History by Chin Peng which gives another view of the Emergency conflict. A most interesting view by the leader of the Communist Party in Malaya. The book is available from Capricorn Link PO Box 704 Windsor NSW 2756 and costs \$32 incl postage. The book is highly recommended reading.

NOTICE - ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

Please remember when you submit an article for inclusion in the newsletter that it is reduced in size from A4 down to the smaller book you get in the mail, I generally use size 14 or 16 font when I compose articles.

Tony Keech XO/ED



ANZAC DAY 2000 MELBOURNE

LtoR
Graham Enever,
Go Go Goggins, Geoff Leach
(All from B Coy, 1st Tour)

This year we actually stepped off from the planned start point next to the Melbourne Town Hall in Collins Street. The Pigs were fifth in the order of march and once again were fortunate to have a band in front of us, although it seemed to only have two tunes; one of them about a bloke called Andy who steals a sheep and jumps into a billabong - at least we know the words and it is in march time.

Also for the first time we had the honour of being led by our esteemed Col. Eric Smith DSO, who took off at a lively pace belying his senior years. At one point he deftly bent to pick up a stray drumstick without missing a step and, in a baton change that would have done credit to an Olympic relay team, passed it to John Lynch behind him with the instruction to return it to a very worried drummer. We were also joined also by two of our members in wheelchairs, one of them being Michael Berrigan who was so badly wounded in 1967.

After the march we held our re-union at a new venue, the Town Hall Hotel in South Melbourne. Over 70 members attended including wives, partners, sons and daughters. The daughters of the late David Davidson [B Coy, 1st tour] joined us on the march and at the re-union; it was their first ANZAC day without their father [David passed away last October].

As an innovation this year we read the names of all those that died on 7RAR's Tours. Ian Dunn led off with other members continuing the Roll Call before the final reader finished the Roll and asked us to also remember those that have died since our return to Australia. An interesting sidelight – the bemused look on the younger patrons, and the bar-staff, was soon replaced by thoughtful looks. We had read out the ages along with the names; suddenly it wasn't just a bunch of 'old blokes', we'd been young like they were now.



Klaus Behrend, Ian Dunn and 'Roo' Dowley listening to another 'Warrie'

Coming Events in Victoria

7th AIF – August 8th

Commemorating their landing at Gallipoli – we'll be meeting at the Shrine of Remembrance at 11.30am, along with members of 2/7th. Family and friends welcome and we'll adjourn nearby afterwards for light refreshments.

Birthday Party - September 1

It's a rehearsal for our 40th in 2005! Venue is "Percy's" in Carlton and it should be quite an evening. Percy has even offered to carry in the cake.

Long-suffering partners and family are warmly invited (some-one has to drive us home!). For more details please call any of the following:-

'Go Go' Goggins 0415 510 783

'Ian Dunn 9436 1626

'Roo' Dowley 9887 1413

John Gilmour 9580 5881

Regards Bill Anderson.

7th BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT INC (QLD) Incorporated in Queensland – No 1A – 13547

Application for *Membership and/or *Renewal of Current Membership (* Delete inapplicable statement)

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SURNAMEGIVE	IN NAMES
ST/etcTown	/Sub
StatePost Code Phone (H)()
(W)() FAX ()
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Membership NumberArmy Num	berUnit
Coy/etcPlatoon/etcL	ocationDates
Remarks/Hons/Awards/	
Do you object to any of the above inforn tion membership list which is distributed a Yes/No Signature	to other membersDate
Enclosed cheque/money order for \$ship renewal.	
RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: -	7RAR ASSOCIATION PO BOX 8143 WERRINGTON COUNTY NSW 2747
Office Use Only	
Date receivedM/hip C	Card Issued
Records Adjusted	.Signature
Receipt Number	