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DLI IN DEPTH BATTLEFIELD TOUR 2-15 AUGUST 2015

CORTED BY: BORONIA TOURS

our members via Singapore Airlines.

you will be met by your local guide and transferred to otel and freshen up for lunch. This afternoon enjoy a us, seeing beautiful Mosques, Palaces and old wooden opean and Asian shoreline followed by a visit to the nd the Janissary Band concert. Evening: tour welcome

Hotel, ISTANBUL

L D

ed tour of famous sights of the old city, including the eautiful Blue Mosque. Following lunch at Konyali he Bosphorus inside the grounds of Topkapi Palace, main residence of the Ottoman Sultans for over 400 **Jnderground Cistern before returning to the hotel.**

Hotel, ISTANBUL

B L

coach to Gallipoli with lunch upon arrival at Kum we visit Kilitbahir for discussions on the failed naval

BLD

a special highlight boat tour along the Gallipoli ve to Suvla Bay for an unforgettable view of the ridges just as the Australian soldiers would have seen it on (weather permitting). Return to hotel for lunch.

along the coast for our first visit to the Anzac beaches ncluding a walk up to Plugges Plateau for a wonderful Ari Burnu Cemetery, where the Dawn Service was held ery and the grave of John Simpson Kirkpatrick, "the Anzac Cove and the Anzac Commemorative Site at

- Overnight Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI

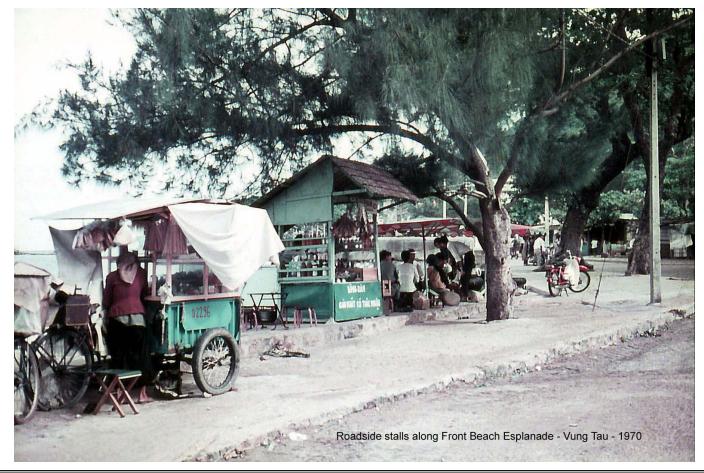
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Day 6. **Thursday 06 August** Begin today with a guided tour of the Anzac front line from Lone Pine, Johnston's Jolly, Steele's Post and Courtney's Post to Quinn's Post. Return to Hotel for a special SUOI CHAU PHA lunch. Remainder of the afternoon off for make and mend. **Evening: Dinner at Hotel Overnight: Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI** Friday 07 August Day 7. Today we head to the southern tip of the peninsula for a guided tour of the landings at Cape Helles and Krithia Battlefields.. We visit Redoubt Cemetery, "V" Beach, the huge Turkish Memorial on the tip of Cape Helles, "S" Beach, and the French cemetery. Lunch will be at a local restaurant overlooking the Aegean. **Evening: Dinner at hotel. Overnight: Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI BLD** Saturday 08 August Day 8. Today we spend the day on the heights for discussions on the August offensive, objectives, successes and failures. After breakfast we return to Second Ridge to visit Walker's Ridge, The Nek, Chunuk Bair and Hill 971. Return to Hotel for lunch. This afternoon we return to the heights and walk down Rhododendron Ridge with a short side tour to The Shell Green Cemetery en route. Evening: Dinner at hotel, followed by an optional film night. Overnight: Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI **BLD** Day 9. Sunday 09 August This morning we journey to Suvla Bay and Hill 60, seeing Fisherman's Hut on the way. We return to the hotel for a BBQ lunch. This afternoon we enjoy a tour of the battlefields from the Turkish side with Turkish expert Kenan Celik. We will also visit the former headquarters of Colonel Mustafa Kemal Ataturk in the village of Bigali. This evening we will return to Lone Pine for a special commemorative service. Full details to be finalized. **Evening: Dinner at hotel. Overnight: Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI BLD**



ANZAC DAY 2009: A blast from the past.

A further blast from the past a long time ago.





new innovation initiated by the boys from WA, a car flag with window attachment, they come in two sizes:- small 300mm x 200mm and large 400mm x 300mm. Costs are small \$10.00 plus postage and packaging, large \$15.00 plus postage and packaging. The WA branch already has a supply remainder can order from the OX, address on the back cover.

I still have a great supply of these items, also I have plenty of the Red Friday Lapel Badges, 7RAR Lapel badges and 7RAR Ties. If you require any of these items just send me an email or a note and I will send you you order promptly.

Hi Tony, we have made a new friend who retired a major. In his younger days when he was a digger he served in 3RAR. He was looking through our 7 RAR book and saw a lot of familiar names. I was wondering if his details could be put in the newsletter as he would love to catch up with some of the men who might remember him. His name is ROGER SNUGGS and his E-MAIL address is:

roger.snuggs@gmail.com

Day 10. Monday 10 August This morning we cross the Dardanells for a guided tour of the ruins of ancient Troy. Lunch will be in Canakkale.

After lunch we visit the Canakkale forts and museum, and also an opportunity to see the replica of the Turkish minelayer Nusret that layed the mines in the Dardanelles that caused so much damage to the allied Navies. **Evening:** Dinner at hotel. Overnight: Kum Hotel, GALLIPOLI BLD

Tuesday 11 August Day 11. Today we leave the battlefields behind for return trip to Istanbul, with lunch en route at Kosk restaurant. This afternoon and evening will be free for personal sightseeing, shopping and time to explore the many colorful and interesting cafes of this wonderful city. Evening; Dinner own arrangements. **Overnight: Golden Park Hotel, ISTANBUL** BL

Day 12. Wednesday 12 August After breakfast, we visit a carpet showroom for an interesting presentation on the background of Turkish carpets. Then visit Hagia Sophia, one of the great marvels of architecture and the most important Byzantine monument in Istanbul. After lunch we visit the Grand Bazaar with over 4000 shops, for final shopping and souvenir hunting. The remainder of the day is free before attending a farewell dinner whilst enjoying a magnificent view of Istanbul by night.

Overnight: Golden Park Hotel, ISTANBUL

Day 13. **Thursday 13 August** After breakfast the tour comes to an end with a morning transfer to the airport for return flight to Australia.

Friday 14 August Day 14. Arrive Australia early evening.

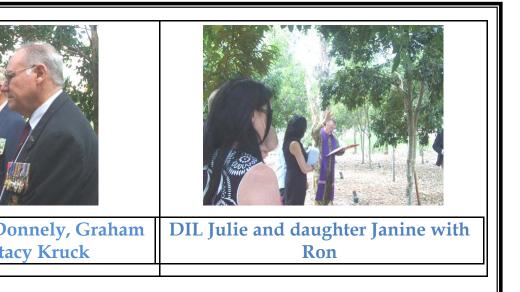
Please take note that the itinerary is proposed at the moment and is subject to change according to the numbers and local requirements as may apply at this time of the year in Turkey. I have spoken to Mr Peter Symons from Baronia Travel, he advises that those interested in participating in this tour should advise Baronia Travel ASAP, (contact details on brochure on page 4) to allow planning to cover this Tour. No payments will be required until 12 months prior to the departure date, as you can appreciate the dates of this tour represent the Centenerary of the Battle of Lone Pine and is likely to be a very popular time for remembrance services.

Tony Keech, OAM, XO/ED

BLD

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Battlefiel 7RAR GALLI REG	Tour Specialists POLI TOUR AUGUST 201 ISTRATION FORM	5	Robin Bourk, Kevin Donnely, Gr Griffiths and Stacy Kruck
Mr Mrs Ms Dr First Name:	Surneme: 	DOB : DOB :	Piper Andy Gorrie and Neil (Lof Eiby in the background
ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS: (Please tick)			
2015 Gallipuli Battlefield For Please send	Date Form indicates my intention to particip or and to be included on your priority lis this completed form to: P.O. Box 22, Boronia VIC 3 traces + 1907 r please fill in the above on the form. Please note	IF ISS If If form and send it to that no payment	to Glenn and Julie Allan with kids a Janine's partner Geoff talking to Reverend

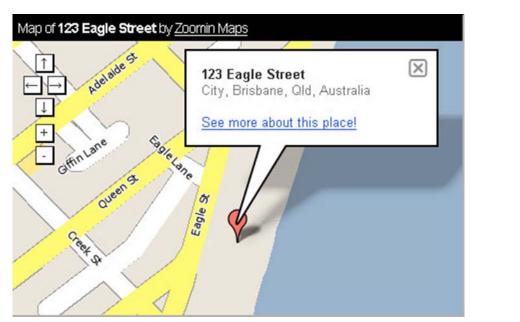




Stony Bourke, Pat Quinn, Robin Bourke, Kevin Donnelly & Graham Griffith



Goodbye Ron



Ron Allan's

Ashes

Ron was buried in NSW but he left notice in his will that he wanted his ashes spread at the National Memorial Walk in Enoggera Barracks Brisbane. Family flew in from NSW and WA for the service that was conducted by Rev. Peter Devenish-Meares and myself as MC.

In attendance were Ron's son Glenn with his wife Julia and kids, Daughter Janine with her partner Geoff and a good turnout of 7RAR and RAR guys who had served with Ron including;

Neil (Lofty) Eiby, Stoney and Robin Bourke, Ted Lewis, Graham Griffith, Stacy Kruck, Phil Littler, Leigh Christie, Bruce Cox, Jack and Yvonne Ezzy, Sam Giacomantonio, Pat Quinn and myself. The piper was Andy Gorrie, ex Regimental Pipe Major who volunteered his services for the day. Some photos of the day:



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - APRIL 2013

As this Newsletter goes to print most of us will be enjoying the Easter holiday break with family and good friends in typical Aussie fashion with BBQ's, the occasional ale or two, the footy (different codes dependant on the State in which we live), and hopefully some of us will turn to some religious indulgence during this poignant time in the Christian calendar, especially after the very recent election of the new Pope Francis 1 - for the world's largest Christian community. Let's not forget many of our comrades who are in far less fortunate circumstances than ourselves both at home in Australia and abroad, and especially our forces and allies in Afghanistan, as well as those in other foreign lands serving in both fighting and peace-keeping capacities.

ANZAC DAY 2013

Anzac Day fast approaches in less than a month and no doubt our various State branches are preparing for Thursday 25th April. Our ranks are thinning considerably, and in Sydney our Annual Service at the Garrison Church, The Rocks, will not have any 2/7th old soldiers joining us as they have for many years. We especially welcome any 7RAR Afghanistan veterans and encourage them to join us prior to the Anzac Day March. Details of the timings of the Service can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, along with *after* March lunch venue suggestions.

I'm sure there are many old soldier's *good stories* surrounding Anzac Day – here's one with a difference. In December 2012 Wally Harris, platoon commander of B5 1967/68, relayed a Christmas/New Year message to family and friends from both Wal and Bev his partner. With his permission I quote excerpts from it regarding his participation in the Sydney Male Choir:

"The Sydney Male Choir is a very demanding commitment with weekly rehearsals and shows about every fortnight. It is a 12 hour turnaround from Fingal to Strathfield for rehearsals. Arriving home at 1.30am early in the morning is very tiring; however, the experience of singing with this mob makes it worthwhile. Most of our concerts are in the Sydney metro area; however, we also had concerts at Scone, Canberra, Central Coast and Melbourne. We always assist with the Dawn Service and Remembrance Day Service at Martin Place.

Bev and I will both be touring with the choir to Europe and the UK in April 2013. Veteran's Affairs have asked us to participate in the Anzac Day ceremonies at Villars Bretonneau in France (on ABC TV after Gallipoli coverage on Anzac Day). We are performing concerts throughout France including a show at the L'Arc de Triophe. We then travel to Cornwall and compete in the International Music Festival for a week followed by paid concerts in England. We then intend to spend a month touring Ireland at the conclusion of choir commitments." From Fingal Bay Wal and Bev juggle regular golf, distant choir rehearsals, babysitting and 'Vinnies' counselling where Wal is occupied with daily briefings to duty counsellors on clients, and interviews clients at least one day a week.

Apart from serving with 7RAR Wal, as a regular soldier served with the Gurkhas in Borneo during his army days, and was the very appropriate winner of the *Kukri* (Nepalese soldier's knife) in our raffle to raise funds for the 'Gurkha Welfare *Trust'* at the Melbourne Reunion in August 2012. Until I saw Wal in the SMC at the Cenotaph on Anzac Day I had no idea he had a good (singing) voice. We were at school together, he was the school cadet Drum Major, and we played together in a school rugby premiership team in 1961; but the voice was a surprise for me!

AUSTRALIAN WAR HORSES

With Anzac Day almost here, 'War Horse', a dramatic retelling of British author Michael Morpurgo's WW1 novel opened at the Sydney Lyric theatre at the end of March; elaborate puppets tell the story of *Joey* a young farm horse recruited to the Western Front. One of The Daily Telegraph's regular history writers, Marea Donnelly wrote an article on 18th March titled "How Australia's war horse made it home"- I found the statistics amazing. Official figures show 120,000-136,000 Australian horses went overseas during WW1. Only one, Sandy, returned! Australia supplied 82,000 mounts to British forces in India, sent 10,000 to France in 1916, and 23,348 to the Middle East from 1914-16.

'Australian Whalers' a riding horse developed from colonial horses and dubbed *New South Whalers* were a preferred military horse. They stood 15-16 hands (152-163cm). At the end of the war, Australian forces in Syria, Egypt and Palestine had between 7400 and 9751 surviving horses used as cavalry mounts and artillery draughts, and at the end of the war, forces in the Middle East had between 7400 and 9751 surviving horses. Sold to locals in France and Belgium, some were transferred to such units as the Indian Cavalry Divisions on duties in Syria. Almost 3,000 AIF horses deemed too old or unfit for service were humanely destroyed by veterinary surgeons.

One horse returned to Australia, and was ridden for 20 days at Gallipoli by AIF founding commanding officer Major General William Bridges. Sandy a 16-hand chestnut was one of 6,100 horses shipped to Gallipoli, though few went ashore after Lieutenant General William Birdwood decided they were not required. History says Bridges was not popular with his men, however after landing at Gallipoli at about 7.30am on 25th April 1915 he was involved in a furious battle against the Turks the next day; and he shared duties with his men ignoring enemy fire on daily inspections of positions. On 15th May during an inspection he was shot by a sniper, severing his femoral artery and evacuated to a hospital ship on May 18th, he died the same day. Military legend has it a dying Bridges asked for his beloved Sandy to be sent home."

6

Pigs in Paradise

DAWN SERVICE

All are invited to attend the Dawn Service at the Contemplation Building, The RAR National Memorial Walk, Lavarack Parade Gallipoli Barracks. Your Committee will be there and will lay a wreath in commemoration of 7RAR soldiers lost in battle

Dawn service - National Memorial Walk - all gates to Enoggera Barracks will be open. Drivers license photo id needed for entry.

Service at NMW commences at 0455am. Ensure you are in Enoggera Barracks by 0430am because of the large volume of traffic entering.

Prior to service there will be tea/ coffee/ orange juice/ water/ rum.

After service at 0630am, 6RAR will be conducting service for Pte R. Poate Killed in Afghanistan in 2012.

Breakfast for a small fee will be available at 6RAR or 8/9 RAR.

BRISBANE CITY MARCH

All 7RAR members are encouraged to march in the city:-Assemble at the FUP (Cnr George/ Charlotte St and Mary Street) at 1000 Step off at 1100 (subject to change).

Order of March

RAR ASSOC QLD - 62, 8/9 RAR ASSOC - 63, 5/7 RAR ASSOC - 64 1 RAR ASSOC - 65, 2 RAR ASSOC - 66, 3 RAR ASSOC - 67 4 RAR ASSOC - 68, RAR ASSOC - 69, 6 RAR ASSOC - 70 7 RAR ASSOC - 71, RAR ASSOC - 72, 9 RAR ASSOC - 73

Transport to FUP own means but remember public transport is free when wearing medals. Dress is coat & tie or smart casual plus medals

Reunion.

Location: The Pig 'N Whistle at Eagle Street. They will be open at the end of the parade and are situated just a short walk from where we are dismissed. Members are reminded to fit in with the Qld Liquor Licensing laws we need to purchase some food to go with drinks for about the first hour - up to 13:00.

BRISBANE - ANZAC DAY 2013



From August 1915 *Sandy* was in the care of Australian Army Veterinary Corps Captain Leslie Whitfield in Egypt. Both transferred to France in March 1916. In October 1917, Australian Defence Minister Senator George Pearce called for *Sandy* to be sent home. In May 1918 *Sandy* was sent from the Australian Veterinary Hospital at Calais, accompanied by Private Archibald Jordan, to the Remount Depot in Swaythling in England. *Sandy* was declared free of disease and in September 1918 was boarded on the freighter *Booral* and arrived in Melbourne in November.

SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIA - QF32

I guess most of my 'heroes' are soldiers, sailors and airmen who fought for their country in various conflicts; many in heroic actions that for one reason or another went unrecognised. We all look up to these men and women;VC, MC, MM, GC, etc., as Aussies we are unconditionally proud of these 'legends'. Can I highly recommend the following inspirational story which captivates the reader. Melbourne born and educated Richard de Crespigny had his first taste of a future flying career as a fourteen year old when his father took him on a tour of the RAAF Academy at Point Cook in Victoria. In 1975, aged 17 he joined the RAAF. One year later he started flying.

His comprehensive training, starting with CT4 (piston) aircraft and Macchi jets, to Caribous in Papua New Guinea, Iroquois helicopters with the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai Peninsula based in Egypt, flying the Federal Governments VIP jets (he was Aide-de-Camp to two Australian Governors-General, Sir Zelman Cowen and Sir Ninian Stephen) gave him an extensive and varied training in his 11 years with the RAAF, and was to stand him in good stead in his civilian flying career. Richard remained with the RAAF until 1986 when he joined Qantas.

"On November 4th 2010, a flight from Singapore to Sydney came within a knife edge of being one of the world's worst air disasters. Shortly after leaving Changi Airport, an explosion shattered Engine 2 of Qantas flight QF32 – an Airbus A380, the largest and most advanced passenger plane ever built. Hundreds of pieces of shrapnel ripped through the wing and fuselage, creating chaos as vital flight systems and back-ups were destroyed or degraded.

In other hands, the plane might have been lost with all 469 people on board, but a supremely experienced flight crew, led by Captain Richard Champion de Crespigny, managed to land the crippled aircraft and safely disembark the passengers after hours of nerve-racking effort.

Tracing Richard de Crespigny's life and career up until that fateful flight, his extraordinary account of how one of the world's worst air disasters was averted is riveting!

The book QF32 shows exactly what goes into the making of a top-level airline pilot, and the extraordinary skills and training needed to keep us safe in the air. Fascinating in its detail and vividly compelling in its narrative, QF32 is the riveting, blow-by-blow story of just what happens when things go badly wrong in the air, told by the captain himself."

OUR PATRONS

I am able to report that as at the end of March, General Grey is in reasonably comfortable form. He has a number of challenges to face this year and will be pleased when his surgeon can attempt to fix his heart problems. In his absence he sends his warmest best wishes to all those of the 7th Battalion, both past and present.

Colonel Eric Smith is in good shape, sounds extremely well as he approaches his 88th birthday on the 28th April, and we look forward to his attendance at our AGM in Sydney on Saturday 26th May along with his legendary wife Bett!

Our serving Patron, LTCOL Mick Garraway's present duties entail him being based at Sydney's Victoria Barracks. The committee keeps in touch with him and we are hopeful that he may be free to attend our AGM on 26th May. There will be a 'Changing of the Guard' in June when 7RAR returns from their tour of duty in Afghanistan.

THE FUTURE

There is already much talk about Reunions and functions to be held in 2015. On 25th April 2015 the official commemoration of the centenary of the ANZAC landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey will be a poignant reminder to all of us of that day 100 years ago. Numbers will be very controlled and limited at the Dawn Service due to the relatively small capacity of the Anzac Commemorative Site at Gallipoli. Each year on Anzac Day at Gallipoli, Australia and New Zealand conduct three commemorative services; jointly at the Anzac Commemorative Site, then an Australia Memorial Service at Lone Pine, and a New Zealand Memorial Service at Chunuk Bair. Turkish, Australian and New Zealand government bodies will come up with an allocation system for participants to be present in 2015.

On 1st August 2015, Boronia Travel plan to take a tour to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Lone Pine, and much has been written in detail about this in our Newsletters. The tour looks comprehensive. Remember to book if interested - from 1st April this year, there is just 2 years & 4 months to take-off.

Ian McNee & his team in W.A. have also proposed a tour to Lone Pine in August 2015, and there is work to be done to ascertain if these two tours can operate effectively at the same time and to the same venue. 2015 is also the 50th Anniversary of 7RAR, formed at Puckapunyal, Victoria on 1st September 1965 in the Australian Army's build up for the Vietnam War.



7 RAR PIGS IN VIC

marching on ANZAC Day? catch a bus, catch a train BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY



From now until ANZAC Day ALL MERCHANDISE IS 30% OFF (excluding caps & stubby holders)

Available on line at http://www.floodmarketing.com.au/shop/default.asp?client=7rar

> or call Jan on 0448612170 Allan on 0401241191



Merchandising (see following two pages)

We still have some of the high quality clothing left over from the Reunion so we would like to offer these items at a 30% discount as follows:

Chambrey shirt - long sleeve \$35, short sleeve \$30 Soft Shell Vest, sleeveless – ladies \$45, mens \$50 Soft Shell Jacket – ladies \$55, mens \$55 7RAR scarf - \$15

Also available are Caps (\$10) and Stubby Holders (\$5)

These can be ordered via internet on:

http://www.floodmarketing.com.au/shop/default.asp?client=7rar

or by calling Jan McGuiness (0448 612 170), or GoGo (0425 510 783)

Final Contingent - RAMSI

Family and friends assembled at RAAF, Williams on Saturday 22 March to watch the final contingent of ARES members parade prior to their deployment to the Solomon Islands, marking the end of 10 years Australian involvement.

The first two chalks of 5/5RVR head off on 28 March, with the balance on 31 March. What a great experience for the Reservists and well done for their employers allowing them to serve their 4 months.

It is to be hoped that the government is not using the pull back in overseas service as a money saving exercise given the reduction in Timor Leste, Solomon Island and the recently announced draw down in Afghanistan.

Parting Shot

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't - Ben Franklin

Bill Anderson Email: <u>lastwill@hotkey.net.au</u> 144 Rachelle Rd East Keilor Vic 3033 Ph: (03) 9336-1317 Mob: 0419-877-463 Hence our team in Adelaide are well and truly into: REUNION 2015 – "ANZAC TO ADELAIDE", 8th-11th October 2015. Details have appeared in previous issues of our newsletters and they will continue to update us.

Although we are now members of the RARC, I still firmly believe we need to press on with our own agendas and to seek help where and when required. The quest for an Australian National Memorial Cemetery (ANMC) is in our 'bucket list' and we need to continue to pursue this objective however long it takes. Don't forget to wear our "Support Our Troops" badges to be worn on any and all Fridays. And whilst supporting our families and mates in good and bad times, I'm keen to continue to support a worthy 'army' cause – the Gurkhas and this through the *Gurkha Welfare Trust* who received our donation in 2012 from the raffle of the Nepalese Kukri with much gratitude towards the 7th Battalion in Australia.

Thank you especially to XO Tony Keech and the executive committee for their support, and here's wishing you all a happy, safe and pleasant Easter; a brilliant and meaningful Anzac Day with family and friends wherever that may be; the best of health and a terrific rest of the year.

Warm regards, Rod

MESSAGE FROM JACK DOULIS RE ANZAC DAY GET TOGETHER FOR A COY

Hi Tony, It was sad news to hear Paul (Pop} Atley passing away. I remember when we were sitting on board the "HMAS ship The Sydney" outside the port of Sydney on Anzac Day 1968 waiting for the next day to disembark & be united with our loved one's. -- When Pop came up to us & told us his brother had a horse racing that day, in Melb.

Its name was "Jameal" & it had a good chance of winning on this particular day {Anzac Day} So many of us "A Coy" guys backed with the Ships bookie & it won, paying a very handy price {off hand I think it was about 14 to 1} & we broke the "Bookie" that day, as he had to go & borrow money from other sources to settle all accounts.

That was a very memorable moment, I can assure you. Paul will be sadly missed. Tony in the last issue of our "Seven News" <u>I said A lot of us</u> <u>"A Coy" guys were meeting Anzac Day at "Coffs Harbour" --- Wrong its</u> <u>"Tweed Heads" So please delete that as its going to be at "Tweed</u> <u>Heads</u>", Sorry for the big stuff up, but that's it "TWEED HEADS"

Until then --- Cheers Jack Doulis

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	NEW MEMBERS
Mr Winto	n Warren Mrs Susan West
SPT Coy	

Mr Glen Allan **NOK Ron both Tours**

Mr James Wallace Belford C9 1st Tour

PEARLS FROM VICTORIA

2013 Branch Committee

The following members were elected at our AGM held late last year – virtually without a change. Our major change was for the position of secretary - Peter Kerley stood down after a major effort leading up to the 2012 Reunion. Due to his unstinting efforts we were able to pull a lot of the background details together and he was ducky thanked for his efforts.

The Committee is President Vice President Secretary Treasurer **General Members**

Pat (Go Go) Goggins **Rob** Arnott Ian Dunn Alan Roo Dowley **Everyone else at the meeting**

Anzac Day 2013

The RAR formation will be stepping off at 11:25 am this year – being led off by 2RAR Association. 7RAR is scheduled to form up on Collins St East (North side). I think that means about halfway up Collins on the Town Hall side. Either way look Banner supplied by National.

Our Post-March venue is again the Limerick Arms 364 Clarendon St, South Melbourne (corner Clarendon & Park St).

Victorian licensing regulations prohibit selling alcohol before 12:00 noon – but there will be some cold jugs awaiting the post-March rush. Anyway, given our start time I don't think we'll be at the hotel until about 1:00 pm.

Meals are expected to be the high standard that the Limerick Arms is known for. At this stage there will be a choice of three meals at a cost of \$16.00 - probably Parma, Fish & Chips and 'Helluva Hamburger'

Vietnam Veterans ' Commemorative Walk, Seymour

A new 'must see' for Vietnam Veterans was opened on March 9. This has been an on-going project for VV members in the Mitchell Shire. The opening was hugely attended by up to 5000 veterans and family for the daytime activities and almost 2500 for the evening concert (with Doug Owens and Normie Rowe as headliners).

Other features of the Walk include a wall with the names of everyone who served in Vietnam and a replica of the Long Tan Cross.





next for Easter Eggs?

Mrs Scarce (right) hands lamington to a mum



coming up.



Easter Bunny and Friend.

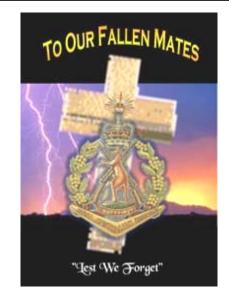
Cheers to all. Chris Ashenden.



Memories of a time and place ago. Pete Cheshire keeps a lookout at the Horseshoe 1970.

derman





VALE Rest ye oh Warrior, You will battle no more, No longer to live the horrors of war, Your duty was done with honour and pride, Farewell oh brother, until we march by your side. It is with deep and sincere sympathy that I report the death of former friends and comrades in arms.

4718962 Barry Gordon West, A Coy FO Party 1st tour, passed away Thursday 9 August 2012.

3411955 Paul Augustine Atley, A1 1st tour, passed away 5 Jan 2013.

312867 Frederick William Killick, D12 2nd tour, passed away 15 January 2013.

219075 Carl Stephen Carlsen, B6 2nd tour, passed away Wednesday 6 March 2013.

Leonard Maxwell, (Max) Wright, 2/7th Battalion AIF, passed away Sunday 17 March 2013.

1735476 John Joseph (Cossie) Costello, B5 2nd tour, passed away Friday 22 March 2013.





Vicki Hopkins with CPL Henry Bamford who she presented the "Matty Hopkins" Memorial trophy to on the march out of 7 Platoon Rifleman Wing on Friday 30 November 2012. Henry commanded the Champion Section during their Corps Training course at the School of Infantry, Singleton.

As history would have it, Henry is the Son of Bob Bamford who served with 7RAR during the second tour of Vietnam as a member of 4 Platoon B Coy. Henry has served in the ADF for 12 years and completed two tours of Afghanistan, one each in Iraq and East Timor with 6RAR, he was attached to 7RAR for some time.

On his first tour of Afghanistan Henry was attached to 5/7RAR as a Bushmaster Driver, then gunner, then 2IC. After 5/7 RAR was unlinked he went on to complete the tour attached to 4 Platoon B Coy 7RAR, Like Father Like Son.

ANZAC Day 2013

Serving members of the battalion will be attending the North Terrace War Memorial Dawn Service before being dismissed for the day. The Mantra on Hindmarsh Square is again preparing to receive us for early drinks/breakfast. The March assembly point will be near the intersection of Grenfell and Frome Road. Post March drinks may start at the Torrents Parade Ground or straight on to the Lion Hotel where lunch will be available.

The RSL is encouraging younger members to march with their theatre group, e.g. Iraq, Timor or Afghanistan. However it is likely that many will choose to march with the Battalion Association as part of the Royal Australian Regiment contingent.

Easter Egg Hunt.

This year Easter Bunny made a special early appearance for the children of the Battalion Task Group serving in Afghanistan and those about to go there. Through the generosity of our SA Patron, His Excellence Rear Admiral Kevin Scare AC, CSC, RANR, Governor of South Australia, the event was held in the grounds of Government House on Sunday afternoon 24th March. Around 100 children, partners, siblings and parents of serving personnel attended.

His Excellence and Mrs. Scare had decorated 12 dozen lamingtons before breakfast as part of the preparations. The Vietnam Veterans Rowing group provided espresso coffee and the Salvation Army cordials. Easter bunny had an assistant to help distribute eggs to the younger children whilst the older ones searched the grounds for Easter eggs. There was a "jumping castle", face painting and balloon artist for the children and a number of families videoed Easter messages to those in Afghanistan.

There were a few old Porkies and their wives present to meet the mothers and other family members. Battalion soldiers set up and dismantled the site, had photos taken with Easter bunny, received and made balloon art and were amongst the first to tour Government House. Govern Kevin Scares and Mrs. Scare mixed and greeted with Mrs. Scare serving lamingtons. The Hon Jack Snelling, MP SA's minister for Veterans' Affairs attended with some of his family.

The state association expresses its appreciation for support received from His Excellence the Governor and Mrs Scare, the Hon Jack Snelling, Tom Kelly & DVA, the Defence Community Organisation and the Battalion's Salvation Army for their support for a great day. A special thanks to committee member and Battalion Padre Davis Prior, for his organisation, coordination and part in producing Easter Bunny, his assistant and photographer.

PIGS IN SOUTH AUSSIE ALWAYS IN ACTION WEB PAGE LUNCHES BATTALION EVENTS **REUNION 2015** ANZAC DAY ORDERS EASTER EGG HUNT



WWW. Checked our page out lately? http://www.7rarsa.asn.au

Out web page continues to expand and is constantly updated and provides useful contemporary links. Regular visits are recommended as one never knows what Noel Biggins has found to add.

Monthly Lunches

The date and site for the next lunch can be found on the web page. http://www.7rarsa.asn.au. An evening meal was held in February with attendance surprisingly low. Seemed many were either going interstate or had a family birthday party to attend. The only lunch scheduled for April is ANZAC Day at the Lion in North Adelaide with the Royal Australian Regiment Association. Gunfire breakfast will be available at the Mantra on Hindmarsh Square.

Battalion Events

As this newsletter goes to press members of the expanded Bravo Company (150 personnel) are in Darwin on final exercises prior to deployment with 2 Cav. With RTA scheduled for Feb. 2014 they will be amongst the final ADF in Afghanistan. Whilst training of Afghani troops continues the emphasis is increasingly on cleaning up after 12 years of deployment and preparing items for return to Australia and the hand over the site to the Afghanistan Defence Force.

A Welcome Home Parade will be held at Torrens Parade Ground on 29th June to welcome back the first contingent. Once the time is confirmed – probably a p.m. event - we will place it and other relevant details on our web page. 7 RAR Association badges and military medals are to be worn.

REUNION 2015

Proposed dates remain as Thursday 8th to Sunday 12th October 2015. However there is every possibility that an extra day (Wednesday 7th) may be added to fit in additional commemorative events. Elsewhere in the bulletin details of a regular payment plan are provided.

There is a special call for SA pigs to join the organizing group to undertake selected activities. If you have not received a call from me when you read this please email cashende@bigpond.net.au so that you can be added to a task group. Our goal is for many people undertaking small tasks to achieve optimum results.

LOOKING FOR!!

G'day there, I served in 5 RAR in 1966-67. Recently I met a Jim Brophy whose brother, Edward Brophy, died during the Battle of Suoi Chau Pha, in Phuoc Tuy Province on August 6 1967.

Edward served in 5 RAR for a short time before staying on with 7 RAR but I do not recall him. I told Jim I would seek information about his brother, so I am wondering if you can help or maybe get on to one of his mates to assist.

Regards Kerry White Kerry White <<u>kerry.white@optusnet.com.au</u>>

Anyone able to assist please contact Kerry on the above email address. If you are not on the internet please contact me via any of the following means.

Tony Keech, OAM (02) 4721 4349, (m) 0418 624 211.

LOOKING FOR!!

Karen Stocks, the daughter of Ross William Strudwick who served in **3** Platoon A Company 2nd Tour has asked Tony Blake about her Dad. If anyone served with Ross can you please contact Karen Stocks on the following email.

karen stocks <k.l.s.76@hotmail.com>

LOOKING FOR

Bob Reed, B5 2nd tour is seeking help from anyone who may know the whereabouts of Phillip John McLure 2nd tour, if anyone out there has any information as to his location please contact Bob Reed on the following phone number, (07) 4157 6124 or you can contact the XO on any of the numbers above or on the following email:

porky_seven@bigpond.com

Tony Keech, OAM XO.



Wed 24 April	Villers Bretonneux 1918, Kapyong 1951.
Thu 25 April	ANZAC Day, details for State details in State reports.
Sun 12 May	Coral 1968.
Sun 19 May	AGM, see page xx for details.
Sun 26 May	Balmoral 1968.
Thu 6 Jun	6RAR raised 1966, Binh Ba 1969.
Fri 7 Jun	Messines 1917.
Fri 14 Jun	Jezzine 1941.
Mon 1 Jul	1st Battle of Somme 1916, Balik Papan 1945,
Tue 23 Jul	Poziers 1916
Wed 24 Jul	Samichon 1953.
Wed 31 Jul	Ypres 1917
Tue 6 Aug	Sari Bair, (Lone Pine), Suvla Bay 1915, Suoi Chau Pha 1967.
Thu 8 Aug	Battle of Amiens 1918, 8RAR Raised 1966.
Thu 15 Aug	VP Day 1945.
Sun 18 Aug	Long Tan 1966.
Mon 26 Aug	Milne Bay 1942.
Sat 31 Aug	Mont St Quentin 1918.
Sun 1 Sep	7RAR raised 1965.

Whilst we think this tour would be fabulous for battlefield historians, we have come to realise that a tour of this duration and intensity might not suit everyone else, especially wives and/or partners. Accordingly, we have proposed a much shorter tour of about 5 – 7 days at Gallipoli and we are currently in discussions with Boronia Travel to come up with an itinerary and costings, hopefully with details in the next newsletter.

A possible itinerary may be as follows:

•	5 August	Meet in Istanbul (m
•	6 August	Travel by coach to C
•	7 August	Visit the NEK earl service to honour th 100 years ago, then t
•	8 August	General tours aroun
•	9 August	Morning Commemor honour the four Vio after the battle, then
•	10 August	Travel back to Istan their own self-organ

Steve Chamarette <u>sunridge@it.net.au</u> Ian McNee ianmcnee1@iinet.net.au

(08) 9242 1865

(08) 9227 9845

Geoff Murray geoffandlorraine@yahoo.com.au

(08) 9448 3109

ANZAC DAY DETAILS FOR EACH STATE ARE INCLUDED IN THE STATE REPORTS THROUGHOUT THIS NEWSLETTER. IF IN DOUBT CONTACT YOUR LOCAL STATE REP FOR ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS REFERENCE ASSEMBLY AREAS AND GET TOGETHER LOCATIONS AFTER THE MARCH

FROM THE EDITOR HAVE A GREAT ANZAC DAY

TONY KEECH, OAM XO/ED

- ay tie in with individual travel plans) allipoli, visit Anzac Cove
- y morning for a short commemorative e gallant Light Horse charges of exactly our Gallipoli
- d Gallipoli
- prative Service at Lone Pine cemetery to ctoria Cross recipients exactly 100 years tour Gallipoli
- bul, where participants may depart on ised tours and travel.

l in participating in a tour as detailed acting either: Alternatively, you can do an Electronic Funds Transfer to: **BSB 066132** Account 00913220





APPROX 6.0 CM X 4..0 CM

APPROX 9.0 CM X 6.0 CM

NEWSLETTER – WA MEMBERS

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: Home 08 94483109

GALLIPOLI 2015 - UPDATE

The original concept for the visit to Gallipoli in 2015 was to commemorate the four members of 7th Bn A.I.F. who were awarded Victoria Crosses during the battle for Lone Pine, over the period 6 - 9 August 1915. These Victoria Crosses, awarded to Corporals Burton and Dunstan and Lieutenants Symons and Tubb, represented the highest number of Victoria Crosses presented to an Australian unit in a single action. Part of the original concept was to also try and locate descendants of the four Victoria Cross winners, with a view to some of them accompanying us to Gallipoli.

We have been in contact by email with several of them and they have shown a great deal of interest. We will also be in contact with 7RAR on their return from Afghanistan in the hope that we may be accompanied on the trip by a 7RAR Honour Guard to assist in a commemorative service at the Lone Pine cemetery.

In the December 2012 edition of Seven News, there was a detailed itinerary for the GALLIPOLI IN DEPTH BATTLEFIELD TOUR, 2 - 15 AUGUST 2015, to be escorted by Boronia Tours.



Welcome to 2013, I hope you all had a very Mer-

ry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As we look forward to celebrating our 48th Birthday I look forward to providing you with all the gossip that surrounds the old PIGS as well as our Modern Day PIGS, some of whom are currently serving their Nation on active service in Afghanistan. May God Bless and keep them all safe.

A reminder to all members, particularly those still serving in the battalion or in other postings around the country, please advise me when you are posted, change units or move from you recorded residential address. I ask all members to check their financial status by checking the first set of figures located at the tope left of your address label as shown below:

2013	159
(THIS IS YOUR FINANCIAL	(THIS IS YO
DATE STATUS)	NUMBE

If your date status is not showing the current year then you are un-financial, please renew your membership via the membership form on page 48 in this issue, or advise me if you do not wish to remain a member.

You will see the notice from the SA boys dealing with the 2015 Reunion on pages 22 & 23, on pages 24 & 25 is the information advising members on the methods of payment, either periodical or full payment. To get to this area you will need to log-onto the SA website shown on page 24. Then click on the method that suits you, this will take you to the PayPal website and you can set-up and account if you do not already have one or login to your account and select which method you wish to use. Please note that if you ring me on my landline and you have excluded your caller ID and it shows up PRIVATE as an incoming call, I will probably not answer it as I have been inundated with calls from every charity on earth, so if you don't get answered please leave a message and I will call you back.

Tony Keech, OAM, XO/ED

From the — *EDITOR'S* DESK

UR M/SHIP ER)

204 (THIS IS A POSTAL PRE-SORT INDICATOR)



THE GURKHA WELFARE TRUST

P.O. Box 2170 22 Queen Street Salisbury SP2 2EX

Id: 01772.323955

Fax: 01722 343119

Under the Pastonage of HRHThe Prices of Wales KG KT GCB GM AK 050 PC ADC Vice Patrops: Livid Marshall be Lord Brannel of Bushfield KG 00B 0BE MC JP Field Merchael Sir John Checkle 0CB CBE DL Miss Joanna Lumley OBE

Mr Rod Lyons President 7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association Australia

5th October 2012

E-mail: staffassistant@gwt.org.uk

Website www.gwt.org.uk

Dear Mr Lyons,

Further to Graham Hall's email acknowledging safe receipt of your kind gift, I write on behalf of the Chairman, General Sir Peter Wall and Trustees of The Gurkha Welfare Trust, to thank you very much indeed for the most magnificent donation of £1900.00 from the 7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association raised at a special raffle held at the Association's recent Annual Dinner. It is extremely thoughtful of the Association to have chosen the Trust as the beneficiary of the special raffle and is hugely appreciated. We would be most grateful if you could please pass on our heartfelt thanks to the Patrons, Vice Presidents, Executive Committee and members of the Association for their generous support to the Trust.

As the Association Patrons and members will know the Gurkha Welfare Trust is dedicated to caring for Gurkha ex-servicemen and their families. It is important work and helps repay the debt of honour we owe these proud warriors and their communities. Each quarter, no less than £1.1 million is distributed on welfare pension alone to 8,100 Gurkha ex-servicemen, many of whom had served in Borneo. Every penny of these payments has been donated and raised by generous Trust supporters like you. The Trust will use this substantial sum of money donated by the 7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association to help fund a monthly welfare pension of 5,000 Nepalese Rupees (approximately £43.00) to needy Gurkha ex-servicemen and widows in Nepal. It will cheer our soldiers' spirit beyond measure to arrive at their local welfare centre receive their welfare pension and news that their loyal friends in Australia have not forgotten them.

I have enclosed a copy of our latest Annual Review which might be of interest to the Association members.

Your donation is greatly appreciated. We, and those we support, thank you very much indeed for your support, kindness and generosity.

Major (Ret'd) Bishnukumar Pun MVO Executive Assistant The Gurkha Welfare Trust

Registered Unarity Number 1100650

O supersy timites by Guarantee Number 2058581

Registered in England at the above Address

Tustees: General Str Peter Well KO1 (Dr. ADC Cler) (Charanon), Hingshord A Andreson, Lichtenand General Str David Bill KGB, J J Brade Seq MEE, Mrs Diana Donoven, F Duffley Esq. Untgedier A G J Ley, Comme D G Heave CHF, D J Hitchenis, Fan, Tored Jonesin GOB GOVO QSO PG, Brigadiar J C Lawrence MBE, G P McRaught Ere, increater NP Modal C4F. Major Oceana NAW Page C6F. Brigadia, G E Batalife. Color of LA Sigdan OBE

Good tucker and cheap beer prices, what's not to like? And you never know whom you'll run into.

WARNING ORDERS - 7RAR WA

- we can't have that. Check the "West" closer to the date for details.
- the country and drop in. More details in the next newsletter.
- a problem, watch for more details.
- 5. aren't what they used to be.

RSL Bowls – By Geoff Murray

I have recently joined RSL Bowls and I must say it's a great way to play more bowls and also catch up with guys you may not have seen for years. At a carnival at Dudley Park last year, I ran into a guy I hadn't seen since high school, amazing. There is an interstate carnival each year, usually late December/early January and I am practising hard to try and make the WA team for this year's carnival, which is to be held in NSW, with WA to host next year. For those PIGS who may have tried to join the RSL upon return from SVN and been turned away, it's probably time to forgive and forget.

NAMETAGS (Note: For BOTH Men and Women)

Our NAMETAGS are available in two sizes, the original size and the version, which is half as big again. Each small tag costs \$13, with the larger tag at \$18, both prices include delivery to anywhere in Australia. To order, contact Geoff Murray as per details below and provide the correct name to be included on the TAG and the correct postal address. To ensure prompt delivery, pop a cheque (made payable to Geoff Murray) or money order in the post when you place your order, delivery is about three weeks. Post it to:

1. Anzac Day – Check the "West" for details of the march form-up point etc. Meet after the march at Rigby's in St Georges Tce for drinks and lunch.

2. Vietnam Veteran's Day march in Kings Park - Usually at the weekend closest to August 18th, meet at the Vietnam Veterans pavilion around 9.30 to 10.00, we need numbers badly as 5RAR are starting to outnumber us and

3. Bruce Rock Vietnam Veterans Gathering – usually end October/early November, put it in your diaries as it's a great weekend with lots of activities and a great way to catch up with old mates who may be touring

4. Annual PIGS Swill – usually mid to late November, we are trying to ensure that the venue for the lunch is on a train line so drinking and driving is not

A reminder to all WA PIGS to support the SA reunion in 2015. I know it's a long way off but from what we've seen so far, it's going to be a beauty. Make sure you've got your nametags before you attend; our memories

Geoff Murray, 30 Bouvardia Way, GREENWOOD, WA 6024

THE BEST FROM THE WEST

G'Day PIGS everywhere. All the best for 2013.

CONGRATULATIONS – Ex Politician and Current Politician.

Hearty congratulations to ex politician Graham Edwards on being elected President of RSL WA, richly deserved Graham, well done.

Also congratulations to current politician Albert Jacob, who was recently re-elected for a second term as Member for Ocean Reef in the WA parliament and was promoted to Minister for Environment and Heritage. Albert has marched with us on Anzac Day every year since he was a youngster, carrying a flag for his uncle Paul Navarre, who was killed in action with 7RAR, 2nd tour. Well done Albert and we are looking forward to catching up this Anzac Day.

VALE DENNIS "BUDDAH" LIDDELOW:

A very large crowd gathered at the Pinnaroo Cemetery on Thur. 31 Jan 2013 for the funeral of Dennis "Buddah" Liddelow, B Coy 2nd Tour - In attendance from 7RAR were John Davies, Nola Lamont (widow of Raymond), Don Cruden, Spunky Fieldhouse, Glen Moore, Dave Ingles, Casey Epskamp, Jock Henderson, Charlie Matheson, Paul Lusk, Gavin Rodie, Ian Garthwaite and Bob Cusack. Spunky carried out our small participation in the service with the dedication and solemnity that we have come to expect and we thank him for his efforts. Unfortunately, we are being required to do this more often as we all grow older. On a fairly hot day, there was standing room only, but the service was dignified with a long queue of mourners lining up to place a flower on the coffin and a great slideshow detailing Dennis's life. R. I. P. Dennis

7RAR Funeral Protocol - WA

It is never easy to discuss our own mortality, however with the recent sad passing of so many of our mates, it is probably as good a time as ever. It was described to me the other day that we are all "in the zone" as it were and I urge all members to take steps to ensure that in the event of our own departures, touch wood it's a long way off, we have things organised to minimise the discomfort of our loved ones. I encourage all members to contact their local federal member of parliament and request an Australian Flag and pass it on to Don Cruden, to enable us to follow the 7RAR Funeral Protocol of having a dignified flag ceremony for our loved ones.

Last Friday of Each Month – Lunch at RSL Club Perth

Our "Last Friday of the Month" lunches at the Perth RSL are still going strong, it's a great chance to catch up with mates and you wouldn't believe the range of topics up for discussion, I think last month we fixed world poverty, put and end to all wars, stopped the boats and fixed the government. And that was before lunch.

2013 AGM - 7th BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN **REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC (QLD) No: 1A - 13547**

By direction of the Committee of Management and in accordance with the Rules of the Association, notice is hereby given that the 2013 Annual General Meeting and election of Officers to the Committee of Management will be held at:

45 CORNWALL AVENUE, TURRAMURRA, SUNDAY 26 MAY 2013 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT ARE TO BE SUBMITTED, IN WRITING, SIGNED BY THE NOMINEE, HIS PROPOSER AND SECONDER, TO THE **EXECUTIVE OFFICER BY NOT LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS FRIDAY 3 MAY 2013.** (FORMS ARE ON THE PAGE OPPOSITE)

BUSINESS

Any points for general business are to be submitted in writing to the Executive Officer not later than close of business, FRIDAY 3 May 2013.

ATTENDANCE

Members attending please advise the XO not later than FRIDAY 3 MAY 2013. If you cannot attend please appoint a proxy on your behalf using the form on page 18 of this newsletter and return to the Executive Officer not later than close of business, FRIDAY 3 MAY 2013. Please be advised that in accordance with the Rules of the Association a minimum of 18 members must be in attendance to constitute a quorum, this number includes signed proxy forms. To ensure the efficient running of the association please make the effort to attend, please appreciate that the members of the Committee of Management give their time freely and any adjournment due to the lack of numbers will necessitate the meeting to be adjourned and rescheduled to take place within <u>ONE</u> week of this date. (PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING, FOR CATERING PURPOSES PLEASE ADVISE THE XO IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY 3 MAY 2013).

7th BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC (QLD)

NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

I.....hereby nominate..... For the position ofon the Committee of Management of the 7RAR Association for the period of one year from the date of the Annual General Meeting as published in the minutes of that meeting.

Proposed by.....Seconded by....

Acknowledged by the nominee.....

date

7th BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC (QLD)

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Proposed by	Seconded b	V
I J		5

Acknowledged by the nominee.....

date

Under the MRCA, A wholly dependent partner of a serving or former ADF member whose is entitled to compensation for the member's death on or after the 1 Jul 2004; and

the time of the Member's death.

<u>Please Note</u> that when a veteran, former member, widow/ widower/ partner, cadet or reservist passes away, that person's "GOLD CARD" is not transferred to the surviving partner or any other dependant. Widows, widowers, partners and other dependants who fall into the categories above would receive their own "GOLD CARD" once their entitlement is established.

Commonwealth and Allied Veterans

Some veterans of Commonwealth and/or Allied Forces with qualifying service are eligible for a "GOLD CARD" if they are:

- Commonwealth and/ or Allied Force; or
- ship.

Can I lose Eligibility for the "GOLD CARD"?

- impairment ratings, age or living arrangements; or
- or amputations, then it cannot be affected.

Please note that the information contained in this article is only an overview and is no way complete nor should it be used as an authority. It is strongly recommended that for further information and advice on this matter that you contact DVA staff and seek their assistance. More information can also be obtained from the DVA website and their Factsheets, in particular Factsheet No HSV59 "Eligibility for the Repatriation Health Card – for All Conditions (Gold)".

Under the MRCA, an "eligible young person" being the son, daughter and/ or a dependent child of a serving or former ADF Member who is entitled to compensation for the member's death on or after 1 Jul 2004. Note that an eligible young person must be either less than 16 years of aged or between 16 and 25 and undertaking full-time study and not full time employment at

A veteran who served with a Commonwealth and/ or allied force during World War 2 or in specified operational areas after World War 2 and were domiciled in Australia immediately prior to enlistment in the

A mariner who served on a Commonwealth or Allied ship during World War 2, if they or their dependants were residing in Australia for at least 12 months immediately prior to the commencement of their service on that

It is possible to lose eligibility for the "GOLD CARD" if your eligibility depends on anything that may change such as financial status/ payments,

If your eligibility for the "GOLD CARD" depends on something that cannot change, such as your past service, your widow(er)/partner status, blindness Under the auspices of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA)

- Are former Members of the ADF who are entitled to the Special Rate of Disability Pension known as the "SRDP", even if they have not chosen that pension;
- Are former Members of the ADF with a rating of 60 or more impairment points for DVA accepted disabilities;
- Are former members of the ADF with a rating of 30 or more impairment points for DVA accepted disabilities and receiving any amount of service pension from the VEA but whose income and assets are below certain prescribed limits; and
- Former Members of the ADF who are 70 years of age and over who have rendered "warlike service" on or after 1 July 2004.

<u>Under the auspices of the Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988</u> (SRCA)

Sadly under this Act there are no treatment cards although DVA is currently considering the development and implementation of a card system similar to the VEA and MRCA systems for this Act.

Dependants of Veterans

Certain dependants of veterans are also eligible for a "GOLD CARD" if they are:

- Under the VEA, War widows/ widowers and eligible dependants of a deceased Veteran if the veteran's death has been accepted as service related;
- As at 1 July 2008 under the VEA, a war widow whose partner was in receipt of Temporary Special Rate (TTI) and/ or Intermediate Rate of Pensions (IR) at the time of their death;
- Under the VEA, a child of a deceased veteran whose death was not war-caused and who had operational service, if the child is not being cared for by the remaining parent;
- Under the VEA, an invalid son or daughter of a deceased veteran whose death has been accepted as war-caused, who had treatment before 6 June 1985. Please note that special criteria applies in these cases and the entitlement is not guaranteed;
- Under the VEA, a widowed mother or widowed step-mother that was dependent on an unmarried deceased veteran whose death has been accepted as war-caused who had a treatment entitlement before 6 June 1985. Please note that special criteria applies in these cases and the entitlement is not guaranteed;

FORM APPOINTING A PROXY FOR T
GENERAL MEETIN

IMember Num
of the 7RAR Association hereby appoint
appoint
(Annual) General Meeting for the twelve m
The person nominated as my proxy is to v
all*) of the resolution/s as indicated by me.
SignatureSigned th
Printed Name
(*Strike out that which you consider
instructed, the person nominated above ma
proxy form must be held by the Executive (
as the proxy must be present at the meeting
A list of the Committee of Managemen
requested to consider nominating for the
Officer/Treasurer/Secretary/Webmaster to ι

7RAR ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

<u>THE 7RAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL</u> NG 26 MAY 2013

nber Being a financial member
Or in his absence
To act as a proxy on my behalf at the
nonths commencing May 2013.
vote (in favour of/ or against*) (one or

this......Day of2013

er not applicable. Unless otherwise nay vote as he thinks fit. To be valid the Officer and the person nominated to act ng).

ent is detailed below. (Members are positions of Assistants to the Executive understudy these crucial positions).

Gabriel, DSC;
simon, MID;
Gillett;
Cox;
eech, OAM;
rdoch;
okes; and
/like O'Brien, CSC;
msley, Addersens Accounting Services.
James Mead.
as Honorary member for wives/widows

AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

On behalf of the President and all members of the 7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment Association congratulations are recorded for their awards as stated below for service to the Defence Force in the New Year's Honours list. Both have just finished their postings as Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major of the 7th Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Edward GARRAWAY, AM

For exceptional service in the field of officer career management in 2009 and as Commanding Officer, 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, from 2010 to 2012.

As a career manager, Lieutenant Colonel Garraway was pivotal in establishing the Army Officer Career Pathway Strategy for officer career development. As Commanding Officer of the 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, he generated outstanding foundation war fighting skills enabling the Regiment to be prepared for operational deployments. His exemplary leadership and devotion to service contributed significantly to the maintenance of the Australian Army's force preparedness and operational readiness.

Warrant Officer Class One Richard Alfred VERRALL, OAM

For meritorious service as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 2nd/17th Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment and the 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment.

Warrant Officer Verrall's commitment, personal example and extraordinary leadership have been outstanding and instrumental in building capability through the careful development and training of soldiers and his acceptance of extra responsibility. As a senior soldier his loyalty, work ethic and provision of support to the chain of command have been exemplary. Warrant Officer Verrall's contributions are of the highest order and are a credit to himself, the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

"THE GOOD OINK - THE GOLD CARD" (From John Burrows)

Eligibility for the Repatriation Health Card – for all conditions (GOLD) continues to be a confusing and often contentious issue. Unfortunately there are a myriad of stories and myths about the "GOOD OLD GOLD CARD", who's eligible and what the entitlements are! When eligibility is confirmed, the GOLD CARD is issued and its benefits become apparent, there is a great deal of satisfaction and joy. Unfortunately for those who haven't qualified yet or don't qualify the myths seem to go on and sadly it causes a great deal of anxiety and stress. It's hoped that the following information alleviates some of those concerns.

Who can obtain a GOLD CARD?

Australian Veterans

A Gold Card is issued to Veterans of Australia's Defence Force (ADF) who:

Under the auspices of the Veterans' Entitlement Act

- Are ex-prisoners of war;
- 100%;
- Are entitled to the Intermediate Rate of DVA disability pension; •
- pension commonly referred to as the "EDA" pension;
- referred to as the "TPI" pension;
- any amount of a DVA Service Pension;
- in at least one eye;
- below certain prescribed limits;
- (ADF) who have "qualifying service" as defined under the VEA;
- World War 2.
- War 2.
- 2 November 1978.

Receive a Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) disability pension of

Are entitled to the Extreme Disability Adjustment Rate of DVA disability

Are entitled to the DVA Special Rate of disability pension commonly

Receive a DVA disability pension of 50% or more who are also in receipt of

Receive a DVA disability pension plus an additional allowance under Section 27 of the VEA for specific service related amputations or blindness

Receive a DVA service pension but whose other income and/or assets are

Are World War 2 Returned Servicewomen of Australia's Defence Force

All Veterans of ADF including Australian Mariners who are aged 70 years and over who have "qualifying service" as a result of their service during

As of 1 July 2002, all Australian Defence Force Veterans who are aged 70 years and over who have had "qualifying service" in conflicts post World

Were granted the DVA disability pension for pulmonary tuberculosis before

SON's of ANZAC's VIETNAM MEMORIAL TOUR (SAVMT)



PATRON. MAJGEN David McLachlan AO (Retired) State President RSL Victoria. (No relation to Mat McLachlan)

In 2015 it will be the centennial of the landing at Anzac Cove and coincidentally a significant anniversary for Vietnam Veterans, being 50 years since the deployment of our first battle group. That deployment went on to last 10 years.

The synergy between the first ANZAC's and Vietnam Veterans is that their grandfathers' fought at ANZAC cove and WW1.

To commemorate this fact, we have approached the highly advocated 'Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours' and

LT.COL Gary Mckay (Retired), a prolific author, and historian on Vietnam. Mat and Gary will be tour leaders and lecturers, at the sites of Australia's major engagements.

At the Long Tan Cross there will be a significant memorial service honouring the loss of members of our generation who died in uniform for Australia.

Mat and his company have enthusiastically embraced this coming tour; and as an historian, he understands the significance associated with this event. Matt's company will arrange all of your travel arrangements and in country logistics. There will be a series of additional tours to see other areas of Vietnam, if desired.

It is envisaged, that an initial tour of approx 7 days will cover the 'battlefield tour experience', with further options for you to understand Vietnam today. Your assistance in spreading the word through your websites, and/or newsletter, would be greatly appreciated.

Our website is: http://battlefields.com.au/index.php/tours/69 details of the Tour can be found there with contact information etc.

Many thanks,

SAVMT Committee.

Lieutenant Colonel Gary McKay MC (Retired), & a few former stretcher-bearers, 5RAR 1st Tour, Gary Phillips, Jeff Lowe, & Matt McLaughlin.



ANZAC DAY DETAILS

DAWN SERVICE

Dawn Service at the Cenotaph, be early or you will end up 0430 hrs not being able to see the Cenotaph.

> After the completion of the Dawn Service assemble at **Regimental Square for our memorial service for the 7RAR** members.

> At the completion of the memorial service at Regimental Square, retire to the Combined Services Club for breakfast. The Fortunes Of War does not serve breakfast since the bar was converted into a poker machine room.

0800 hrs Memorial Church service at the Garrison Church the Rocks.

MARCH

1000 hrs



Assemble in Bligh Street in order 1RAR to 9RAR look for 7 RAR New Banner. Step off time for march is 0900 hrs so assembly time is approx only, God only knows what the actual step off time will be. After march celebrations will be advised at the assembly area prior to march off.

If you can't afford a doctor, go to an airport - you'll get a free x-ray and a breast exam, and; if you mention Al Qaeda, you'll get a free colonoscopy.

D COMPANY 7RAR 2ND TOUR REUNION IN BOURKE

On the October long weekend 2013, Victor and Donnas Bartley will be hosting a 'D' Coy 2nd Tour reunion in Bourke NSW. It will be a very unofficial but very enjoyable get together. For further details please contact Victor on (02) 68721022 (m) 0429306633 or

email: victorrar7@bigpond.com

and or Merv Hains (0411465417) or email: <u>mervynhai</u>ns@bigpond.com

Also Tony I'm trying to borrow/buy a 7RAR banner/flag for the occasion, would you be able to point me in the right direction, if you can it would be most appreciated.

Cheers and best wish's to you and yours. Victor Bartley

6 PLATOON B COMPANY 7RAR 1ST TOUR REUNION

John Wackett is planning a reunion for those members who served in 6 Platoon, B Coy 1st tour, to be held in August 2013, listed below are the names of members of the platoon who cannot be contacted as they are not members of the Association:-

Warren John Anderson, Ray Brideson, Alan Clutterbuck, Alan John Cunningham (Not Positive of the first names), Michael Donnegan, Ray or Robert Doonan, Wayne McCarthy, Lewyn McLean, Max Menzies, Geoff Patterson, Ray Taylor and Kevin Divola.

If anyone has contact details for any of the above members could you please contact John Wackett on the following:-

Phone (02) 9939 7748 or Email: jandjwacket@optusnet.com.au

Tony Keech, OAM XO/ED

Subject: Looking For....

All.

Have received a request to try and locate a former 7 RAR B Coy member 62089 L/Cpl Leonard Charles Walker. Summary of Unit Name(s) **1** Australian Reinforcement Unit 8th Battalion, The Royal Australian F 7th Battalion, The Royal Australian F

Last known address was West Tamar Highway, Riverside, TAS 7250.

If anyone knows of Len or his whereabouts please ask him to contact Adrian Taylor on (08) 82514885, or email adrian@tadaust.org.au

> Warwick Luttrell **State President** Tasmania Branch Inc. Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia

Phone: (03) 64312627 Mobile: 0408 333360 Email: vvaa.tas.president@skymesh.com.au

From: Greg and Annie Carter <<u>cockatoorise@wideband.net.au</u>>

Subject: LOST SOLDIER

Message Body: good afternoon, Annie and I run a retreat for war veterans in Bairnsdale Victoria, one of our volunteers and his wife are executors of a will and they need to find the person associated with it .

His name is RICHARD BROOKS BORN 17/1/1950

He served with 7RAR in Vietnam 1970. If you have him as a member could you let us know and we will see if you can contact him with information, we appreciate you help, Greg and Annie Carter Cockatoo Rise war vets retreat t 0409 418 332

This mail is sent via contact form on Porky Seven http://7rar.asn.au/wp

(P.S. he is not listed as a member of the Association, if anyone knows of his whereabouts please contact the above named with the information requested).

Tony Keech, OAM XO/ED

	Start Date	End Date
	02/04/1970	20/05/1970
Regiment	21/05/1970	03/10/1970
Regiment	04/10/1970	04/03/1971



HI ONE AND ALL

Well this is the first of our scheduled regular updates about planning for Reunion 2015, which will of course be held in Adelaide between 8th and 11th October 2015.

REUNION 2015 UPDATE

As I am sure you all know, 2015 is set to be an incredibly important time for the

serving and civilian populations as it is the 100th anniversary of Gallipoli, and this will be celebrated widely across the nation, with many events taking place to commemorate the dedication, commitment, and outright bravery of those who fought there.

Of course - Gallipoli was the conflict for which 7AIF - the forerunner of 7RAR - was founded, and where 7AIF members won four Victoria Crosses in one morning - and which later went on to become the foundation for 100 years of 7 Battalion dedication and service to this country.

Our Reunion has been licensed by the Minister to use the name "ANZAC TO ADELAIDE" and we will be marketing it as the contribution, not only of 7RAR, but of the 7th Battalion family, across those 100 years.

This is going to be a mega event, of immense importance – particularly as it will mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of 7RAR to fight in Vietnam.

Organisation and arrangements are already well under way here in South Australia, and the reunion 2015 committee has been working hard for the past twelve months to ensure we can offer something different, special, and highly memorable for you.

Our web page at www.7rarsa.asn.au has been widely re-vamped, and carries a great deal of information, both about the upcoming Reunion 2015, and also about our current serving members who are presently on the front line in Afghanistan.

There are, however, two initiatives we would like to draw your attention to:

- 1. NEWSLETTER. We have commenced sending out a regular three-monthly Newsletter, via email, to all interested members. However, to get on the mailing list you need to send us your name and email address. You can do this easily from the web page, where we have a simple form for you to fill in with your details. Simply fill it in, hit "Submit", then wait and confirm the reply you will get by return email. You can also unsubscribe at any time, but I urge all members to put their email addresses down as it makes getting information out to you so much easier, and your details will be kept completely confidential.
- 2. PAYMENT OPTIONS. The second initiative is that we are offering Periodical Payment Options wherein members can choose a package to suit them, and pay a small sum of money - automatically - each month until the Reunion, at which time the bulk of your reunion expenses, apart from accommodation and travel, will have been paid for. We are offering payments through either, PayPal, Credit card, or Bank Transfer, to suit. (See our brochure over-page, or on the web at www.7rarsa.asn.au).

Well, hope to hear from all of you over the coming months, and hope this excites you about Reunion 2015.

Noel.

REUNION 2015 ANZAC to ADELAIDE



PERIODICAL PAYMENTS OPTION PACKAGES

AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 2013



In these uncertain economic times, be daunting.

Because of this, the Reunion 2015 Committee has decided to offer the option to members of making automatic periodical payments - this way there is then no need to worry about large sums of money when the Reunion rolls around.

At this stage the estimated cost for Reunion 2015 will be in the order of \$360.00 per head, and we are offering Packages set at \$12.00 per head/per month, for the next 30 months. (If you sign up after June 2013 the monthly price will be a little higher). This is a relatively small amount going out each month, but will ensure that if you are coming to reunion 2015, your primary costs will be covered when the time arrives.

*** Guaranteed - if unable to attend after making payments, you will receive a FULL REFUND of all money you paid in.**

- Payment Option Packages will be available on our web-page, with payments facilitated through either PayPal, Credit Card, or Bank Transfer.
- Once you have initiated the process, you can then sit back and not think about it again until the Reunion rolls around. If using PayPal Periodical Option, you will receive monthly statements showing details of how much you have paid in to that time, so you can keep on top of things.

For more information, or to initiate a package, go to our web-site



- finding a lump sum of money to pay to attend a Reunion can sometimes

- * Packages* will cover the costs of;
- Registration
- "Goody Bag"
- Meet & Greet
- Company Get-Together
- St Peter's Cathedral Service
- 60's-Style Concert
- AGM
- Formal Dinner
- Drum-Head Ceremony
- Colours Parade
- Laying of Plaques
- and Farewell BBQ.

* Please note: This does not allow for discretionary day-tours to Wineries, or Tours of the Adelaide Oval with Les Burdett, etc. which will need to be paid for separately.



7RAR Association (S.A.)

www.7rarsa.asn.au

REUNION 2015 PERIODICAL PAYMENTS OPTION PACKAGES

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month, for the next 30 months. (If you sign up after June 2013 the monthly price will be a little higher). This is a relatively small amount going out each month, but will ensure that if you are coming to reunion

2015, your primary costs will be covered when the time arrives. There is a choice of either a "Singles" package, or a "Couples" package.

Simply select below, the package you want - hit the "Press for Periodical Payment" button, and you will be taken to PayPal. It is really a very simple and painless process, to access the payment go to the

SA website: http://7rarsa.asn.au/wp/?page_id=2698

REUNION 2015 SINGLES PACKAGES



At this stage the estimated cost for Reunion 2015 will be in the order of \$360.00 per head, and this Option allows for 30 monthly payments of \$12.00 for singles/unaccompanied. It is estimated at this point that this will cover the bulk of the costs of; Registration - Meet & Greet - Company Get-Together - St Peter's Cathedral Service - 60's-Style Concert - AGM - Formal Dinner - Drum-Head Ceremony and Colours Parade - Laying of Plaques - and Farewell BBQ. Please note: This does not allow for discretionary day-tours to Wineries, etc, which will have to be paid for separately.

PRICE \$360.00



At this stage the estimated cost for Reunion 2015 will be in the order of \$360.00 per head, and this Option allows for 30 monthly payments of \$24.00 for a couple. It is estimated that this will cover the bulk of the costs of; Registration - Meet & Greet -Company Get-Together - St Peter's Cathedral Service - 60's-Style Concert -AGM - Formal Dinner - Drum-Head Ceremony and Colours Parade - Laying of Plaques - and Farewell BBQ. Please note; This does not allow for discretionary daytours to Wineries, etc, which will have to be paid for separately.

PRICE \$720.00

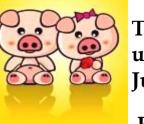
In addition, for those hardy souls who wish to pay the full estimated costs now, we offer two packages below - again, one for Singles, and another for Couples.

REUNION UP FRONT SINGLE PAYMENT



This option is for Singles who wish to pay the full \$360.00 up front and do away with the worry about payments. Just click the "Buy Now" button, and many thanks.

PRICE \$360.00



This option is for couples who wish to pay the \$720.00 up front and do away with the worry about payments. Just click the buy button now, and many thanks.

PRICE \$720.00

REUNION 2015 COUPLES PACKAGE

REUNION UP FRONT COUPLES PAYMENT