INCOMING

June, 2022

Number 92

Veterans' Support Group ®

Founded by the
Vietnam Veterans' Federation
Qld Branch Inc.
P.O. Box 2817, Nerang Qld. 4211
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Web page: http://www.vvfqld.com

Vietnam Veterans' Day August 18th

M I K E C O L E R I D G E

Photographer - Vietnam

Inside this magazine

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Page 1	Front Cover– Mike Coleridge - Photographer	Page 17	Book Review
Page 2	Index /Editor's Report	Page 18	The Cattle dog's revenge by Jack Drake
Page 3	President's Report	Page 19/20	Jack Drake's story
Page 4	Invitation to Vietnam Veterans Day	Page 21	Important Ph. Nos. Word Ladder
Page 5	Veteran Wellbeing Centres	Page 22	Puzzle page
Page 6	Vale Paul Clarke	Page 23/24	Our History
Page 7	Sub Branch President's Report	Page 25	42 for 42
Page 8	Workshop Invitation	Page 26	Word search puzzle
Page 9/10	Funnies Page	Page 27	Holiday Centre for Veterans
Page 11	Tony Scroop advertisement & Funnies	Page 28	Puzzle Solutions
Page 12/13	Mike Coleridge - Vietnam photographer	Page 29	Veterans Holiday destinations
Page 14	Recipe—Beer Stew	Page 30	Membership form
Page 15	Funnies		
Page 16	Poets' Corner - On Mateship		

EDITOR'S REPORT

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to the land of the living. Half the year gone and what have we done. I think it's going to take quite a while for us to realise we can go outside and mix with people, go to the cinemas, the museums etc. I still give people "the look" if they get too close. It feels like I've been in prison however, I'm loving the fact that we are free to border-hop again. I can now visit my mum in NSW without feeling like a criminal for even wanting to.

In these uncertain times our coping mechanisms are stretched to the limit, immune systems are maxed out and our mental states are sorely tested. I am now looking forward to a few driving holidays up north and some daytrips interstate. The main thing is to appreciate what we have and not to expect more than we already have. Family needs to be our main focus as well as our physical and mental health. My own health has been less than perfect in the last six months so I've had to reset my priorities.

This issue of Incoming is a mixture of reports, funnies and poetry featuring one of our own bush poets Jack Drake. You can read one of his poems on pages 18 and 19 and his story on page 20. We still have all your favourite puzzles, crosswords and wordsearch.

There's an invitation to our Vietnam Veterans Day 18th August - see page 4 for details. The Men's Shed is going ahead in leaps and bounds. Come along Monday to Thursday and see what you could do with the well appointed facilities. Share your skills with others or learn from the experienced craftsmen already there. A great lunch is provided for less than $5 every Tuesday and prepared by the members. Join in the mateship and exchange of ideas. You will be welcomed with a friendly smile for as long as you want to stay.

The front cover shows some photos of an Australian photographer in Vietnam Mike Coleridge. He took the now-famous shot of Aussie soldiers being picked up by an American chopper during the war. His story is on pages 12 and 13.

I hope this finds you all happy healthy and ready to face the world once more,

Cheers Narelle

DISCLAIMER: The material contained in this publication is in the nature of enlightenment for the members. Contributions are acknowledged, with thanks, from Service and Civil publications. The editor expressly disclaims all and any liability to any person, whether an association member or not. Views expressed may not necessarily be those held by the Executive or the members.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President's Report June 2022

Compensation Claims: Our four Advocates, assisted by our Administration staff, are processing over 800 DVA Compensation Claims. With most claims taking more than 2 years for action to be commenced by DVA staff we need more volunteer assistance for our Advocates and Administration staff. We must keep all our clients informed and give further assistance where needed. We need more staff desperately.

If you have time to assist us in our office, you would be more than welcomed. If you are interested in becoming an Advocate then there is no better mentor than our senior Advocate, Flavia Senter. Our office hours are 9am to 3pm Mondays to Thursdays and we would like to extend them to include Fridays. For any information, please phone me on 0448 195 020. It is all about Veterans helping Veterans and their families.

The DVA's Advocacy Training and Development Program (ADPP) is again undergoing significant changes. Five or six years back DVA's Training and Information Program (TIP) was the pathway for Advocates training and recognition of all Advocates' registered qualifications. DVA replaced the TIP system and introduced the Advocacy Training and Development Program which was unsuccessful and major changes weremade soon after. To date, Ex-Service Organisations have not been impressed with the management of the ADTP and their activities and the lack of scheduled training courses.

Go back to the replacement of the initial Training and Development Program. Many long-serving and knowledgeable Advocates were required to retrain and requalify under the new system (ADPT) or give up their advocacy duties. A very cruel and unpopular impact on outstanding people making a significant difference for fellow veterans.

Our Senior Advocate Flavia returned to work on Monday 23rd May. Flavia, you are an amazing person.

The South East Queensland Veteran Wellbeing Centre tender has been decided and awarded to Lives Lived Well Organisation. Subject to Lives Lived Well submitting a suitable business plan to DVA that organisation will become the go-to place for all Veterans in South East Queensland for assistance for wellbeing needs and DVA services. I am willing to support all activities and services that will assist Veterans and their families.

Vietnam Veterans Day, Thursday, 18th August 2022. We will be holding our Memorial Service here, in our grounds, 18 Leagues Club Drive NERANG, at 10.30am for an 11am start. A light lunch will follow the Service.
All members are welcome.

We ask that you RSVP to president@vvfqld.com by 4th August for catering needs.

Membership Fees are now due.

I thank you for your continuing membership. The more members the better outcomes in applying for Grants funding. We have 160 members, with that number now increasing slowly. Most of our membership do not have current claims with DVA. We have 808 clients with current DVA claims awaiting or being process/ed. Very few current clients are members!

Thank you.

Every edition of our Newsletter I get the opportunity to thank and acknowledge outstanding supporters who understand and commit to helping fellow veterans and their families. Without our membership we would not exist! Flavia Senter and our volunteer Advocates and Admin staff would be doing other things and our fellow veterans needing help would be worse off. I cannot thank you enough and I am certain that you are not fully aware of just how much difference your membership, and those many donations make to others. God bless you all and the best of health to you and your loved ones.

Vale Paul Clarke.

Paul Clarke passed over on Sunday 5th June and a service will be held at 2pm on Friday 17th June 2022 at the Hemmant Cemetery. Our thoughts and sympathies are with his widow Dorothy. Paul was a good friend who suffered from the Agent Orange defoliant used in and around the Nui Dat base in the Vietnam War.

Peter Handy JP (Qual)
President.

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Invitation to all Members

VIETNAM VETERANS' DAY

MEMORIAL SERVICE

THURSDAY, 18TH AUGUST 10.30AM FOR 11AM START

All Members are invited to our Vietnam Veterans Day Memorial Service Thursday,

18th August 2022 From 10.30 for 11am Start

A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE RSVP BY 12 NOON 4TH AUGUST 2022

To : 07 5578 2233 or admin@vvfqld.com

18 Leagues Club Drive, NERANG Qld. 4211

Veteran Wellbeing Centres

The Department of Veterans Affairs is introducing Veteran Wellbeing Centres across Australia. It is intended that these Veteran Wellbeing Centres will be a shopfront to provide simple and seamless access to relevant Veteran services. The following is provided for your information:

Overview: The centres focus on health and wellbeing and will be a welcoming hub for veterans and their families. They will connect veterans and their families to a range of services that include support for transition, employment, health and social connection.

Centres have been developed in Townsville, Darwin, Perth, Adelaide, Wodonga and Nowra. Each centre is at a different stage of development and DVA is working closely with the lead organisation in each location to maximise benefits for local veterans and their families.

Centres are already delivering and coordinating services in their community.
The successful organisation (or consortium) is responsible for governance.

Role of Wellbeing Centres: Wellbeing describes how you feel about yourself and your life. It includes a complex combination of biological, lifestyle, socio-economic, societal and environmental factors. Access to health care, welfare support and other interventions can greatly affect an individual's sense of wellbeing. (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2018).

The aim of each Wellbeing Centre is to provide veterans and their families with greater access to wellbeing services and support in their local community. **They act as a shopfront to provide** simple and seamless access to relevant services. **This includes support for transition, employment, health and social connection, and advocacy.**

The centres will work closely with state and territory governments, ex-service organisations, businesses and other organisations. **They will link veterans and their families to services that align with the needs and opportunities of the local area.**

Accessing Wellbeing Centres: All current and former serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members, including reservists, and their families can access the centres and services they offer.

The organisations that operate from each centre will have their own guidelines and as such will put in place any relevant cost arrangements and charges.

Services provided

Each centre will provide services and support based on local needs and opportunities. These services may include, but are not limited to:

- Transition and employment support
- ESO advocacy services
- Social connectedness
- Physical and mental health services
- Community engagement

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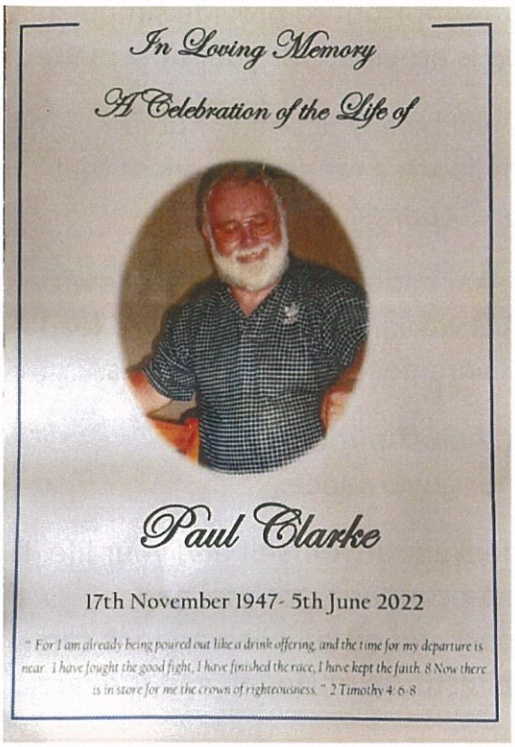
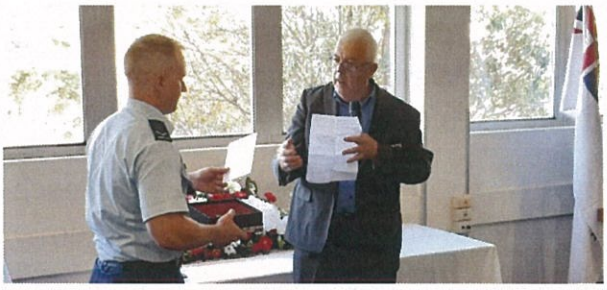
Vale Paul Clarke



Paul Clarke passed away on June 5th 2022, and his memorial service was held at the Hemmant Cemetery on Friday June 17th. Paul was a veteran, and served in the 104th Signal Regiment, receiving the Australian Active Service Medal 1945-1975 with Vietnam Clasp, Vietnam Medal, Australian Defence Medal and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar.

The memorial service included a "Poppy Ceremony", where any veteran or their representative could come forward and lay a poppy on Paul's coffin, and a large number of Veterans did so.
Paul's coffin was draped with a "Poppy" memorial blanket and the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia flag, as well as a bouquet of flowers and a small cross with family significance.

The service was very well attended, and among the invitees were representatives from the Veterans' Support Group and Men's Shed, namely Peter Handy, Peter Cameron, Kevin Roberts and Andy Bryson.



Following the service, attendees were invited to the Wynnum RSL for refreshments and a further ceremony. Paul expressed his wish for his medals to be presented to a young Air Force member Justin, a friend of the family, and Peter Handy was honoured to present the medals to him. Paul is survived by his wife Dot, and she was showered with many hugs and well-wishes by friends and family. Paul and Dot had an agreement. Whoever went first, they would send the winning Lotto numbers via a dream – so sweet dreams. Paul, till you and Dot meet again.

Sub Branch President's Report – June, 2022

Vietnam Veterans Federation Brisbane/Gold Coast Regional Sub Branch Inc.

President's Report – June 2022.

Hello fellow veterans and members,

June already, and winter is well and truly here, with temperatures in the low single digits. Covid-19 is still with us, but with the added complication of a very virulent flu season, so keep up your personal hygiene practices to help minimise contracting either of these viruses. Despite this, the Subbranch and Men's Shed are thriving, with some welcome new members to bring some new ideas into the fold.

Following the discovery of a huge termite infestation in the eastern wall of the QLD. Branch building, (as detailed in the 1st quarter edition), professional Pest Control contractors were called in, and after careful investigation, the termites were treated, and temporary repairs have been made. Repair quotes have been obtained, and as the amount is considerable, suitable grant applications were called for, with the resultant time lag, so final repairs will be done some time down the track. We took the opportunity to have the Men's Shed inspected as well, and while no significant damage was found, the decision was made to have both buildings protected with a termite barrier system. Hopefully these precautions will ensure no further termite "surprises" in the future.

All organisations, Men's Sheds included, must be flexible in their outlook in order to continue to survive and thrive if possible. In keeping with this philosophy, the decision was made to change the name of the Men's Shed from "Vietnam Veterans Support Group Men's Shed Nerang" to "Veterans Support Group Men's Shed Nerang". The new name will now be the same as that already registered with the AMSA, and it better represents the aims and objectives of the SubBranch so as to appeal to all Veterans, not just those from the Vietnam theatre. Our logo will also be changed to the new wording, but will keep the reference to the three services, Army, Navy, and Air Force. New signs have been ordered to facilitate the changes and will be delivered in the near future.

I take this opportunity to wish all our veterans, members and their families a safe, healthy and Covid and flu free winter, and encourage you all to continue to partake of our facilities and support for the remainder of the year.

Andy Bryson

President,

VVF Brisbane/Gold Coast Regional Subbranch Inc.

Vietnam Veterans Support Group Men's Shed, Nerang.

Veterans, Volunteers & Friends Workshop

Join our Activities

Mixed Firewood $15 bag

Woodworking

Woodturning

Metalwork

Leatherwork

Private Projects

Produce Gardening

Spray painting room

Organised Projects

Join our friendly

& Sociable Environment

Open Mon, Tues,
Wed & Thurs.
8am - 3pm

Drop in and see us at:

18 Leagues Club Drive,

Nerang.

Phone/Fax:55022836

Peter 0408276044

Vietnam Veterans Support Group Men's Shed

Founded by

Vietnam Veterans Federation Inc.

ALL MEMBERS

You are invited to attend our Long Tan Day Service at 11am, followed by an informal luncheon.

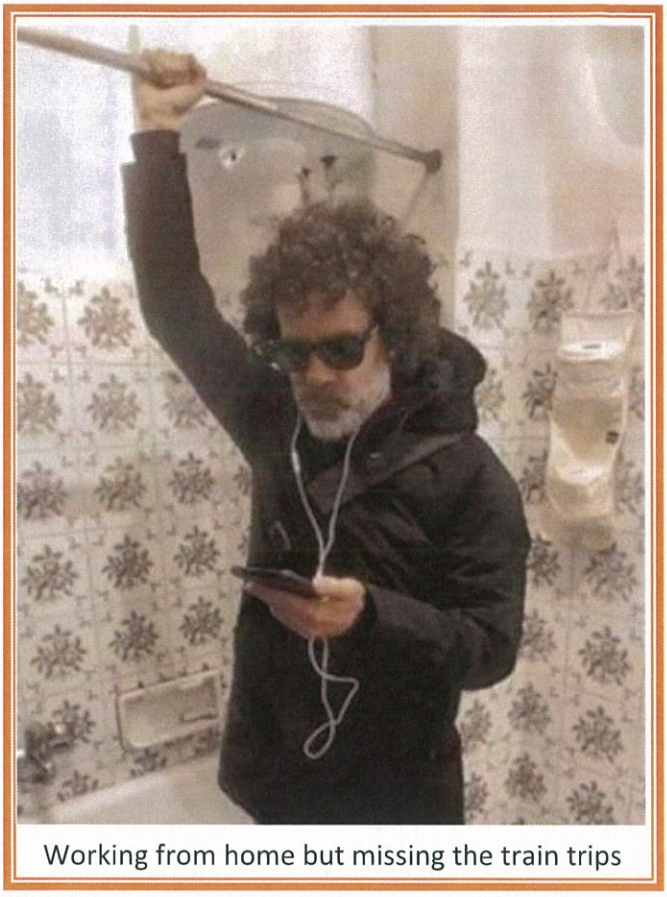
When: Thursday 18th August 2022

Where: 18 Leagues Club Drive, Nerang

Time: 10:30 for 11:00 am

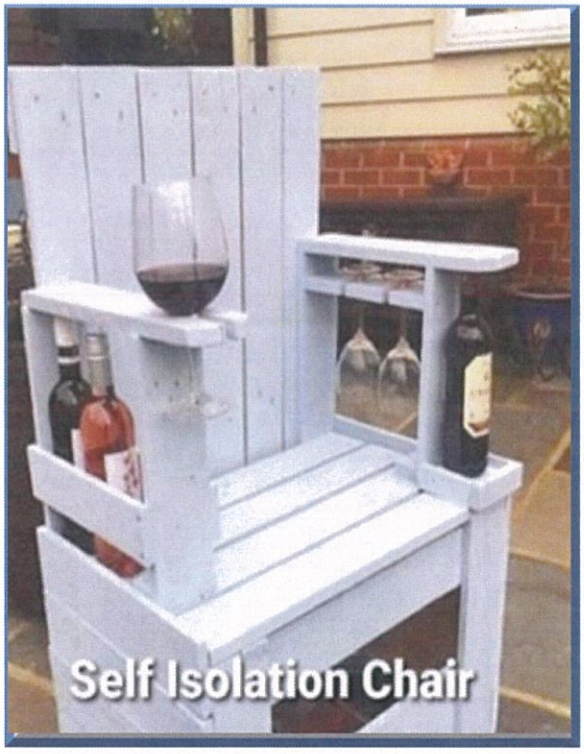
RSVP: 4th August 2022

Secretary/Treasurer President



Working from home but missing the train trips

FUNNIES AND QUOTES



On a Plumber's truck:

"We repair what your husband fixed."

On another Plumber's truck:

"Don't sleep with a drip.
Call your plumber."

At a Tyre Shop:

"Invite us to your next blowout."

On an Electrician's truck:

"Let us remove your shorts."

On a Maternity Room Door:

"Push, Push, Push."

At an Electric Company:

"We would be delighted if you send in your payment on time. However, if you don't, YOU will be DE-LIGHTED."

On a Septic Tank Truck:

"CAUTION - THIS TRUCK IS FULL OF POLITICAL PROMISES !!!!!"

Day 13 of lockdown

Who says men can't decorate

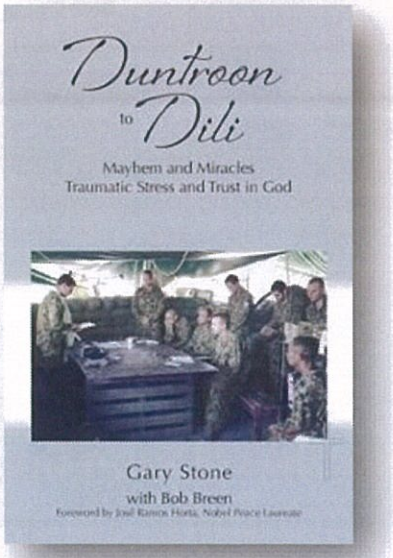
Gary Stone's Book

Duntroon to Dili

Available at Thriftbooks Australia

ISBN: **0992530113**

ISBN13: **9780992530112**



Tony Scroope

Wanted - ANTIQUE MANTEL CLOCKS

Will pay cash

Tony Scroope is a long-standing member of our Organisation. We are always supportive of our members

Mobile. 0408768787

ascroope@bigpond.net.au

PO Box 462, Harbour Town, Qld. 4216 Australia.

Religious Australian Cowboy, a devout Australian cowboy, lost his favourite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later, a kangaroo walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the kangaroos mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"
"Not really," said the kangaroo.
Your name is written inside the cover."

The picture shows tired members of 5 Platoon, B Company, 7RAR, beside the dusty road to Dat Do at Phuoc Hai waiting for the famous 'Huey' Iroquois choppers to take them back to base at Nui Dat.

MIKE COLERIDGE.
Photographer in Vietnam.

The iconic photo (left) was taken by an Australian photographer assigned to Vietnam. It has become the symbol of Australian soldiers in Vietnam and has been used all over the world to depict the war. This image has been immortalised in memorials, museums and etchings, however it is only one of 558 still photos and 54 films taken by Mike Coleridge which are now housed in the Australian War Memorial's collection.

Michael Coleridge, born 11th July, 1933, was an unaccompanied 16 year old emigrant from Slovenia. Manual labour was his first employment, then at 18 he worked in rural NSW. He eventually travelled to Darwin where he found excitement and earned a private pilot's license.

It was 1957 when he enlisted in the Australian Army. His lack of formal education prevented him from entering the new Army Aviation Corps, so he joined the Royal Australian Artillery Corps. In 1961 Gunner Coleridge was posted to Malaysia, during which time he made films, using his own cameras, for the British Army.

In 1963, back in Australia, he joined the Royal Australian Army Education Corps as a public relations photographer. He also married and had 2 children and 1 stepchild from his wife.

After his marriage failed he became a single parent of 2 children. When he was posted to Vietnam 19th November, 1966, he made the difficult decision to leave his children in the care of a family in Melbourne. Sergeant Coleridge was posted to Saigon Headquarters, however he spent most of his time in Nui Dat (1ATF). In the first 12 months he recorded the activities of 5RAR, 6RAR and 7RAR as well as elements of 1ATF. He developed his own films in a makeshift darkroom which he constructed himself.

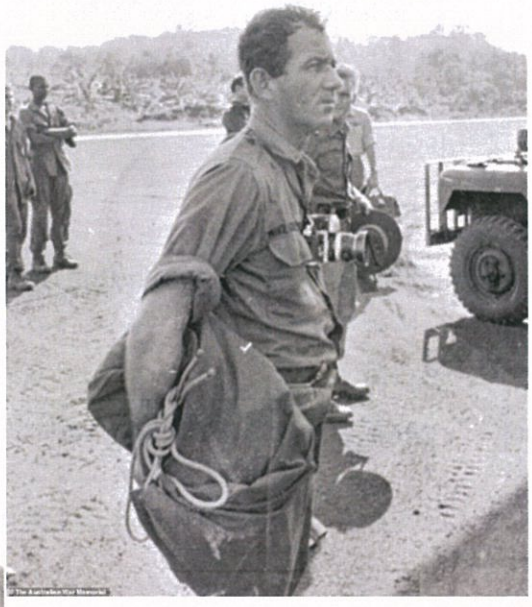
Mike carried many cameras, including 35mm, 120mm still cameras and a 16mm Bell and Howell movie camera. From his own idea he also filmed in colour. All colour film had to be privately processed in Saigon. This expense came out of his own pocket. Considering most of his salary was sent back to Melbourne to support his children, this must have put a strain on his finances. Many of his colour films were converted to black-and-white for use in the media of the day. By September, 1967 he was eventually rewarded with replacement stock by the Army Public Relations Directorate in Canberra, acknowledging the high standard of the colour footage as well as personally supplying the film.

Mike Coleridge continued..... He did what he had to.

But later Coleridge recalled the Army offered him and his young family no support. Remember, Coleridge wasn't a highly-paid glamorous, independent photojournalist. He was an enlisted serviceman - not a private citizen. The most important thing to him was that he was a single father to two children left with another family. Because of his status as a single father he resisted staying in the Army. He chose instead to travel the countryside, finding work as a photographer for the Melbourne Truth and other jobs, always supporting his two children. He moved to Darwin, then to North Queensland in the early 1970's. There he drove steam locomotives in the cane fields; then mined gold in Western Australia before moving to New South Wales. He and his children settled in Canberra in 1984 where he worked, for a time, as an attendant at the Australian War Memorial. His children were now grown up so he began growing walnuts on a property at Jerangle, NSW. He finally settled on a property on the outskirts of Braidwood, where he raised Angus cattle.

Mike's health was always an issue, including cancer of the bladder and later lung cancer. He experienced a bad fall just before Christmas 2011 resulting in a double fracture of the spine. He passed away peacefully in hospital on 10th January 2011. He is survived by his son, David, daughter, Rhonda, and granddaughter, Julia.

Coleridge's chopper pick-up was a forgotten photo for two decades, before the Australian War Memorial plucked it from the archives.



Mike Coleridge took 558 photos and shot 24 movies in a year on the front lines of Vietnam

Vietnam. 1967. The tracks of armoured personnel carriers of A Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL COL/67/0091/VN

Beer Stew

Ingredients:

1 1/2 kg chuck beef steak

1/2 cup plain flour

2 tbsp vegetable oil

30 g butter

4 large potatoes (peeled and thickly sliced)

4 onions sliced

2 carrots (large thickly sliced)

1 teaspoon black peppercorns

3 cups beer

2 tblspn soy sauce

3 bay leaves

2 cups Massel Beef style liquid stock

* Easy
* 15 minutes prep
* 2 hrs 10 mins cooking time
* Serves 8

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180 c.
2. Trim meat of excess fat and cut into 2cm cubes. Toss in flour and shake off excess
3. Heat oil and butter in heavy-based pan. Cook the meat quickly in small batches until the outside is well browned. Drain on paper towel.
4. Arrange potatoes in bottom of a deep 14-cup casserole dish. Place meat, onions and carrots on top. Sprinkle with peppercorns.
5. Pour in beer, beef stock, soy sauce and bay leaves
6. Bake uncovered for 2 hours or until meat in tender.
   Serve with crusty bread.

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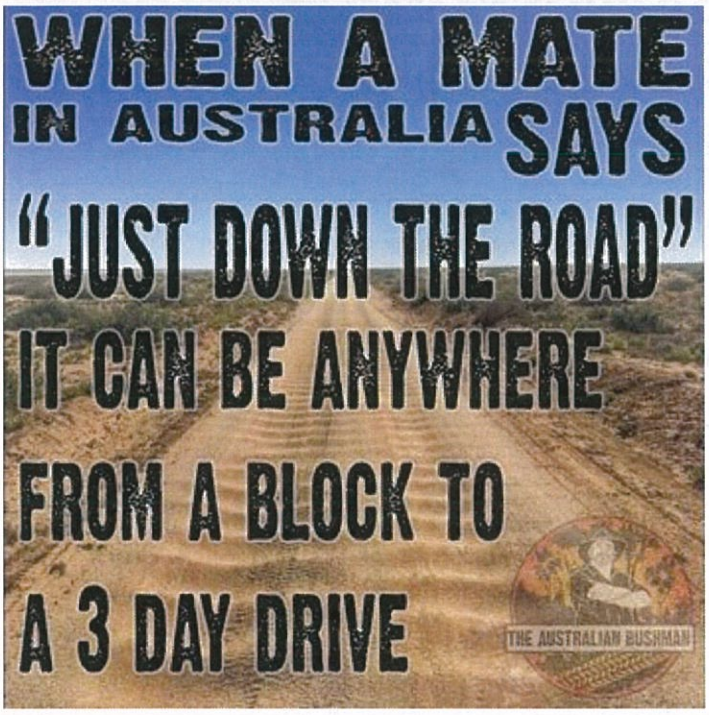
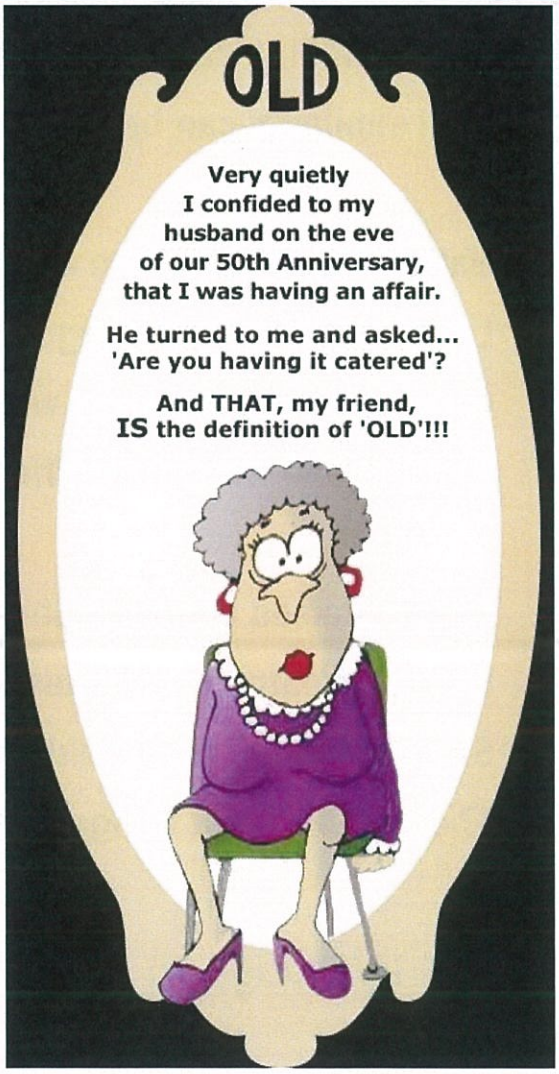




A sign used in Australia to advise that slow drivers are about to temporarily increase their speed

Poets' Corner

On Mateship

Some talk of their mates and what Mateship's about
But the greatness of Mateship is open to doubt
What is one person's truth is another person's lie
And so few for their mates would be prepared to die.

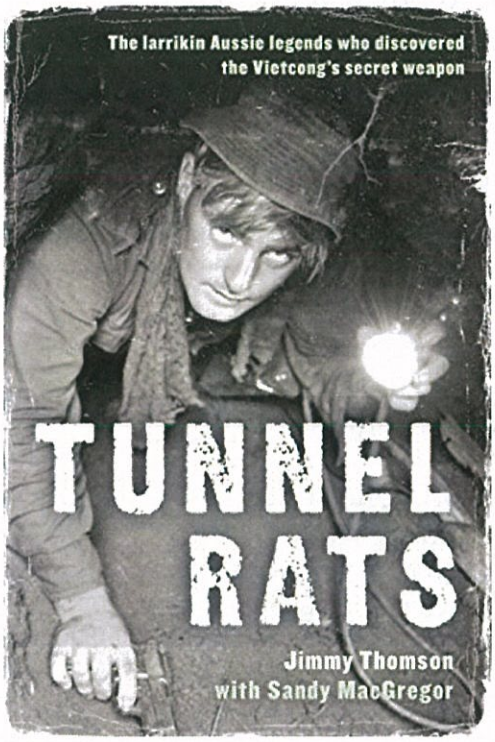
Some for to meet their mates they do not travel far
They meet them after work in their local bar
They drink the same brand of alcohol and think and speak the same way
That similarity can breed Mateship does seem fair to say.

Nationalism, Patriotism and Mateship not that far apart
Love of the National Flag to some can become an affair of the heart
Our Nation's war history we do celebrate
And the one we see as different cannot be our mate.

Of the praises of their mates some often do sing
But the greatness of Mateship seems an over-blown thing
Since Mateship does seldom transcend creed or race
Though like most things in humanity for it there's some place.

Francis Duggan

Book Review



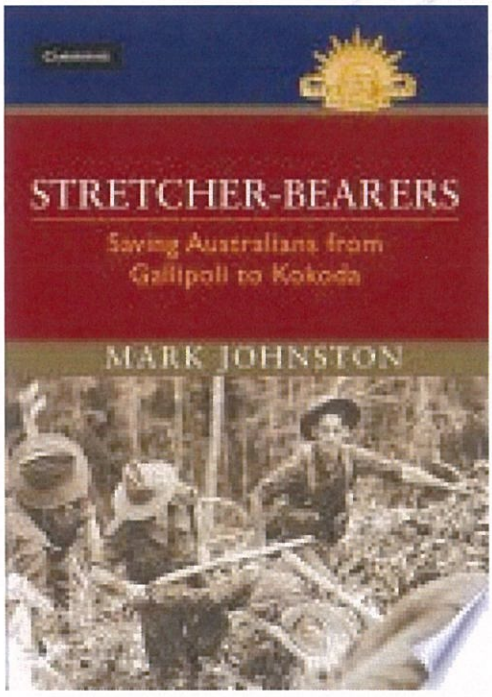
Tunnel Rats: The larrikin Aussie legends who discovered the Vietcong's secret weapon

Kindle Edition

by Jimmy Thomson (Author), Sandy MacGregor (Author)

'All I could do was prod the earth with my bayonet and shine the light to see if I could find anything. It doesn't matter how small the tunnel is you never know what's around the bend ... You don't know if it's abandoned, you don't know if it's booby trapped and you don't know why the tunnel is there in the first place.

Stretcher-Bearers



By Mark Johnston

Stretcher-bearers is a compelling account of the experience of Australian stretcher-bearers during the First and Second World Wars. Respected military historian, Mark Johnston traces the development of formal stretcher-bearing from its origin in the early nineteenth century under Napoleon to the Second World War. Johnston draws on accounts by stretcher-bearers who worked on the front line, as well as tributes from rescued soldiers, to deepen our understanding of the crucial role these soldiers played in Gallipoli, Palestine, the Western Front in World War I, and in the Middle East and the Pacific in World War II. The narrative is further driven by rich imagery, featuring over 130 full-page photographs.

The Cattle Dog's Revenge

If you've ever lived upon a farm, you'll know the feeling well.
How easy it can be to get the visitors from Hell.
Y'know those mongrels from the city that invite themselves to stay
Because they only want a holiday where they don't have to pay.

Now, I might be pretty cynical and I was just a kid,
But I'd seen it happen every year – it's what they always did,
Bring some ice cream and a box of fruit and half a slab of beer,
And act like it's a favour if they stay here half the year.

And all on the assumption that we'd be so glad to see
The half brother of our Uncle Harry's wife's third cousin Bea.
They never do a tap of work. They clean up all our grog.
But it all came to a screeching halt the year they brought the dog!

Yes, the middle seat was taken by this huge Rottweiler thing.
On his neck a studded collar without a hitching ring.
The old man stared in silence, then said "You'll have to tie him up".
They said, "He's had obedience training, and he's just the sweetest pup".

The dog bailed out the window. They said "Oh you little tyke".
One word from this mug and he did exactly as he liked,
And like a black and tan tornado with a brainless, snarling face,
He caused an orgy of destruction 'round our peaceful country place.

He flogged our poor old kelpie bitch and not content with that,
Killed six of Mum's best laying chooks and murdered Grandma's cat.
He chewed our poor pet possum's tail and chased it up a tree
While this dork flicked pages in his book on "Dog Psychology".

And while the city bloke was trying to find answers out of books,
The Rottweiler, teeth gnashing, headed straight for Andy's chooks.
Yes, young Andy's special bantams who'd won prizes at the show,
Looked just like they were going to be the next thing here to go.

But Andy was a cunning lad with everything to gain.
He raced over to the kennels and let Woody off the chain.
And so to vindicate the honour of our simple country mutts,
Woody flew into the Rottweiler, and latched onto his nuts.

Now Woody is a cattle dog who's been around for years,
And for sportsmanship and honour, he won't get any cheers,
But he has one saving grace inside a multitude of sins.
By using every low trick in the book – Woody always wins!

From that useless flaming boofhead, there arose an awful howl.
They took off down the paddock at a thousand miles an hour
With Woody hanging grimly – his feet skidding in the dirt –
While my legs crossed all on their own, 'cause strewth, it must have hurt.

He swung hard between two saplings and set his own dog trap
When Woody sliding sideways, just failed to make the gap.
The bellows of the Rottweiler became a high pitched squeak.
He lost all interest in the flight, and sat down in the creek.

Then this poor mug from the city, he started acting tough
'till Dad roared in his face, "You bum! I've had a bloody 'nough!
Old Woody did the right thing. The proper thing to do!
Anyone who'd breed that mongrel, would be dumb as bloody you!"

And Dad's whole face went scarlet. His eyes flashed hard and mean.
He howled, "I've seen some bludging mongrels, but you're the best I've seen!
So pack your traps and snatch it, you rotten mongrel sod,
Or I'll make a wether out of you like Woody did your dog!"

With the air of people greatly wronged, they loaded their pet up
And bounced off down the driveway with that castrated pup.
But no more will we be troubled by those pushy city folk
Who inflict themselves upon you 'till it's gone beyond a joke.

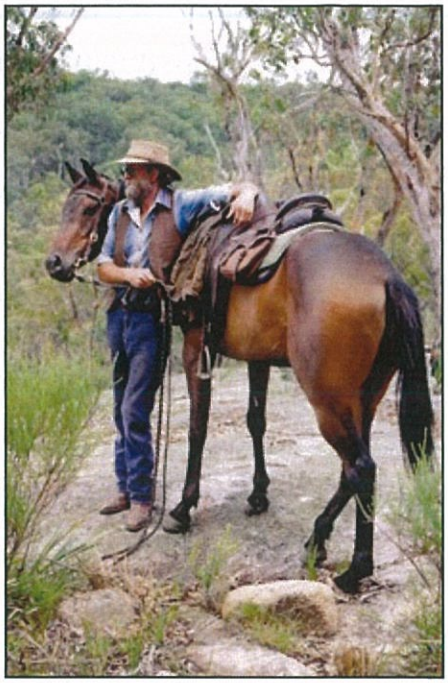
And sometimes when the 'phone rings getting on towards Christmas time,
Dad's jaw begins to tighten as he's listening on the line.
Our grins keep getting wider. The Old Man begins to cough
Then roars, "I've only got two words for you,
and the second one
is.....OFF!"
© **Jack Drake**

Jack Drake is a product of the bush who has lived the life he writes about. He has straightened up at the end of eight hours on a shearing board and twisted his handpiece off ready for a well earned beer.

He knows the satisfaction of riding a horse he has bred and broken-in with a saddle he has made himself for a day's mustering. Like most bush boys, he can handle shoeing tools, fencing gear, carpentry and welding equipment, and turn his hand to any of the hundred and one tasks necessary for survival in the bush.

Born in rural New Zealand in 1950, he is now a naturalised Aussie and proud of it. He has loved words and verse ever since his father gave him a copy of Banjo Patterson's verses when he was 10 years old.

Initially he self published books of his own poetry called "Duck for Cover", "Still Ducking", "Dinkum Poetry" and "Saga of the Dog", but in 2003, Central Queensland University Press published his anthology of 86 poems plus 6 short stories entitled "The Cattle Dog's Revenge".
This is now the only book available for sale.



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His first CD "The Cattle Dog's Revenge" was released in 2001 and his second CD "Dinkum Poetry" was released in 2002.
Jack recites his own works plus other bush favourites, with fire and gusto to the delight of his audiences both old and young. His life long experience with horses, sheep, cattle and all bush things adds a ring of authenticity to his renditions.
Until August 2001, he ran a horse back, trail riding business known as "Red Gum Ridge Trail Rides" 18 kms SE of Stanthorpe high up in the border ranges, which kept his hand in as a saddler, farrier, horse educator and an occasional blade shearing demonstrator.
He has recently closed this business due to Doctor's orders regarding some old rodeo injuries, to concentrate on his writing and Bush Poetry Performances. He has a column on Aussie Bush Poetry featuring some of Australia's lesser known bush poets, in the "Australian Horseman" Magazine which comes out every three months.

His wins in bush poetry competitions include:

- Highly Commended place in th Bronze Swagman Award for 2012 "The Water of the Wells - Beersheba 1917"
- Golden Gumleaf Award 2004 for Best Original Book of Verse "The Cattle Dog's Revenge"
- His CD "The Cattle Dog's Revenge" was a finalist in the 2002 Australian Bush Laureate Awards at Tamworth and his latest CD "Dinkum Poetry" has been nominated as a finalist for 2003
- The Original Performance Section, National Bush Poetry Championship at the Brisbane Ekka 11th August 2001 as well and wins and placings in many other regional contests
- The Tenterfield Oracles of the Bush Written Section in 1999, and Performance Section in 2000 and 2001
- The Asthma Foundation of NSW's "Bush Poet of the Year 2001" in Sydney on 30th April 2001

His books and CDs have sold as far afield as Britain, Canada, New Zealand and the United States as well as all over Australia. A piece of Jack's poetry also adorns the wall of "Café Oz" in Paris, France.

His CDs have had air play on Alan Jones and John Laws radio programmes as well as ABC National and a host of regional stations.

CARPS
CORPS
COOPS
CROPS
CROWS
CROWN
DROWN
DRAWN

Word Ladder - Can you turn to in 7 moves ?

WARM
WARD
CARD
CORD
COLD
HOLD
HOOD
HOOT

Word Ladder - Can you turn to in 7 moves ?

Word ladder rules.

You can only change one letter at a time for each move down the ladder.

No foreign words.

solution P 28

Important Phone Numbers

Department of Veterans' Affairs 1800 555254 regional 133254 local generalenquiries@dva.gov.au Get started www.dva.gov.au	Open Arms Veterans and Counselling Service. Ph. 1800 011 046 Veterans and Veterans families Counselling Services www.vvcs.gov.au
Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme 1300 552 662	**Voluntary Work Scheme** www.dva.gov.au Fact sheet MC36
VAN Robina Department of Human Services Level 5 Robina Town centre 19-33 Robina Town Centre Dr, Robina. 07 55832023	**VAN Tweed Heads** Department of Human Services 100 Blundell Boulevard Tweed Heads South 07 55697525
VAN (Veterans' Access Network) 133 254 www.dva.gov.au Veterans' Home Maintenance Line 1800 80 1945	**War Widows' Guild of Australia (Qld) Inc.** Ph. 32 211391 Toll free : 1800 061945

BRAIN-GYM-NUMBER 29

■	■	4	■	■	23	2	13	13	22	■	■	21
■	16	13	2	25	20	■	2	■	2	25	■	11
25	20	2	9	■	18	■	16	4	13	■	15	4
■	18	■	4	5	16	18	14	4	19	■	22	4
■	14	2	5	1	4	■	2	13	18	19	■	13
25	8	18	16	■	5	■	16	18	4	■	■	16
1	■	13	■	23	18	5	14	4	■	7	2	13
17	18	■	■	4	5	■	20	■	3	2	6	2
■	25	11	4	■	12	4	4	13	■	5	4	19
10	■	25	2	9	2	■	13	4	16	18	13	4
4	6	4	25	■	25	■	■	4	■	25	■	13
2	18	19	4	■	■	24	18	24	16	20	■	■
3	4	■	25	2	9	■	24	■	1	■	8	17

CROSSWORD

E	T	E
R	P	A
P	G	I ⇧

Word Maker :
How many words, 3 letters or more, can you make from these letters.
Term for: A soldier who sucks up to superiors for personal gain.

1.

1	26	22	9	4	5
16	20	18	4	24	

The letters have been replaced by numbers. Each number represents a different letter. I have given you 2 letters to get you started. Think about the most used letters and how many of any one number there is in the grid. Have fun. When you have solved the main puzzle see what the Extra clue is, (1)above right. *Solution P. 28*

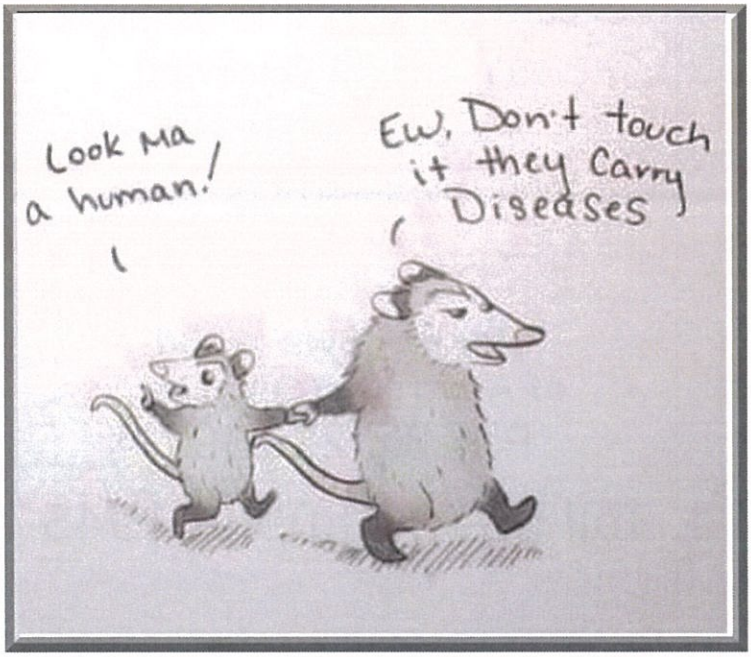
1	2	3	4	5	V 6	7	8	G 9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

A	B	C	D	E	F	~~G~~	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	~~V~~	W	X	Y	Z

1. USELESS PERSON ⇦

7				5	6		4	8
			7				6	
	4			2		9	7	
5				1				3
	3		2		8		9	
8				7				6
	1	8		9			5	
	5				4			
4	6		5	8				9

Sudoku: Complete the grid so that every row and column contains the numbers 1-9.
Solution Page 28



More than 60,000 Australian soldiers served in Vietnam, mostly between 1965 and 1972, with 521 dying and more than 3,000 injured.

our history

Australia and the United Nations

The UN was officially started on 24th October, 1945 with 51 member states.
"To maintain international peace and security" was its initial goal and remains so to this day.
The number has grown to 193 member states. Australia represented the interests of smaller, less powerful nations. We live in a complex, interconnected world where countries cannot address, on their own, some of the major challenges we face today.

Australia has provided many peacekeepers and resource support to many UN-led peacekeeping missions. Not all operations have involved the UN.

Role of peacekeepers

The first Australian peacekeepers served as military observers to a UN operation in the Netherlands East Indies (present day Indonesia).

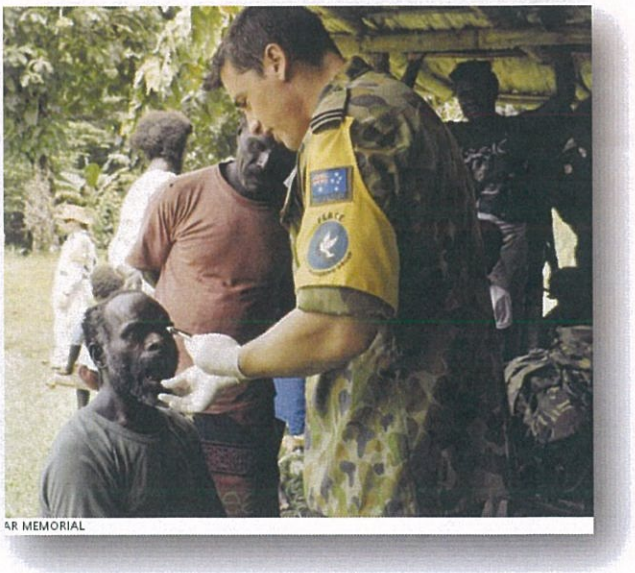
Many countries destroyed by war are assisted by Peacekeepers. Not only military personnel are involved. Members of the public such as scientists, doctors, aid workers, State and Federal Police, public servants, members of the clergy and other specialists are also called to assist.

Duties of peacekeepers might include:

- operations as military observers to give logistical support and monitor ceasefire violations
- standing between hostile armies
- treating casualties
- landmine clearance operations (and teaching locals to do it)
- providing communications, medical and movement control teams
- supporting democratic elections
- providing policing support functions
- helping to deliver or make possible humanitarian aid

For many Australians, peacekeeping can be a personally rewarding experience, offering:

- extensive training before deployment
- support during the operation
- development of skills, experience and career
- a rewarding experience of helping others and witnessing positive outcomes for unstable or disadvantaged regions



Flight Lieutenant Andrew Doig, a Royal Australian Air Force dentist serving with the multinational Peace Monitoring Group (PMG), extracts a tooth at a dental clinic in the village of Atamo, May 2000. AWM P03518.030

Some peacekeepers are armed, others are not. They are limited as to how much force they can use while carrying out their duties. This places them in, at times, dangerous situations. They work either alone or in small groups. Australia, more recently, has committed to missions in Africa, Asia and the Pacific region.

Warrant Officer Paul Copeland, a veteran peacekeeper of Cambodia and Sinai missions, summarised the different experiences of service men and women in wartime and peacekeeping missions:

In a war it's a simple case of contacting an identified enemy and trying to win a battle. Whereas when it comes to peacekeeping you're constrained, to a large degree, by UN (United Nations) mandates, the charters, the ROEs (rules of engagement) and what you can and can't do."

Our service men and women have helped establish Australia's reputation as a willing, experienced and generous contributor to regional and global peace and security.

Australians as peacekeepers

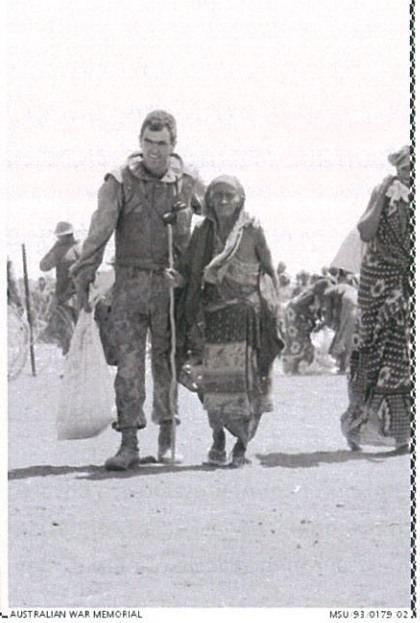
Since 1947, members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) have been involved in UN and other multinational peacekeeping operations. Most recently, thousands of troops have been deployed in anti-terrorism campaigns in Afghanistan, the Middle East and South West Africa. Peacekeeping locations that involved Australian military personnel include: Indonesia 1947 to 1951; East Timor 1999 to 2013 (under INTERFET, UNTAET, UNMISET, Operation Tower and Operation Astute) and 36 other missions all over the world.

As a leader in its region, Australia has led or taken a leading role in:
UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) from 1992 to 1993

- multinational Peace Monitoring Group in Bougainville from 1998 to 2003
- multinational International Force for East Timor (INTERFET) from 1999 to 2000

Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) from 2003 to 2017

The Australian Peacekeeping Memorial in Canberra was officially dedicated by Australia's Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, on 14 September 2017.



42 for 42

In 2016, four Afghanistan combat veterans founded the non-profit organization 42 for 42 to raise funds to build a memorial garden in Brisbane that would honour their fallen mates and educate the public about why the war occurred.

17th February, 2021

An important aspect was to represent the unknown soldiers who were losing their battle back home and falling victim to suicide.

Having had struggles returning home themselves, this was and is an issue that is close to their hearts. Every deployment sent to Afghanistan faced different circumstances and had different outcomes. It's important that we don't forget that this was Australia's longest war and a war on terror, which has shaken the world. The Afghanistan War Memorial Garden will be built as a storyline around each deployment, incorporation our fallen soldiers and our Victoria Cross winners.

After WWI, Australian soldiers came together and built the Great Ocean Road in Victoria. This was a source of inspiration when establishing a plan for The Afghanistan War Memorial Garden, in Brisbane. It has always been the main project of the 42 for 42, and has been a collaboration of many veterans, their families and proud Australians coming together to do their bit. It will continue to serve as a place to remember and honour all the deployments to Afghanistan and educate the next generations to come.

42 for 42 began with a 42-hour challenge, in which Afghanistan veteran Sean Mulqueen walked the concourse and stairs of Suncorp Stadium for 42 hours straight carrying 42 kilos in a military pack. As each hour passed, a kilo wasremoved from the pack by members of the 42 - families of the fallen, veterans and supporters of the 42. It represented lightening the load for soldiers.

This led to the annual 42 hour challenge at Suncorp Stadium every November for anyone to participate in. 42 represents the 41 soldiers Australia lost in Afghanistan, with the 42nd being the soldiers we have lost to suicide and those wo are still struggling with their wounds and injuries post-war.

The team quickly expanded as the 42 for 42 are dedicated to supporting the families of fallen Afghanistan soldiers as wellas combat veterans who have returned from active duty in Afghanistan, and their families. The 42 for 42 members have worked hard to maintain a positive environment, where veterans and families can join, participate and contribute to the organization as they wish. It supports the Afghanistan veteran community by helping acknowledge, establish, and increase awareness of events, groups, support programs, job help and financial assistance when required.

Please feel free to contact the 42 for 42 through their website:

https://www.42for42.org.au/

or follow them on social media and watch how the memorial will come to life.

By *Sean Mulqueen, co-founder and President*

WORD SEARCH : military words

This one will get your brain boxes working. Read all the instructions below.

S	F	C	R	O	P	P	E	R	S	L	T	B	A	C	K	U	P	S	C
D	I	I	H	V	C	C	I	R	E	S	B	A	T	C	A	V	E	H	P
G	C	F	L	A	N	H	L	E	O	D	C	L	Z	F	R	O	G	O	A
U	U	S	A	L	I	I	O	O	S	P	R	A	A	Z	I	N	P	W	J
M	N	K	G	N	E	R	N	O	U	A	U	O	R	D	E	R	I	A	F
P	N	I	B	P	G	D	F	E	K	D	N	T	P	F	E	D	R	R	A
Y	I	P	U	O	T	F	I	O	M	I	P	D	N	E	A	O	A	D	D
B	N	P	L	P	P	C	A	N	R	I	E	U	B	T	R	C	T	G	E
A	G	Y	L	S	H	O	L	R	F	C	L	S	N	E	A	K	E	R	A
R	K	B	S	M	E	A	O	O	R	R	E	E	C	C	E	K	E	E	W
A	I	A	H	O	A	C	E	T	C	I	E	B	S	R	H	R	E	E	A
C	C	D	I	K	C	D	C	R	I	K	E	E	O	N	A	E	S	N	Y
K	K	G	T	E	E	K	R	O	O	C	W	R	D	D	I	B	R	U	B
S	B	E	C	O	C	I	D	O	T	F	K	1	G	O	G	P	B	K	L
L	B	R	A	S	S	P	A	R	T	Y	L	E	N	E	M	I	E	L	U
A	P	A	S	E	A	U	Z	C	A	M	A	A	T	D	T	S	E	R	E
W	A	C	T	S	P	L	A	T	C	A	T	M	G	S	E	T	E	A	S
Y	G	K	L	A	N	C	H	O	R	W	A	N	K	E	R	R	E	E	D
E	S	T	E	P	P	E	R	S	B	I	R	D	G	U	N	N	E	R	D
R	D	O	G	B	I	S	C	U	I	T	S	A	C	E	M	E	C	H	S

ACE
ACE-MECH
AERO FLAGE
A J FADE AWAY
ANCHOR WANKER
APC
AUZ CAM
BACK UPS
BARACKS LAWYER
BAT CAVE
BB PAG
BIRD GUNNER
BLUES
BLADE
BODGIE
BRASS PARTY
BULLSHIT CASTLE
CHAIR FORCE
CHOOKIE SCRABBLE
CLOCK WINDER
CLOUD PUNCHER
CUNNING KICK
DOCK
DOG BISCUITS
EAD
FANG FARRIER
FILLED IN
FREEDOM SEED
FROG
GDS
GETTERS
GUMPY BAR
HOWARD GREEN
KIP
NINE MILE SNIPERS
NUK
OCI DOT
ORDER
PEG PIRATE
PIES AND BEERS
POO TICKETS
POP SMOKE
POR
PUT 'N TAKE
RED ROPER
ROPPERS
SCAR FACE
SECCO
SKIPPY BADGE
SPLAT CAT
STEPPERS
TAZZED
WAGTAIL

1. LETTERS LEFT OVER TO MAKE A SLANG PHRASE MEANING: unhappy with duties (sarcastic)
2. One letter is a numeral in the grid
3. One word not found in the grid

Answer Page 28

Holiday Centres

Holidays for Veterans at a reasonable price

Navy Canteens operates holiday centres across Australia with great discounts for Navy members. Destinations include Amblin Holiday Park (WA), BIG4 Bungalow Park on Burrill Lake (NSW), Forster Holiday Village (NSW) and Pandanus Pocket Villa (NSW). A great range of discounted holiday options across Australia and overseas are also available to all Australian Navy, Army, Air Force and Defence APS personnel.

WELCOME TO ST GEORGE'S DEFENCE HOLIDAY SUITES

St George's Defence Holiday Suites at The Garland are for Service and ex Service Personnel, their Spouse and dependent school age children. St George's Defence Holiday Suites are operated by the Service Personnel Anglican Help Society Inc, an independent and charitable organisation. Prior to accepting a booking we require a copy of your Service ID or Discharge Certificate to verify your eligibility to stay at St George's.

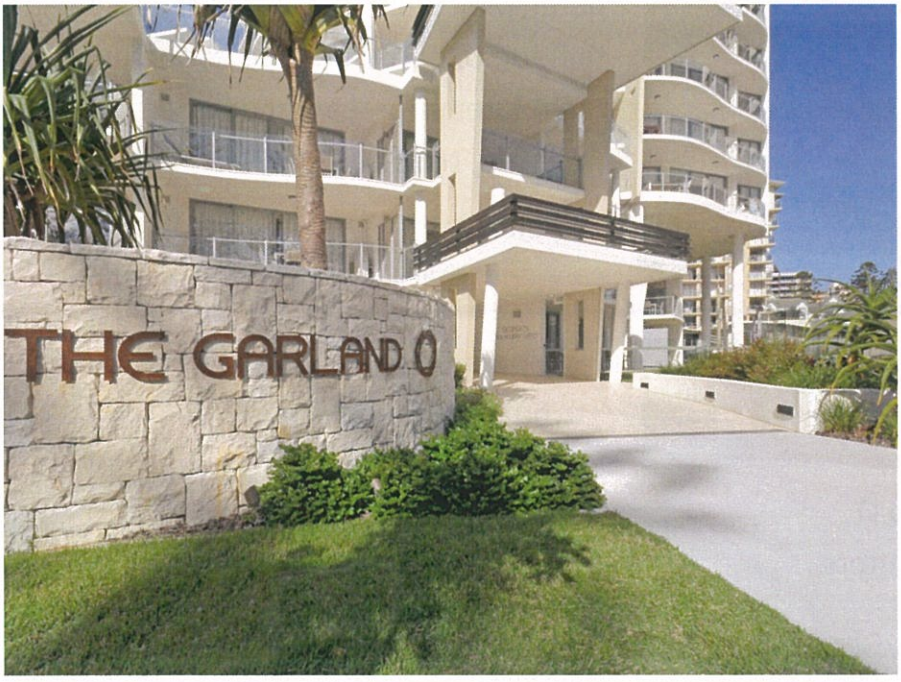
We Support Australian Defence Force Reserves
NAVY ARMY AIR FORCE

ST GEORGE'S DEFENCE HOLIDAY SUITES

St George's is for Only Military people - Exclusive for Military.
Website: stgeorges.net.au

The Garland Building incorporating St George's Defence Holiday Suites opened in December 2016. The holiday Suites are located on the first 3 Levels with a BBQ and large Community area located on the 1st Level.

The Garland Apartments are located 4th floor and above and are for all holiday families and is not part of the St George's Defence Holiday Suites and doesn't offer the St Georges discounted rates for Defence Families. Situated in Coolangatta Qld.



St George's Defence Holiday Suites incorporating The Garland Luxury Apartments

192 Marine Parade,
Rainbow Bay,
Coolangatta,
Gold Coast Area
Queensland 4225

Puzzle solutions

Number Crossword Puzzle Solution :

Page 18 - 1=O; 2=A; 3=L; 4=E; 5=N; 6=V; 7=B; 8=K; 9=G; 10=Z; 11=U; 12=J; 13=R; 14=C; 15=M; 16=T; 17=P; 18=I; 19=D; 20=H; 21=Q; 22=Y; 23=W; 24=F; 25=S; 26=X.

SECRET WORDS/TERMS: CROSSWORD PUZZLE PAGE 22

1. Oxygen Thief

Solution to Sudoku puzzle Page 22

7	2	1	9	5	6	3	4	8
9	8	3	7	4	1	5	6	2
6	4	5	8	2	3	9	7	1
5	7	6	4	1	9	8	2	3
1	3	4	2	6	8	7	9	5
8	9	2	3	7	5	4	1	6
3	1	8	6	9	7	2	5	4
2	5	9	1	3	4	6	8	7
4	6	7	5	8	2	1	3	9

Word search solution:

1. Living the dream
2. 1 for an I (13across14 down)
3. Wagtail

CARPS	WARM
CORPS	WARD
COOPS	CARD
CROPS	CORD
CROWS	COLD
CROWN	HOLD
DROWN	HOOD
DRAWN	HOOT

Word Ladder solutions from p21.

Word Maker Solution P 22:

How many more words of 4 letters or more you can find is anyone's guess.

ager, agree, aper, eater, gape, gate, gear, grape, grate, great, greet, grip, gripe, grit, irate, page, pager, pair, paper, pare, part, pate, pater, pear, peat, peep, peer, pert, peter, pier, pirate, prat, prate, prig, rage, rate, reap, ripe, rite, tape, taper, tapper, tapir, tare, tarp, tear, tipper, tier, tire, trap, tree, trip, tripe,

Peg pirate

(a soldier who sucks up to superiors)

- The word Queue is just a **Q** followed by four silent letters
- Your fingers have ***fingertips*** but your toes don't have ***toetips.***
- However, you can ***tiptoe*** but not ***tipfinger***
- When you transport something by car, it's called a ***shipment***, but when you transport something by ship, it's called ***cargo***

The RAAF Welfare Recreation Company Charter is articulate through its Aim, Mission and Corporate Goals:

Aim

To provide access to discounted recreational accommodation and to manage and promote RWRC owned recreational facilities for RAAF members, their families and other eligible persons, and to provide financial support to, and assist in the provision of, recreational amenities and services to RAAF members.

Mission

To manage the activities of the RCWTF as a sustainable entity through a strategy of diversification and with broad long term vision in order to optimise the benefits to eligible persons in the provision of discounted recreational accommodation and welfare recreational amenities.

If you help someone when they're in trouble - they will remember you when they're in trouble again.

Corporate Goals

Objective 1 – Recreational Facilities

To provide access to discounted high quality recreational accommodation and facilities for members of the RAAF, their families, and other eligible persons through the provision of the RCWTF owned or leased holiday apartments, joint commercial ventures with other corporate bodies or promoting the use of other Service owned facilities. The recreational facilities may be owned solely by the Trust, owned by virtue of a joint venture, or by economically viable short or long term leasing arrangements.

Objective 2 – Recreational Amenities and Welfare Activities.

To provide financial assistance via loans and grants in the provision of recreational amenities and Service recognised welfare activities.

Objective 3 – Mutual Cooperation and Marketing.

To foster relations with the providers of Navy, Army and other Allied nations in order that RAAF personnel and other eligible persons can access their similar amenity benefits. To promote, in accordance with the RWRC marketing plan, RCWTF holiday facilities, other affiliated recreational accommodation, and other welfare amenity benefits available to eligible persons.

raafholidays.com.au/about/charter

Veterans Support Group® - (Advocacy Services)

Founded by the Vietnam Veterans Federation Australia Queensland Br. Inc.

MEMBERSHIPS - New Applications (Section A)

Surname: ..... **Given Names:** .....

.....

Address: .....

Email: (only if you use email) ..... **Phone:** .....

Partners can join as full members at $30 also: Please complete partner's details on next line if required.

Partner's Details

Surname: ..... **Given Names:** .....

Email: (only if you use email) ..... **Phone:** .....

Service details:

(A) **Service No.** ..... (B) **Navy / RAAF / Army** (C) **Other** .....

(D) **Service No.** ..... (E) **Navy / RAAF / Army** (F) **Other** .....

Please use (D), (E) and (F) above for the Partner if you and your partner have both served in the Australian Defence Force.

MEMBERSHIPS - Renewals (Section B)

Your Details

Surname: ..... **Given Names:** .....

Address: .....

Email: (only if you use email) ..... **Phone:** .....

Partners can join as full members at $30 each ($60 total): Please complete partner's details on next line if required.

Partner's Details

Surname: ..... **Given Names:** .....

Thank you for your support Our Advocacy team of Flavia, Brad, Kerry, and Michelle are achieving results for all veterans. That team is supported by a further 9 admin volunteers. All Membership subscriptions are allocated to our Advocacy Service. The more members, the better chance we have to receive the funding Grants needed to meet our expenses. In 2020/21 we received Government Funding of $105,680.20 towards our Advocacy Services. We needed to raise over $63,000 to cover our actual costs. **Every single membership is important and we thank the many members who add a donation when paying their membership fees.**

Membership Fees: $30 per annum per member (1 July to 30 June). Half fees apply for new members only:- 1st January to 30th June at $15.00. All renewals fall due on 1st July yearly. All membership Applications can be completed online "veteransupportgroup.org.au"

Paying:	Membership Fees of $.....Donation of $.....Total $.....

Pay by direct deposit into our bank account BSB 124065 A/c No. 20454340 and use your name as the Payee Reference OR send online, OR by email to admin@vvfqld.com, OR post "Veterans Support Group, PO Box 2817 Nerang Qld 4211, OR bring your Membership Application to our office. We process your payment by phone: 07 5578 2233. Office hours: - 9.30am to 2.30pm Mondays to Thursdays (incl.).

Our Quarterly Newsletters are available by (A) Email Hyperlink (B) Post or (C) Not required. Please circle your choice A, B, or C. Our National Newsletter is only available by post or on website. Do you require the National Newsletter posted to you? Yes / No (please circle your option)

Office Use:	Received / / 20	Receipt No. / /20		Committee Approval / / 20	
Membership Register / / 20		Newsletters Email Hyperlink or Post or Not wanted		Secretary:	