



NEWSLETTER

April 2015
ANZAC Day Edition

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Royal Australian Regiment Association (Victoria Branch)

All correspondence to: The Hon Secretary, 6 Merion Court,
Sunbury. 3429

PRESIDENTS REPORT



Thank you all very much for giving me the honour of serving as President of The Royal Australian Regiment Association.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank my predecessor, Doug Bishop, for his work as your President – he has left some big boots to fill. Fortunately, he has agreed to continue on our committee as Secretary, a decision for which I am truly thankful. I would also like to welcome Klaus Cimdins to the Committee as Honorary Treasurer. Klaus is a retired accountant and heavily involved with the 9RAR Association in Victoria. Hopefully, he will be able to provide us with many years of financial management.

For those of you who do not know me all that well, I have been a member of the Victorian Branch since the early 1990's when my ARA career saw me posted to Melbourne from Sydney.

My RAR service began in 1968 with 5RAR, which included their second tour of South Vietnam in 1969/70. I later served with 5/7RAR (Mech) in 1976/77 and again in 1987/88. I left the ARA in 1991 and, despite being a Western Australian, settled in Melbourne to pursue a business career. I retired from full-time work at the end of 2005. As well as the RAR (Vic) Assn, I have several service and sporting interests – all of which keep me rather busy and wondering how I ever found time to work before retirement!

It would be remiss of me to not draw to your attention the fact that we, along with most other State Branches

of the Association, are currently facing some real challenges. The critical issue is that of membership – simply put: numbers are falling and too many younger members and former members of The Regiment are choosing not to join our association. I must add that we are not alone regarding this difficulty; the RSL and other Corps and Unit associations are facing the same problem. Added to this, of course, is the natural follow-on that funds are also reducing. But I hasten to add that we are not broke – simply challenged not to be profligate.

In summary, we need members and money (M&M's). Hopefully, this Anzac Day will enable us to increase both. With this in mind I encourage all members and friends of the Association to shepherd all who march with The Royal Australian Regiment on Anzac Day to gather on the 1st floor of the Celtic Club (corner La Trobe and Queen St, Melbourne) after the march for refreshments, nutrition and comradeship. We may have served in different battalions, but we are ALL MEMBERS OF THE ONE REGIMENT.

Finally, having encouraged all to enjoy the camaraderie of Anzac Day I must ask for your understanding regarding my non-ability to attend this year's march. As fate would have it, on 25th April this year I will be in Thailand attending the Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass and later at Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. In my absence, Doug Bishop will deputise for me and with Major General Jim Hughes, will lead The Royal Australian Regiment in Melbourne on Anzac Day 2015.

March well and do The Regiment proud.

Duty First,

John James

OPERATION SLIPPER WELCOME HOME MARCH MELBOURNE 21 MARCH 2015

BANNERS ON PARADE



THIS IS ALL THE BANNERS THAT VICTORIA COULD MUSTER

REPORTS

Allan Tonkin 9 RAR

The day was perfect, nice and sunny. We, the RAR group, were shunted from one spot to another and back again by the Shrine organisers, the Victoria Police and members of the ADF; we ended up on the grass bank of the Shrine just to the left of the steps. Too many chiefs.

We had the Banners of the RAR, 1Bn, 5Bn and 9Bn on display.

The bloody motorcycle gang were alongside the VIP tent in their filthy bloody jeans and scruffy unshaven demeanour.

The majority of the Public were very responsive to the Parading Troops, with children waving Flags. A small group of

protestors were quickly moved out of the area.

The Parade had a few hiccups (the RAAF Master of Ceremonies') could not tell the difference between Army and Navy.

The parade had not fully "Fronted" the Dias; as the last of the parading troops arrived, the Band started playing the Salute to the Governor (luckily the parade had fully Fronted up by the end of the Salute)

There were very few Members of the Welcome Home March who were in civilian clothes, most who marched were in service uniforms.

The RAAF "fly past" (No1,) 4 PC9's in formation from North to South along St Kilda Road over the Shrine, trailing White Smoke.



RAAF Fly past(No 2), 2 Hercules (Line astern) from South to North over the Shrine towards the City at " Low altitude", (any lower, they would have needed their wheels down). They had to turn onto their wingtips to turnout over the rail yards towards the MCG, to miss the city buildings - good flying for transport aircraft.



The Governor accompanied by the Defence Minister and Chief of Joint Operations and State Premier made up the official party.

We got to meet and speak with a number of the Vets afterwards on an individual basis.

It was good day overall & I feel sure the troops appreciated the day.

SOME MORE PICS OF MELBOURNE



Bloody bikies left of the picture

Allan Tonkin was critical of the bloody motorcycle gang and the attention they seem to get. However they outnumbered the RAR member attendance significantly.

Klaus Cimdins Editor

ANZAC DAY 2015

DAWN SERVICE:

The ADCC (ANZAC Day Commemoration Council) conducts the Dawn Service at the Shrine of Remembrance.

The ADCC have again asked that non-returned persons, the public or those accompanied by children again defer to returned servicemen and servicewomen when the invitation is given to enter the Shrine to place poppies on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Entrance to the

Shrine will still be through the North door and exit via the South door.

Dawn Service timings are:

Form Up – 0545 Hrs
Stand To – 0600 Hrs

GUYS DON'T FORGET

- Your Medals
- Your Battalion Tie
- Your Beret or hat
- Money to pay for your annual membership of \$30.
- Dress "smart" please "no" Polo/T Shirts or worn out jeans and crappy sneakers.

ROAD CLOSURES

Friday 24 April 2015 Midnight to Saturday 25 April 2 .00 PM

As over 100,000 people are expected to attend the Dawn Service, the Council has decided that **St Kilda Road centre thoroughfare and service lanes** will become **No Parking zones between Domain Road and Princess Bridge** for the above time and dates – don't get booked.

ANZAC DAY 2015 MARCH - MELBOURNE

The RARA form-up-point prior to the march is Collins Street, beside the Melbourne Town Hall.

The Association and Battalion banners are to be in position no later than 10 00 am. We have been advised that our expected step off is to be approximately 10.45 am.

We encourage a NOK of fallen members to march with us; children attending with members should be able to complete the march to the Shrine. We do not believe children who require prams or pushers should be included in the March.

There are vehicles available for those members how are unable to take part in the march – these transport issues are sorted out on the day.

ORDER OF MARCH
CITY of MELBOURNE HIGHLAND PIPE BAND

RAR ASSN BANNER
4 RAR, 5 RAR, 6 RAR, 7 RAR, 8 RAR, 9 RAR, 5/7, 1RAR, 2 RAR, 3 RAR.

FORM UP 6 ABREAST AND LEAVE ENOUGH ROOM BETWEEN EACH GROUP BANNER TO ENSURE THAT THE BAND OR BATTALION IN FRONT HAS SUFFICIENT ROOM TO FORM-UP.

Each battalion group is to provide its own March Marshall (preferably your battalion representative) who is to be responsible for the conduct and bearing of the group.

Most of you have done this march countless times, you know the drill, remember to remove you caps and hats when saluting the Eternal Flame and place your right hand over your medals.

Once we have passed the Eternal Flame and just before we reach the steps leading to the Shrine proper we wheel to the 'right' heading down to the RAR tree/plaque and move in close together where Battalion Banner Bearers are requested to display banners at the head of the gathering.



ANZAC DAY REUNION

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

will regroup on
Friday 25 April 2015
immediately after the march

at the
Celtic Club

**Brian Boru Room
Level 1**

316 Queens Street, Melbourne

MEMBERSHIP DUES

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2015

Your Annual Subscription of \$30.00 is now due.

HOW TO PAY

Cash, Cheque or Money Order on Anzac Day to a authorised RAR representative.

OR

Cheque or Money Order, NOT CASH
Mail to:
The Treasurer
RAR Association (Vic Branch)
PO Box 6213 Karingal, Vic 3199.

OR

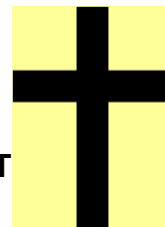
Direct Bank Deposit

Westpac
BSB: 033 138
Account No: 569751

Please ensure that you provide your name with the Direct Bank payment so the Treasurer can identify you.

VALE

At the Going Down of the Sun, we Will Remember Them



"LEST WE FORGET OUR FALLEN and DEPARTED COMRADES



Lt. Col. T E ARCHER
CO 65th Australian Inf. Battalion 1 AR
1948 – 49.

Passed away 1 April 2015.

His daughter Trish

advises her father was involved with the design of the "Skippy Badge", the Colour Patch and chose the colour of the Lanyard for 1 RAR. He passed away 2 weeks short of his 99th birthday.

LESLIE THOMAS HEATH (Sgt)
66th Australian Inf. Battalion 1 AR.

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT

On 23 November 1948 the 65th, 66th and 67th Battalions became the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Australian Regiment (AR). A royal title was granted on 10 March 1949 and Australian Regiment was renamed the Royal Australian Regiment.

1 RAR

ERNEST "DOC" ROSS PATERSON
SVN, 1 RAR 1965 – 66, 3 RAR 1971 & 5/7 RAR.

Passed away 22 March 2015.

JAMES CLIFFORD WOOD
1 RAR, 2 RAR, 3 RAR & 4 RAR.

Passed away 18 March 2015.

JOHN JESSE KAY
SVN 1965 – 66 & 5 RAR SVN 1966 - 67, 2 PI - A Coy.

Passed away 6 March 2015.

RAYMOND GORDON WILSON BALDWIN (WO1) - OAM
Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB) Middle East, Kokoda, Gona, New Guinea & Borneo & 2 RAR 12 PI – D Coy & Malaya 1961 – 63.

Passed away 15 December 2014

ALAN "NOBBY" CLARK
1 & 2 RAR Malaya 1961 - 63
Passed away 23 September 2014.

RAYMOND VICTOR GLODE
Korea 1954 – 55 & 2 RAR Malaya 1955 – 57.
Passed away 3 August 2014

2 RAR

2nd Lt. LELSLIE JOSEPH COOPER
Korea 1953 – 54 & Malaya 1955 – 57 (both as a private)
Funeral held 21 January 2015.

DEREK DONNELLY
Korea 1952 – 53 & 2 RAR Malaya, 1955 – 57.
Passed away 14 October 2014.

MALCOLM OWEN
SVN 1967-68, 12 PI - D Coy
Passed away 20 September 2014.

GORDEN JAMES BULL
Korea 1953 – 54. Veteran of the "HOOK" & Malaya 1955 – 57.
Passed away 9 September 2014.

RAYMOND DAVID HUNTLEY
Malaya, 1961 - 63
Passed away 19 September 2014.

GOWRIE WILLIAM SPREADBOROUGH
SVN 1967 – 68, A – Coy,
Passed away 4 August 2014.

CHRISTOPHER OWEN SMITH
SVN 1967, 1 PI - A Coy.
Passed away 26 July 2014.

DOUGLAS "KIPPER" FRANKLIN
Korea 1953-54. Veteran of the "HOOK",
Passed away 11 July 2014.

PHILLIP "KNUCKLES" MCDONELL
SVN 1967 – 68, 12 PI - D Coy,
Passed away 14 June 2014.

CLEMENT ARTHUR HUGHES
SVN 1967 – 68.
Passed away May 2014.

3 RAR

STEVE ALLAN WEST (SGT)
Malaya/Borneo 1963 – 65, SVN 6 RAR 1967, 2 RAR 1967 – 68, 6 RAR 1969 -70.
Passed away 24 August 2014.

4 RAR

TIMOTHY HOCART MCCOMBE - OAM
Malaysia/Borneo 1965 – 67 & 2 RAR SVN, 11 PI – D Coy 1967 "WIA".
Passed away 31 January 2015.

5 RAR

GEOFFREY LEONARD ARCHER
SVN 1966 – 67, 10 PI – D Coy.

Passed away 11 April 2015

NICHOLAS DRIMATIS
SVN 1966 – 67, Catering Corp.
Funeral 23 March 2015.

BRIG. ERROLD FREDRICK PFITZNER
SVN 1967, 2IC D – Coy, HQ 1ATF, 3 RAR & CO 8/9 RAR
Passed away 9 March 2015.

JOHN FRANCIS MULLEN
SVN 1969 – 70
Passed away 3 March 2015

JAMES ALBERT "JIM" REID
SVN 1969 – 70, C - Coy.
Passed away 18 February 2015.

TREVOR WILLIAM "TUBBY" HAY
SVN 1966 – 67, 3 PI A – Coy.
Passed away 8 February 2015

GORDON DESMOND MEREDITH
SVN 1966 – 67, 9 PI – C Coy.
Passed away 20 December 2014.

LESLIE ERNEST ROWLES
SVN 1969 – 70, 12 PI D - Coy.
Passed away 18 December 2014.

DARRYL "BUTCH" MARTIN MORONEY
SVN 1966 -67
Passed away 5 December 2014

ROY CHARLES ELLIS
SVN 1969, Spt Coy.
Passed away 18 November 2014

LAURENCE VICTOR LEWIS (MID)
SVN 1966 – 67, 10 PI – D Coy
Passed away 12 November 2014

CLIFFORD RONALD DIBDEN
SVN 1966 -67
Passed away 27 October 2014

LEONARD WILLIAM "GRUB" MOORE
SVN 1969 – 70, 5 PI – B Coy
Passed away 26 October 2014

WILLIAM NICHOLAS MAROULIS
SVN 1966 – 67, 3PI A – Coy
Passed away 21 October 2014.

ROBERT WILFRED TURNER (WIA)
SVN 1966 -67, 4 PI B – Coy.
Passed away 2 October 2014.

MAXWELL JOHN "TRACER" GARDNER
SVN 1969 – 70, 11 PI – D Coy.
Passed away 27 September 2014.

BRUCE ANTHONY ROBERTSON
SVN 1966 – 67, 10 PI D – Coy
Passed away 23 September 2014.

RONALD PETER CHIVERS (WIA)
SVN 1969 - 70, 3 PI A – Coy.
Passed away 22 September 2014.

LIONAL GEORGE DUROUX
SVN 1969, D & Admin Coy.
Passed away 19 September 2014.

KENNETH RAYMOND WARREN
SVN 1966 – 67, 7 PI C- Coy.

Passed away 7 September 2014.

SHAYNE WILLIAMS
ARA 2009 – 11, C & D Coy
Passed away 29 August 2014

TREVOR JOHN DONNOLY
SVN 1969 – 70, Spt Coy
Passed away 3 August 2014

6 RAR

HARRY ESTER
SVN 1966 – 67, D Coy – "Long Tan"
Passed away 3 April 2015

BRIAN "BULL" BURNETT
SVN 1969 – 70 D – Coy, RSM 5/7 RAR 1976 – 78, RSM Singleton Barracks 1970 -81.
Funeral 12 December 2014.

7 RAR

ROBERT "SPARKY" MACFARLAND
SVN 1967 – 68, 9 PI – Coy.
Passed away 18 March 2015
LON CLARKE WAYNE JARROLD
Passed away 11 March 2015

MUNGO MCCABE
SVN 1970 – 71, C Coy.
Funeral 7 March 2015

MICHAEL LLOYD
Passed away 6 February 2015

RODNEY SALTER
SVN 1967 – 68
Passed away 29 November 2014.

8 RAR

CAPT LLOYD COOPER
Malaya, Sig PI
Passed away 14 January 2014

ROBERT "BEASTIE" BRYANT
Passed away 6 November 2014

PHILLIP LESLIE LEE
A/Tank PI
Passed away 14 July 2014

9 RAR

BOB DAVIDSON
SVN 1968 – 69, 11 PI – D Coy
Passed away 18 January 2015.

DAVID SNELLING
SVN 1968 – 69, Driver - Spt Coy,
Passed away 21 December 2014.

NEIL HUMPRIES
SVN 1968 – 69, 10 PI - D Coy
Passed away 21 November 2014

ROBERT "BOBBY" RUSSELL
SVN 1968 – 69, Catering Corp., B – Coy.
Passed away 2 November 2014.

EDITORS CORNER

Klaus Cimdins,

Email: kcimdins@bigpond.com

RARA NEWSLETTER

Our Newsletters are produced in colour; however our laser printer can only print in black and white. This issue has been sent to you in black and white. If you wish to receive a colour PDF copy, then you will need to provide the editor with your email address and all future copies will be sent to you by email. You can then copy the PDF issue and distribute the newsletter to whomever you like. I highly recommend you choose the email option as the photo's look much better in colour.

I encourage that all members consider sending in articles and photo's that they may think would be interesting to other members of the Association.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – HELD 15 FEBRUARY 2015 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS



Your **new Committee**: Doug Bishop (Secretary), Klaus Cimdins (Treasurer), John James (President) & Peter Fraser (Vice President) George Logan (Vice President – absent).

NEWS FROM THE BATTALIONS

Some of our battalions have web sites both at a National and State level. 9 RAR have a National site but the Victorian branch does not have one. I have included a Painting which will go on a "auction" that may be of interest to you.



The painting is by Howard Steer and measures 1200 x 1000 and you do not need me to tell you what it's about.

Howard Steer was born in 1947 and is a Broken Hill artist. He developed the foundation for what he calls "Story Art", where each painting tells its own story, be that of a back yard wedding or a Sunday afternoon pub crawl. He has a wicked sense of humour and no subject is safe from his satirical brush. Howard's style is classified as naive realism. His work is in many private collections throughout Australia and overseas. He has exhibited in most Australian capital cities and regional areas and his work is extremely sought after.

To view Howard's other works just enter Howard Steer into your internet browser.

This action will commence after ANZAC Day, 9 RAR will be setting up a Web Page under "My Mini Auction" hopefully prior to Anzac Day. The auction will end on 30 October 2015 which is 2 weeks prior to their National Reunion; the successful bidder will be announced on Saturday 15 November at their Dinner Dance at the MCG.

ABOUT YOUR NEW TREASURER AND EDITOR

I was drafted as a National Serviceman in 1968. Completed my recruit training at "Pucka", then sent to Singleton for Corp training and finally to Cunungra for the Vietnam drill – I was now a "Rifleman".

Winged my way to SVN in a QANTAS 707 and the "Dat" by Hercules in mid September 1968

Three weeks in 1 ARU, then with 3 RAR until they left in November 68. Then with 9 RAR for the rest of the tour, 12 months later same planes just in reverse and was back in Melbourne by mid September 1970.

Got married in 1971 to Sue and still am, became a Chartered Accountant in 1974 and still am.

Became Treasurer and Secretary of the 9 RAR Victoria Branch in 1992 and still am.

Appointed Treasurer and Editor of the RAR Association (Vic Branch) mid February 2015.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS VICTORIAN BRANCH

All members are welcome to attend the quarterly committee meetings held on the third Sunday of January, April, July and October at 2.30 pm at the Tramways & East Melbourne RSL Sub Branch, 391 Gore Street, Fitzroy.

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHING POLICY

The editor reserves the right to decide publication of any item for any edition of this newsletter.

All articles are considered for publication strictly on merit.

Members are encouraged to write to the Editor at PO Box 6213, Karingal, Vic 3199.

Publishing Deadlines

April: by 15 March

August: by 15 July

December: by 15 November

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

We are clearing the under-listed existing stock at wholesale prices.

RAR Assn Ties	\$30.00
RAR Lapel Badge	\$10.00
ICB (Normal)	\$5.00
RAR Car Decal	\$2.00
Assn Shirt (2 x size 'M')	\$25.00
Personalised Service Plaque	\$65.00

NOTE. Add \$2.00 postage for any order – not per item with the exception of RAR Assn Shirt – add \$5.00 postage.

BATTALION BIRTHDAYS

RAR	23 November
1 RAR	12 October
2 RAR	16 October
2/4 RAR	15 August
3 RAR	20 October
4 RAR	1 February
5 RAR	1 March
6 RAR	6 June
7 RAR	1 September
5/7 RAR	3 December
8 RAR	8 August
8/9 RAR	31 October
9 RAR	13 November

CORRESPONDENCE

All mail should be forwarded to:

**The Hon. Secretary
RAR Assn (Vic Branch)
6 Merion Court
SUNBURY VIC 3429**

DISCLAIMER

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