# FROM WARFARE TO WELFARE

Issue No. 72 22 August 2017





Patron: Air Vice-Marshal Chris Deeble AO CSC



The Veterans Support Centre Belconnen actively pursues the welfare of all Defence Force members and their families.

Our services are available to both serving and former members of the Australian Defence Force and certain Government employees.

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#### **Veterans Support Centre Belconnen**

#### **Vietnam Veterans & Veterans Federation of Australia (VV&VFACT)**

9 Burkitt Street PAGE ACT 2614 **Phone** (02) 6255 1599 **Fax** (02) 6255 1577

Email office@vscact.org.au Website www.vvfact.org.au

Office Hours 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday

**President:** lan Thompson

**Senior Vice President:** Daniel Burton

Vice President: Geoffrey Bolwell

**Treasurer:** Sidney Gainey

**Assistant Treasurer:** Lyall Camp

**Secretary:** Robert West

**Public Officer:** Christopher Flynn

**Executive Support Officer:** Karen Toscan

Office Manager: Leannda Mackie

**Administrative Assistant:** Julie Broomby

**Grants:** Trevor Goodhew / Don Richards

**OHS:** Arthur Gale

Membership: Robert Jones

Committee: Brian Agnew

John Kearns

Sidney Sainsbury

Peter Saint

Arthur Gale

**Ronald Culton** 

Newsletter Editor: Leannda Mackie

**Newsletter Sources:** Roley Camons / Len Little

**Food Van:** John Kearns / Robert Jones

**Entertainment:** Karen Toscan

**Hospital Visiting:** Terry Duffy / Dennis Hebden

**PUTP (PTSD Support):** David & Kate Tonacia

#### **VSC Happenings**

There is still plenty of activity around the Veterans Support Centre, Belconnen. The dwindling number of Advocates are working extremely hard (as always) in an attempt to serve all those clients so richly deserving of our services. The numbers of people requesting our assistance has not reduced in any way and I commend the diligence of the Advocates trying to make a difference to people's lives in some small way. Despite the efforts of the Department of Veteran Affairs to simplify the Claims and Assessment process for clients, I am wary of the successful outcomes wished by DVA, because I am constantly speaking to clients and correcting their misconceptions about the process.

Let me publicly congratulate James (Jim) Wain and Gerry Mapstone on behalf of all members of the Executive, Committee and Members of the Federation, on their recent, well-earned honours. Jim and Gerry each received the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the recent Queens Birthday Honours, for service to "Veterans and their families". Given the huge amount of time and energy these gentlemen have devoted to the veteran cause over many years, the awards are richly deserved. Congratulations to you both.

During this reporting period, Taryn Simpson, our Administrative Assistance left the Federation after two and a half years of "training". We were all saddened to see her departure, but she has chosen for personal reasons, to seek greener pastures. Good luck with your future endeavours Taryn. As always, when one door closes, another one opens and Julie Broomby has now commenced work with Leannda. Please introduce yourself to Julie when next you go to the office.

Many people continue to work behind the scenes on our behalf and I need to acknowledge their efforts as well. The Food-van, the metal and woodwork workshops, plumbing changes to our tanks and water supply, paving work to the large shed and construction of a frame for the truck, to name but a few. These things do not "just happen" – there is a lot of thought and physical effort expended to help us all, so thank you to the people who make it happen.

#### **Vietnam Veterans Day 2017**

There seems to be a perennial problem with the 18<sup>th</sup> August – it is always cold. I can assure you that this year was no exception. Low temperature, combined with some occasional light drizzle (or was it melting snow!!) and a blowing wind made the conditions absolutely miserable, especially when the sun was shaded by the surrounding trees.

Nonetheless, from the roar of the F/A -18 overhead at 400 knots and 500 feet, at precisely 10.00am, declaring the Ceremony "started" to the departure of the official party, 65 minutes later there was an air of overall satisfaction. From the organisational perspective, I believe most people remained unaware of a couple of minor glitches, apart from the fact that the MC forgot to announce the singing of the Airforce Hymn, because his fingers were so cold, he inadvertently turned two pages of the Order of Service. On behalf of all the RAAF veterans present, I have forgiven him!!

A huge thank you to members of my organising committee who assisted so ably in the successful outcome of this year's Remembrance service for Vietnam Veterans Day.

Finally, to all members of the Federation who assisted on Friday and offered assistance in various forms, I personally thank you.

Be aware though, I have noted your names for 2018!!

#### **Rewriting the History of The Vietnam War**

As a consequence of Veteran group agitation, the official war history is being revisited to thoroughly examine the issue of the use of chemicals in Vietnam, and the dire impact that Post Traumatic Stress and the poor home-coming treatment has had on our veterans and their families. At last, perhaps the true impact on war service on our servicemen and women will finally be properly acknowledged by history.

I remind you that the flawed 1983 Royal Commission report on the Use and Effects of Chemical Agents on Australian Personnel in Vietnam said "Agent Orange had no case to answer." Yes, these words were formulated, from a report that cut and pasted great slabs of testimony from the killer chemical companies manufacturing these terrible chemicals. Vietnam Veterans stared in dismay at those words and recalled their mates, dead or stricken from unexplained cancers, not replicated in a civilian cohort. Nasty killer cancers unexplained, until you looked at the evidence from Scandinavia, where dioxin-based chemicals were found to be carcinogenic.

At long last, the official War history will accurately reflect just what physical and psychological damage these chemicals caused to our people who served in Vietnam. Dr Peter Yule, a talented historian from Monash University has been charged with the task of researching and writing the revised history, and he recently visited the VSC to speak with members about their personal experiences. He assures me that the visit was most useful and he intends to follow-up to seek additional information in due course.

#### **Meeting with Minister Ramsey**

A very productive session was held with the Minister on Tuesday 4 July 2017, and a wide range of topics was discussed. Most of the meeting focused on finance and what the ACT Government can do to assist us in continuing the volunteer work at VSC.

As a follow-up, the Ministers Office requested an additional meeting on Wednesday, 12 July 2017 with two Director's from staff with the view of pinning down precisely what we at VSC needed.

The Office of Veterans and Aging is investigating, inter-alia, assistance with Admin salaries and running expenses, food-van upgrade, Younger Veterans coffee mornings (coffee machine) and even a business opportunity to run a coffee van for business experience. I certainly came out of the meeting with good vibes.

Thank you to all the volunteers who keep our organisation running in such an efficient and productive manner. I can assure you that all the behind-the-scenes work is essential to maintain the Federation as a first- class provider of Advocacy services to our well-deserving veteran community.

Ian Thompson
President/Advocate
21 August 2017



### **DONATIONS**

The VSC would like to **THANK** the following two clubs for their Donations from their annual two-up games on Anzac Day.

Vikings Fishing Club \$2,310.30

Queanbeyan Kangaroo Rugby Club \$1,057.20

NOTE: DUE TO PHOTOS NOT BEING AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING LAST ISSUE, WE HAVE CHOSEN TO DISPLAY IN ISSUE NO 72.





#### Left to Right:

Blake Henman (Vikings, Sports & Community Program Manager)

Paul Collins (Vikings Fishing Club)

**Rod Woodward** ( Vikings Fishing Club, Cheque Presenter )

lan Thompson ( VSC President )

**Stuart Garrett** (Vikings Fishing Club)

Victor Billow (Vikings Fishing Club)

Patrick Vance (Vikings, Assistant Venue Manager at Erindale)

### **FOOD VAN DATES**

**OCTOBER** 

SATURDAY 7TH HIGHLAND GAMES (Kambah Oval)

SATURDAY 14TH DISHER COMP

**SUNDAY 15TH** FORD CAR SHOW ( Qybn Show Grounds )

SUNDAY 29TH EQUESTRIAN

If you would like to volunteer on the Food van please contact the office

office@vscact.org.au

NOTE: Every Monday after the Food van goes out we have two WONDERFUL Volunteers Murray & Ruth who come to clean @ 9.00am, if anyone has a spare hour or two to help lend them a hand please contact the office.

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY 19TH VSC AGM @ 11.00am

MONDAY 25TH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DAY ( VSC CLOSED )

**OCTOBER** 

MONDAY 2ND LABOUR DAY ( VSC CLOSED )

**NOVEMBER** 

THURSDAY 30TH VSC CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**SEE PAGE 14 FOR DETAILS** 

DECEMBER

TUESDAY 19TH LAST DAY FOR 2017

**CLOSE @ 4.00PM** 

# **FOOD VAN**

The Food van went out to the Chicken Show at Epic before finishing up for the Winter Break, **THANKS** to all who came out from Friday Night to Sunday













#### **NOTE FROM COMMITTEE**

We cannot do everything required to keep the services the VSC offers fully operational without the efforts of non-committee members. This assistance is greatly appreciated and if you would like to assist in any way, please contact the office.

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Our volunteers help keep the VSC running, so if you have any time to spare whether it's for an hour or four we would appreciate your time.

The **Garden groups** leader **Dennis Konemann** has had to step away from the role, we would like to <u>THANK</u> him for all his hard work and time. **Rex Kendall & Nev Fennis** are doing an amazing job continuing on but are in need of extra help every Monday morning from 9.30am.

Our **Newsletter sources** Len Little & Roley Camons are looking to step away from the work they do at the end of the year, so again if you have time to help the VSC out with sourcing stories to go into the newsletter please call the Office **02 6255 1599** or email in **office@vscact.org.au** If no one comes forward to offer any help with the sourcing we will have to look at changing the way in which the newsletter is done and sent out.

Our **Food van cleaners** are looking for more help also, please see page 9 for details.

#### **PAVING**

The VSC would like to **THANK** the following members for their help doing the paving work out the back, if you helped and your name has been missed please know it was not intentional.

Geoff Bolwell, Dick Aubrey, Jack Davis, Dennis Konemann, Rex Kendall and Allison Bennett.

#### **ADVOCATES**

The VSC would like to acknowledge and **THANK** the following Volunteer Advocates for all of their **HARD WORK** here at the Centre and for all the hours they do at home.

**Ian Thompson** 

**Danny Burton** 

**Geoff Bolwell** 

**James Wain** 

**Phil Cowan** 

**Tony Carthy** 

**Bruce Glossop** 

Ray Lipscombe

**Ross Dunn** 

**Rob Kerby** 

**Rod Carter** 

**Graeme Pike** 

If you would like to find out about what it all involves, please look at making an appointment with Ian Thompson at the Office to chat about the process.

#### FIRST POINT OF CONTACT

The Office is the first point of contact for everything regarding The Veterans Support Centre. This includes but is not limited to Advocate appointments, ute bookings, functions and any general information you may require. Contact details are as follows:

Office Manager: Leannda Mackie

Administrative Assistant: Julie Broomby

Phone: (02) 6255 1599

leannda.mackie@vscact.org.au or office@vscact.org.au

Julie.broomby@vscact.org.au

#### **COLLECTION OF FILES**

If you have had assistance from a Pension Officer at the VSC and your case has been finalised, please call the office 02 6255 1599 to arrange collection, as we have limited space available for storage.

#### ARE YOUR DETAILS CORRECT?

As our main form of communication is through email, please ensure your details are always updated by emailing **office@vscact.org.au** 

#### Subject

Membership details update

#### Include the following

Full name

Contact phone number/s

Date of birth

Change of address if applicable

Or call (02) 6255 1599 to update. This is only if your details have changed!

#### **FACEBOOK**

If you or anyone you know have a Facebook account please go on and **LIKE** our page. Feel free to comment on what you see and if you have something you feel should be on our Facebook page, please let the office know.

Just Google "Veterans Support Centre Belconnen Facebook".

#### **FAREWELL**

Friday 30th June was a sad day for VSC as we said Goodbye to our Amazing Administrative Assistant Taryn.

We wish her all the best in her new job.

#### **WELCOME**

Thursday 10th August saw us welcome our new Administrative Assistant Julie to the team. Make sure you stop by to say HI when signing in the book at the Office on your next visit.

#### **WELCOME**

**Kissann** is volunteering her time to learn the Welfare side of the VSC with Karen on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

#### **VSC CHRISTMAS LUNCH SAVE THE DATE**

Thursday 30th November 2017 @ 12.00pm

Gold Creek Station Homestead, Victoria Street Hall ACT

\$30.00 per person

\$1.00 Raffle Tickets available from the Office and on the day at lunch.

A menu will be provided in the Office on the Notice Board and also emailed out once received.

Any special dietry requirements will only be catered for with notification.

**RSVP to the Office with Payment by Friday 17th November** 

#### **CLOSURE FOR 2017 / RE OPEN 2018**

The VSC will close doors on Tuesday 19th December 2017 @ 4.00pm

There will be two BBQs over the January break -

Tuesday 15th January 2018 - From 10.30am

Tuesday 22nd January 2018 - From 10.30am

The VSC re opens on Monday 29th January 2018 @ 9.00am

Client appointments will start from Monday 5th February 2018 @ 10.00am

#### **UNWANTED PAINT**

Drop off your unwanted paint for free, Paintback will do the rest.

Australians are grabbing the chance to responsibly dispose of their unwanted paint and packaging.

And now you can too.

Two new Paintback collection sites have opened in Canberra at Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre, Mugga Lane. Symonston and Mitchell Resource Management Centre, Flemington Road, Mitchell.

Open 7 Days

7.30am / 5.00pm

info@paintback.com.au

#### **DAY LIGHT SAVINGS REMINDER**

Starts Sunday 10th October 2017













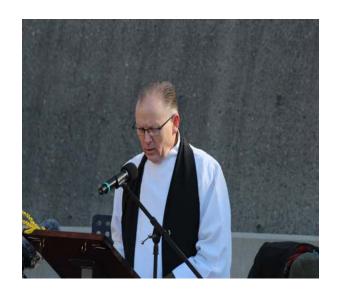


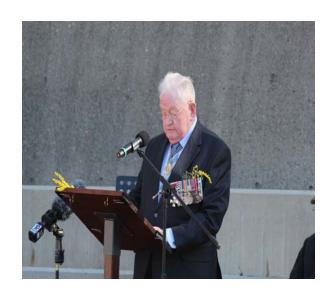


































Photos from Vietnam Veterans Day 2017 were taken by Christopher Flynn and Leannda Mackie.





### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017**

The AGM will be held on **Tuesday 19th September 2017** at the Stephen King Memorial Centre.

9 Burkitt Street Page ACT 2614 @ 11.00am.

Normal Tuesday BBQ will follow the AGM.

#### AGENDA FOR AGM

- 1. Ode
- 2. Apologies
- 3. Minutes of AGM 2016
- 4. Presidents Report
- 5. Treasurers Report
- Notice of Motions
  - a. Proposed amendment to the Constitution to include Grants Officer as a Committee Member
  - b. Proposed increase in Membership fees by \$5.00 to cover Capitation Fees
    As requested by National Office, Granville NSW
- 7. Committee Appointments for 2017 /2018
- 8. Appointment of Auditor
- 9. Endorsement of Advocates

#### Item 6 Notice Of Motions

<u>a</u>

Moved By: Christopher Flynn Seconded By: Donald Richards

That the Constitution Para 21 Election of Committee Members be amended by the addition of clause (a) (iii) include Grants Officer as a Committee Member.

<u>b</u>

Moved By: Sidney Ward Seconded By: Lyall Camp

Proposed increase in Capitation Fees by \$5.00 as requested by National Office Granville, NSW.

# **AGM NOTICE OF MOTIONS / VOTING FORM**

#### Item 6. a

Amendment to the Constitution

Proposed amendment to the Constitution to include Grants Officer as a Committee Member

#### Item 6. b

<u>Preamble:</u> The VVFA at Granville has requested an increase of \$5.00 in the Capitation Fee paid by members to cover increased costs of printing the newsletter.

#### **Notice of Motion**

Whereas the VV&VFACT is required to pay a part of each VSC Members subscription as a **capitation fee** to the National Treasurer of the VVFA.

Members are advised that the capitation fee is to be increased by \$5.00 for 2018 Membership.

As the VV&VFACT Constitution requires 'The amount of the VV&VFACT joining and annual subscription shall be determined, from time to time, by an Annual General Meeting of the VV&VFACT or an Extra-ordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose taking into account in the determination the amount of the capitation fee', I hereby move that the Membership Fee for Members of the VSC be increased by \$5.00 from November 2017, when 2018 Membership takes effect.

Moved by: Ward Gainey
Seconded by: Lyall Camp

**Voting Form:** 

Voting closes by mail on Monday 4th September 2017

Voting closes by email on Monday 4th September 2017 office@vscact.org.au

Voting can be done in person on the day of the AGM if attending

Members Name:	
Membership Number:	
I agree with Motion A YES / NO	
I agree with Motion B YES / NO	
Signature / Date:	

# **AGM ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

POSITION	NOMINEE			
President	Ian Thompson			
Senior Vice President	Daniel Burton			
Vice President (1)	Geoffrey Bolwell			
Vice President (2)	Robert Kerby			
Secretary	Robert West / James Thomson			
Treasurer	Sidney Gainey			
Assistant Treasurer	Lyall Camp			
Committee (Public Officer)	Christopher Flynn			
Committee (Membership Officer)	Robert Jones			
Committee	Trevor Goodhew			
Committee	Brian Agnew			
Committee	Sidney Sainsbury			
Committee	Ronald Culton			
Committee	John Kearns			
Committee	Arthur Gale			
Committee				

### **BOER WAR**

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Australians served in the second of two Boer Wars, fought from October 12th 1899 to May 31st 1902.

#### Where was it?

South Africa, centring around the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

#### What was it all about?

The Boers, South Africans descended from Dutch settlers, mounted armed resistance to what they saw as an invasion of predominantly British "Uitlanders" (foreigners) into the Witwaterstand goldfields of the Transvaal in 1886. It has been suggested the war was really about who got to control the whole of South Africa and its mineral wealth.

#### **How many Australians went?**

Officially 16,175 men and 60 nurses left Australia for the war, although a number who were already in South Africa working on gold mines also served in local units.

#### How many died?

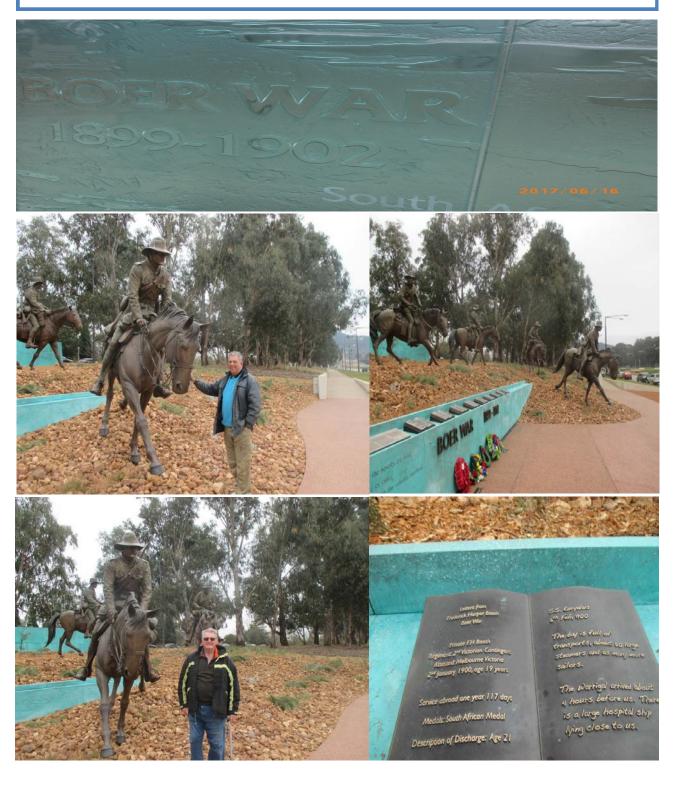
Deaths in action – 251; Deaths from disease – 267; Missing – 43. One nurse died.



# **BOER WAR MEMORIAL**

Australians First National Boer War Memorial at Anzac Parade Canberra was dedicated on the 31st May 2017. (BMW.ORG.AU)

Photos taken by Newsletter Sources, Len Little & Roley Camons.



### REMEMBRANCE DAY

#### **SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2017**

In 2017, 11th November marks the 99th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year on this day Australians observe one minute's silence at 11 am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

The Remembrance Day National Ceremony includes a formal wreath laying and will be attended by many high-level dignitaries, diplomats, and students from each state and territory representing the youth of Australia. Australia's Federation Guard and the Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon will be on parade.

For further enquiries please email: ceremony@awm.gov.au



#### Time

10.30am to 12pm approximately

#### Location

Parade Ground and surrounds, Australian War Memorial.

#### **Tickets & Seating**

Tickets for the 2017 Remembrance Day National Ceremony are to be booked via the online booking website Trybooking.

Ticket bookings will open closer to the date.

#### **SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES**

- Assistance to lodge claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Representation at the Veterans Review Board (VRB)
- Representation at the Administration Appeals Tribunal (AAT)
- A team who visit all the hospitals and the hospice in the ACT
- The Food Van which is our main source of fundraising
- A walk for health programme
- A choir
- A guitar group
- A woodwork shop
- A metal work shop
- A library
- Tuesday BBQ @ 12:00pm \$5.00 per head

#### **WALKING GROUP**

#### The walking group is open to all Veterans and their family and friends

The walking schedule is available on the Notice Board at the VSC and copies of the schedule are available from the Office.

If it's raining, still meet at the appointed starting place to decide to walk or go have coffee.

#### **GUITAR GROUP**

The guitar group continues to meet on Friday morning at 9:30am, in the kitchen at the VSC.

New members are always welcome, no matter what stage of playing you are. If you are interested in learning to play either guitar or banjo, or simply just want to come along and jam with us call **Ian Schafferius on 0434 717 093**. Or just be here on Friday morning and join the group.

You don't need an instrument to get started as there are a couple of guitars and banjos that can be taken on loan.

#### **HOSPITAL VISITING TEAM**

#### Help is needed Now!

Veterans need your help by becoming part of our hospital visiting team. Training and Support is provided.

I can tell you hospital visiting is very rewarding and you get to meet some very interesting people. If we can get someone to smile for 5 seconds then we know that we have enlightened their life for a moment in time even though they may be gravely ill.

If anyone would like to join our hospital visiting team, then please contact:

#### **Calvary Hospital**

Dennis Hebden 0407 018 196

The Canberra Hospital, John James & National Capital Hospitals

Terry Duffy 6296 1068 after 5:00 pm

### Please give Dennis or Terry a call.

#### **REUNIONS AND EVENTS**

If you wish to notify members of forthcoming reunions/events, please notify the Veterans Support Centre by emailing office@vscact.org.au with details.

#### **MOUNTING MEDALS AND MEMORABILIA**

**Tony Mann** PH: (02) 6295 2038

**Ross Smith** PH: (02) 6292 1266

MOB: 0418 345 995

**Christine Wilde** PH (02) 6231 9922

MOB: 0409 900 315

Dave Etherington PH: (02)6292 2699

MOB: 0419 819 503

#### **FUNDRAISING FOR THE CENTRE**

#### **Coins for The Centre**

The Centre has a fund raising method that all can join in without too much trouble or effort. It's EASY - at your leisure at home just fill a container with any excess five cent coins and when full or when you are ready bring it into the Centre and a tax deductible receipt will be given with thanks.

#### **Aluminium Cans and Car / Motorcycle Batteries**

Another way to support The Centre is to bring in your empty aluminium cans and batteries to the Centre and place in the bin near the green shed as marked. These cans and batteries are cashed in to the recyclers and The Centre makes some money.

#### **Library**

Our library is located at the Stephen King Memorial Centre in Page and has proven to be quite popular with members. We have a large range of books and DVD's to interest all members, donations always gratefully received.

#### **MONEY TINS**

The Centre wishes to thank the following businesses for their support in raising funds to benefit veterans in our community:

- RMC Golf Club Duntroon
- AFFCANS-ADFA
- Avion Café-Brindabella Business Park
- Page Tavern-Page Shops
- Moby Dicks Tavern Kippax Shops
- Russel 2 Canteen-Russel Hill Offices
- Campbell Park Canteen-Defence Building Campbell Park

#### **DONATIONS**

Donations are always appreciated at any time. If you are considering a donation (tax exempt) to a charity please consider VVFACT. The VVFACT is a registered charity established to assist veterans from all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in their dealings with DVA and enhance the quality of their lifestyle as the effects of war service begin to take a heavier toll. Formed in 1994, VV&VFACT is an incorporated entity ABN 58 534 419 650. It is registered as GST exempt, a deductible gift recipient and an income tax exempt charitable institution.

### **HELPLINES**

#### **VETERANS AND VETERAN FAMILIES COUNSELLING SERVICE**

Free call **1800 011 046** (24 Hours)

#### **BEYOND BLUE**

1800 224 636

#### **VETERANS 360 AUSTRALIA**

1800 838 360

#### **NEED TO CONTACT DEFENCE COMMUNITY ORGANISATION (DCO)?**

For advice, support or local community information, call our all-hours Defence Family Helpline on **1800 624 608** 

Run by DCO, the Helpline is the best way to access the programs and services that we offer to help Defence families manage the military way of life.

The Helpline is available 24 -7 and is staffed by qualified human services professionals including social workers and psychologists.

You can also email the Helpline at **DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au** 

#### **KOOKABURRA KIDS**

PROGRAM FOR SERVING AND EX-SERVING ADF FAMILIES

Supporting kids to be kids

Supporting children who have a parent with a mental illness as a result of military service

ACT Office 02 6109 0408

Head Office 02 9525 7474

www.kookaburrakids.org.au

# Womens Royal Naval Service

A group of ex-members of the Women's Royal Naval Service, who meet informally each month for lunch, plan to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Service, provisionally planned for Sunday 26th November this year. The actual anniversary is 29th November 2017, and the Service was absorbed into the Royal Navy in 1993.

Ex-members who would like to join the celebrations over a two-course lunch are invited to contact Gwen on 6286 5052 or email gwenfryer@grapevine.com.au

### Selkirk

### **ANTIQUES & RESTORATIONS**

Offering personalised service and sales.

Specialising in Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian Mahogany, Cedar and walnut furniture.

Small silver items, both sterling and plate.

Selkirk Antiques have selected pieces of Doulton, (including Flambé') Shelley & Moorcraft Ceramics Furniture restoration service available.

29 Summerland Circuit
Kambah ACT 2902
02 6231 5244
0418 631 445
02 6231 3656 Fax



#### **READY TO WRITE?**

This Newsletter is for, by and about members of the Veterans Support Centre.

Which means we're always looking for stories and photos that bring the branch to life.

So if you or your organisation has something to contribute and share with the members, drop it in to the office or email it to office@vscact.org.au

It doesn't need to be fancy. You provide the info and we can make it usable. The only request is, please use plain text formatting – just as it comes out of standard Microsoft Word 2003. Anything fancy can take hours to re-do so it fits the newsletter.

Keep in mind, too, that the newsletter pages are only half the size of a normal A4 page, so any tables need to fit that small A5 size. Photos can be either prints or .jpg digital images

### <u>Deadlines for future Newsletter Issues are stated</u> <u>below but are subject to change without notice</u>

SEPTEMBER	Issue 72	AUGUST 23rd 2017
DECEMBER	Issue 73	NOVEMBER 24th 2017
MARCH	Issue 74	FEBRUARY 23th 2018

#### **NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES**

Contact the office staff for sample sizes and rates, the editor reserves the right to vary the size of the advertisement for aesthetic purposes if necessary.

There will be no added cost to the advertiser if this occurs.

The newsletter is published quarterly (March-June-September-December), with cut off dates the last Monday of the prior month e.g. May for June.

Circulation is approximately 500 / 600 Members.

#### **VIETNAM VETERANS AND VETERANS FEDERATION ACT INC**

Is a registered charity established to assist serving and former Defence Personnel, Veterans and some Government agencies from all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations in their dealings with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA).

VV&VFACT also pursues the welfare of their families to assist them to optimise the quality of their life as the effects of Defence service take their toll.

Formed in 1994, VV&VFACT is an incorporated entity (ABN 58 534 419 650).

It is registered as GST exempt, a tax deductible gift recipient and an income tax exempt charitable institution.

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Are you Financial?**

Membership of the Veterans Support Centre is vaild for one year.

Membership gives access to our Workshop facilities, Pension Officer help, a range of social and community activities....and a place to get together with a mob of like-minded Veterans.

Membership is open to Veterans of any conflict, serving and retired service personnel.

Cost: \$35 Single \$40 Family.

Payments by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, bank transfer or credit card through the office.

Current members only need to fill out name, address, phone numbers and email address on the form, located in the back of this newsletter or you may download a PDF version of the Membership Form from the website.

Print it out, complete and mail it to the office with your payment.

Please provide a stamped self-addressed envelope for your receipt and Membership Card, if mailing in.

(Membership is tax deductible). Thanks to those who have already renewed their membership for 2017, it is much appreciated.

(NB. Direct Debit payments must include your name and initials) See membership form on opposite page, it can take up to a month for your card to be sent out as our Bookkeeper needs to confirm payment has appeared on Bank statement.

Please remember: Even if you do not require our services any more, we have many more Veterans who require assistance, so your funds play a vital role in the welfare of the Veteran community.

Please show that you care! Renew now 02 6255 1599 Now!

#### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2017**

The Veterans Support Centre actively pursues the welfare of all Defence Force members and their families. Our services are available to both serving and former members. Your membership fees and donations help support others in need and are tax deductible.

Membership is due in February each year and a \$5 capitation fee goes to our National Office to support the publication of the national magazine.

#### RENEWAL INFORMATION

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