



17 Construction Squadron Workshop Vietnam Association



NEWSLETTER - February Edition 2012

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Clare Valley Reunion

Organising the Clare Valley reunion is now well underway. The President and Secretary met at Clare in September 2011 and began the task of preparing for the reunion.

The reunion will be held between Thursday 12th September and Monday 16th September 2013.

The following was the main areas considered during their get together:

Travel Arrangements Including Bus Services

Accommodation

Functions

A number of members expressed concern that holding a four day reunion at Clare may be problematical and that some thought should be given to holding some of the functions in Adelaide and have a day trip to Clare. Well folks, rest assured that there is absolutely no reason to worry, the complete reunion will be held in Clare and we are sure that you will enjoy the activities that have been planned for you.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

We have negotiated with a local travel agent who has good connections with a bus company. He is prepared to book your flights and co-ordinate the bus transfer to Clare from the Adelaide airport and return. The agent will include all bus transfers into your travel package.

It is strongly suggested that you use the agent as there is only one bus service per day between Clare and Adelaide. Individuals may make their own way from the airport, but if you make your own arrangements you may have difficulty co-ordinating flights and bus connections.

The agent will work towards organising a bus solely for our members, his details will be published in the next newsletter.

ACCOMMODATION

There has been a selection of accommodation so members will have a choice of up-market rooms at the Clare Country Club, to a moderately low priced cabin or caravan site at the Clare Caravan Park.

If you look at the *Clare Country Club* brochure, you will note that there are two and three bedroom apartments available. These apartments were under construction in August 2011 and are new. If you wish to share an apartment with another member, please indicate this on the nomination form. They have separate individual bedrooms

The *Clare Caravan Park* also has a number of self contained cabins that are quite neat.

An idea of the prices is:

A one bedroom ensuite cabin with 1 double bed and 1 double bunk is approx \$85.00 per night for 2 people. Two bedroom family cabins, approx \$125.00 per night for two people.

(Extra adults \$12. per person per night)

A full list of cabins with prices will be available in the next newsletter.

FUNCTIONS

Thursday 12th.	Arrive at Clare
Friday 13th.	Welcome breakfast
Friday 13th.	Comradeship evening
Saturday 14th.	Meeting/Ladies Tour
Saturday 14th	Dinner
Sunday 15th.	Tour of the Clare Valley
Monday 16th.	Farewell and Wind-up.

Because of the geographical nature of the Clare Valley and the size of the township itself, it is our aim to have functions at various venues so that members will see as much of Clare as possible. However, depending on our numbers, we may be restricted in function centre availability.

There will be plenty of free time so that members may come and go as they please outside of organised functions so you can see the sights of Clare.

The caravan park is on the main highway on the outskirts of town and is a **Top Tourist** park, there are no ensuites. We will run a bus shuttle between the caravan park and the Country Club.

There will be a bulk booking at the caravan park for our members, so please let us know your needs and requirements on the attached nomination sheet. It is imperative that you fill out the attached form and send or email it to the Secretary/Treasurer by the required date.

Please be aware that individual bookings may lead to extra expense on your behalf. The Association will be bulk booking at reduced prices for members.

If you wish to attend the Clare reunion, Please fill out the attached form and return it NO LATER than the 1st May 2012.



Standard Spa Room	\$220.00
Courtyard Spa Room	\$220.00
Balcony Deluxe Spa Suite	\$230.00
Two Room Spa Kitchenette	\$260.00
Two Room Spa Suite	\$260.00
Premier Suite	\$300.00
Extra Person - Adult / Child (3-12 years)	\$25.00 / \$15.00

***New apartment block development,
available from 1st July 2011.***

Studio Spa Room	\$230.00
Two Bedroom Apartment (2 persons)	\$350.00
Three Bedroom Apartment (4 persons)	\$450.00

All resort rooms, suites and apartments feature a spa bath.

Prices valid until 31st March 2012

Based on room only, per night, single/double share, except where stated



Please note that the quoted prices may differ from what we will receive depending on our numbers. Also note that the number of apartments is restricted. First requests will receive priority.

VALE

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of Ian Stewart and Ken Dickinson. Both men served as the ASM of our unit. Ian Stewart served as ASM from 17 January 1968 until 14 January 1969, Ken Dickinson then replaced Ian and served as ASM from 7 January 1969 until 13 December 1969. Both Ian and Ken had many years of service and a great number of mates within the corps, both will be sadly missed by the members of this Association.

Our sincere condolences go out to the families of Ian and Ken.



Lest We Forget



Major fought battle of Cyclone Tracy

Major Ian Stewart, 78, was a Vietnam veteran who faced one of his toughest tests when Cyclone Tracy battered Darwin on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day of 1974.

He was at home in Larrakeyah Barracks with his wife and their toddler, Nikki, when the storm demolished the property, wrecking their possessions.

The family hid behind a fridge in the carport, protecting a suitcase containing their black cat, Satan. All four survived unharmed, though Tracy killed 71 people. Damage was put at \$837 million.

Ian's wife and daughter were sent to South Australia but Ian remained in Darwin for several months, helping to clean up, before rejoining his family in Adelaide. They spoke little of the incident.

Similarly, not much was said of Ian's military service in Vietnam, between January 1968 and January 1969. As an officer in the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, he was responsible for heavy machinery around the port of Vung Tau and Nui Dat, the latter in the centre of territory occupied by Viet Cong.

Back in Australia, he moved to Perth in 1976, as officer commanding the Perth

Workshop Company in Midland. In 1983, the year before he retired, he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to the army. Ian then joined WA's Justice Department and worked as a senior judge's associate until retirement in 2008.

His father had been a warrant officer and Ian's son, David, was also an army major.

Ian Leighton Stewart was born in Quirindi, NSW, on February 9, 1933, elder of two children to David Stewart and wife Ann (Clarke).



At Randwick High School he excelled at rugby league before achieving similar results in athletics, tennis, cricket, baseball and Aussie Rules. Family lore has it that when he joined the army, he set a longstanding record for the mile.

At 15, he joined RAEME as an apprentice motor mechanic. Five years later, he wed Marion Smith, with whom he had two children. They divorced and, in 1970, he wed Julie Elverd with whom he had a daughter, Nikki.

Ian Stewart had cancer. He leaves Julie and children David, Stephen and Nikki, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. **Died: June 26.**

In Loving Memory

of



Ken Dickinson

12 May 1932

to

30 July 2011



Forever In Our Hearts

Above - An article from the West Australian newspaper

Right - A memento from Ken's service

We will remember them

PATRON GEORGE AWARDED

Association stalwart and Patron **George Jones** has been recognised by the WA state government for his continued support of local charities. We are very proud and honoured to have George in our ranks. George not only contributes generously to charity, but also to the members of this association. Our hearty thanks and congratulations to George.

News

@thewest.com.au

Outstanding in the community: Dennis Eggington, Bev and John Lowe, Curtis Taylor, Rick Newnham, John Langoulant, Alan Dodge, George Jones, Brendan Hammond, Stephen Zubrick, Ralph Martins, John Longley and Samina Yasmeen.
Picture: Lincoln Ball

Winners all share a desire to help

KATHERINE FLEMING

George Jones was happily contemplating more time with his nine grandchildren in June when a plane crashed in West Africa, killing the entire board of Perth-based iron ore company Sundance Resources.

Mr Jones had stepped down as chairman less than a year earlier because of ill health.

After the tragedy, he went back to the helm without hesitation. One of his first tasks was to fly to Congo to bring their bodies home to their families. He knew he could help and acted, despite his desire for a quieter life.

It's a simple but powerful theme common to many winners of the WA Citizen of the Year Awards, announced over the weekend.

For a decade, Mr Jones has been busily giving back, including contributing substantial time and

Art lovers: Christine and Kerry Stokes

money to Parkerville Children and Youth Care, where he spent his childhood because his alcoholic parents were unable to care for him. More recently, he raised \$16 million for the Ear Science Institute Australia, founded by his surgeon, Marcus Atlas.

Yesterday, many recipients spoke of simply doing what was needed, despite the reservations that hold back many others.

John and Bev Lowe's organisation Manna Inc., where volunteers provide meals to thousands of disadvantaged people every week, was borne of Mrs Lowe's desire to feed the hungry.

Mr Lowe, 79, admits he hoped his wife would lose interest when she suggested making soup for homeless people huddling under trees on a cold, wet day 15 years ago. "Now, my life has been turned upside down and I couldn't be more thrilled," he said.

Seven West Media chairman Kerry Stokes was recognised for his business achievements and passion for art and preserving military heritage, including the purchase of four Victoria Crosses.

In his speech, Celebrate WA chairman John Poynton floated renaming Foundation Day to WA Day, arguing it could be a more inclusive celebration.

2011 WA CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Alan Dodge - Arts, Culture and Entertainment

Stephen Zubrick - Children and Young People Lifetime Achievement

George Jones - Community Service

Manna Inc. - Gold Swan

Brendan Hammond - Governor's Award for Regional Development

Dennis Eggington - Indigenous Leadership

John Langoulant - Industry and Commerce

Ralph Martins - Professions

John Longley - Sport

Samina Yasmeen - Sir Ronald Wilson Leadership Award

Rick Newnham - Youth

Curtis Taylor - Youth Arts

Kerry Stokes - Sir Charles Court Inspiring Leadership Award

UPDATE

George has subsequently been rewarded in the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours list.

George's award is formally titled - *Member (AM) In The General Division Of The Order Of Australia*.

For service to the mining industry, to Australia-China business relations, and through executive roles with a range of youth care and hearing services.

Once again George, we offer our congratulations and a warm THANK YOU for your service to us - from the President and members of the Association.

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS

Do you have an email address that is not listed with the association. If you have received a hard copy of this newsletter and you do have an email address, please let us know as we can email the newsletter to you saving us the cost of producing and mailing out the newsletter.

If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, again, please let the Secretary/Treasurer know and we will remove you from our mailing list.

RETURNED MAIL

The following members had their newsletter returned to us after the last mailer was sent out. If you know the whereabouts of these members, could you please notify the Secretary/Treasurer.

Ken ABBOTT, Tony DUNN, Zinard MILEIKA, Colin MARTIN, Kevin O'LEARY, Graeme RICHTER, Bill SANDS, Glenn SMITH.

We had a good response from the last newsletter with a number of members informing us of a change of address/email address. Thank you - keep up the good work.

STUDENT WHO OBTAINED 0% ON AN EXAM

I would have given him 100% because of ingenuity and common sense.

Q1. In which battle did Napoleon die?

*** his last battle**

Q2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?

*** at the bottom of the page**

Q3. River Ravi flows in which state?

*** liquid**

Q4. What is the main reason for divorce?

*** marriage**

Q5. What is the main reason for failure?

*** exams**

Q6. What can you never eat for breakfast?

*** Lunch & dinner**

Q7. What looks like half an apple?

*** The other half**

Q8. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea what will it become?

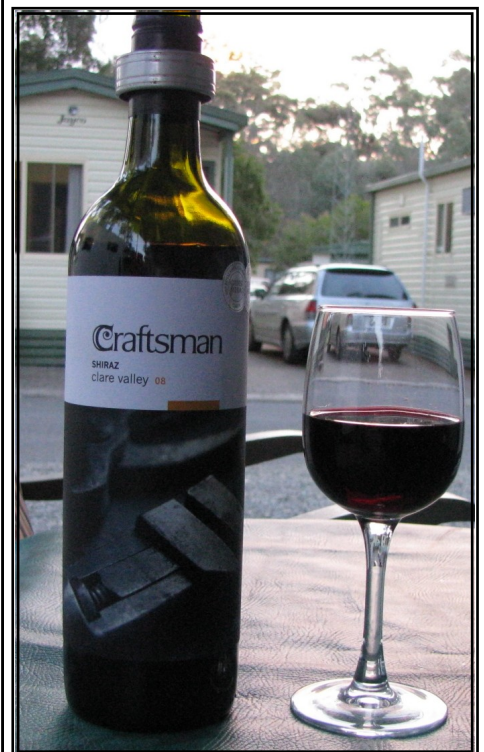
*** It will simply become wet**

Q9. How can a man go eight days without sleeping ?

*** No problem, he sleeps at night.**

Q10. How can you lift an elephant with one hand?

*** You will never find an elephant that has only one hand..**



They know we are coming!!!

The Secretary/Treasurer
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Vietnam Association
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2013 CLARE VELLEY REUNION

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE REUNION

(Please tick)

☐

NAME: _____

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING (*Including Yourself*): _____

NAME OF PARTNER/OTHERS ATTENDING: _____

HOW WILL YOU BE TRAVELLING:

Driving

☐

Fly/Bus

☐

Fly/Hire Car

☐

Other (Please Specify):

☐

WHAT TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION IS REQUIRED: *Country Club (Solo)*

☐

Country Club (Shared)

☐

Caravan Park (Cabin)

☐

Caravan Park (Site)

☐

DO YOU HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS (*ie Wheelchair access, sharing request etc.*)

☐

Please indicate:

Please return to the Secretary/Treasurer no later than 1st May 2012
