



NEWSLETTER - March 2019

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"A Little Bear Will Fix It"

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Amazing ALBANY



The Gap - Albany



Desert Mounted Corps Memorial

What The Prez Sez

Well, it is now only seven months until our reunion. Those of you who are attending the Albany reunion should by now have made your accommodation and travel bookings.

I am very pleased to announce that our request for "Freedom Of Entry" to the City of Albany has graciously been granted to us. The City of Albany has gone out of it's way to making this an event to be remembered not only by our members, but by the wider community of Albany itself.

On behalf of all association members, I would like to express our most sincere gratitude and appreciation to the people of Albany and in particular, the Mayor, Mr Dennis Wellington and his amazing staff for all of their work and commitments toward making our reunion a success and one to remember.

In appreciation of their efforts, our association will be presenting, to the City of Albany, a book titled "Vietnam Remembered", a book in which all of our names appear. I would like to ask that each and every veteran attending the Albany reunion, sign this book which we will have available at our "Meet and Greet" function. We will present this token of appreciation at our Thursday evening function. We are hopeful that the Mayor or a representative will be attending our dinner.

It's looking good folks.

George

REGISTRATION FEE

*The **registration fee** for this reunion is **\$175.00** per head. The actual **value** for the whole of the reunion is \$297.00. So this reunion is great value for money.*

*For those attending the reunion, I request that you pay your registration fee directly into our account at the Commonwealth Bank. Please add **your name** and "**Reg Fee**" to the deposit slip. You can use the on-line transfer facility if you have one or you can transfer the funds directly from your account at your own local bank. I would appreciate it if you paid directly from your bank rather than using a cheque.*

Details are:

BSB: 066000

ACCT #: 10100303

ACCT NAME: 17 Const Sqdn Wksp Vietnam Association.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR PAYMENT BY 1 MAY 2019

***** REMINDER *****

***T**here are a number of members who indicated their "expression of interest" in attending our Albany reunion but as yet have not registered. If you are attending the reunion please let me know ASAP as I am in the final stages of commitment for our functions.*

If I have not heard from you by the 30th of April 2019, it will be too late to register.

Snow

VALE

***I**t is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of the following members.*

ALLAN PULI:

We received news from Dave Bullo that Allan Puli passed away in January 2019 after a long illness with kidney and lung problems. Allan was a National Serviceman who served with our Ordnance cell from 1 December 1968 'til 3 December 1969. Our most sincere condolences to the Puli family.

Lest We Forget

MICHAEL BIKOFF:

The association received details from Mick Bikoff's daughter Carey informing us that Mick passed away on the 24th February 2019. Mick had been living with his son Darryl and family in Menangle NSW. Mick was a regular soldier who served with the workshop between the 12th May 1967 and 12 March 1968. Our deepest sympathy to the Bikoff family.

Lest We Forget



REUNION MERCHANDISE

Once again we will have reunion memorabilia/merchandise available for members to purchase.

The cost for each item is:

Reunion Shirt: \$53:00 These are the same quality as we had for our Sunshine Coast reunion. The shirt is a very similar design and quality as that of the 2017 reunion without the large RAEME badge on the back.

Please note that if we receive less than 20 shirt orders the price will be \$58:00 per item.

Reunion Hat: \$30:00 These are the same style as we had for the Sunshine Coast.

To place your order, please click on the following link or use the sheet attached to the last page of this newsletter.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSerBQAfmIrBOiFE50mXi5H8Bcl7aLNA652dczNpKwwBoI3UsQ/viewform>

If you have a problem opening the link - copy the link and paste it into your browser.

To pay for the items use the same deposit details as per page 2. If you are paying both your registration and merchandise. Insert your name and use the wording "Reg Fee and Merch".

Snow



DVA ONLINE SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH MYGOV**The Hon Darren Chester MP**

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Minister for Defence Personnel

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC

10 August 2018

VETERANS and their families will join millions of Australians transacting with government online through myGov. As part of its program to modernise and streamline services, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), in partnership with the Department of Human Services has made it simpler for clients to do their online transactions with government by linking all of their DVA online services with myGov.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said this change allows veterans and their families to access DVA services in the same place they access Medicare, the Australian Taxation Office, Centrelink and other government services.

"This initiative is about understanding that veterans and their families will be doing business with more than one government department online. They can currently access multiple government online services through myGov and now they can also make claims with DVA through this 'one stop shop'," Mr Chester said.

"This change will mean that DVA clients utilising the online services MyService and MyAccount will need a myGov account. Veterans and their families wanting to access face-to-face services will still be able to visit DVA's Veterans Access Networks around Australia. Registering with myGov enables clients to use one username and password to access all their government online services, including DVA."

Over the next 12-18 months as part of the ongoing DVA transformation program, services available through MyAccount will transition to MyService, which has been co-designed with ex-service organisations, veterans and their families.

Minister for Human Services Michael Keenan said there were more than 12 million myGov accounts, with Australians accessing the platform hundreds of thousands of times every day.

"Many veterans will already be familiar with myGov through their dealings with the ATO or Medicare and I am confident that those who are new to the system will also find it simple and easy to use," Mr Keenan said.

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) can be reached 24 hours a day across Australia for support and free and confidential counselling. Phone 1800 011 046 (international: +61 8 8241 4546). VVCS is a service founded by Vietnam veterans.

Instructions on how to register for myGov are available through the myGov website (my.gov.au). Details on how to register for MyService are available at www.dva.gov.au/MyService.

Using MyService, current and former ADF members and their families can:

- register as a client;
- lodge a claim for compensation;
- access free mental health treatment;
- apply for an increase in their disability pension;
- view an electronic copy of their DVA Health Card and accepted conditions;
- submit claims for Education Allowance through the Education Schemes;
- inform DVA of their change of personal details, and
- track the claims that they make online.

ENDS

MEDIA CONTACTS: Whil Prendergast: 02 6277 7820

DVA Media: 02 6289 6466

Office of the Hon. Darren Chester, Canberra ACT.

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ALBANY 2019 MERCHANDISE ORDER

Please order the following items for me:

NAME: _____

POLO SHIRT	SIZE:	Qty
	Small	_____
	Medium	_____
	Large	_____
	XL	_____
	XXL	_____
	3XL	_____

HAT:	SIZE:	Qty
HAT SIZE:	Small	_____
	Medium	_____
	Large	_____

Please return this Purchase Order to the Secretary/Treasure at:

email: 17wksp@gmail.com

OR

by snail mail at

**33 Kanimbla Way
Morley WA
6062**

PLEASE NOTE: All orders must be with the Sec/Treas no later than

1 May 2019