



NEWSLETTER - May 2015 Edition

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BENDIGO - THE RUSH IS ON

What The Prez Sez

Welcome to the April 2015 Newsletter. We are now only six months away from our reunion. I am extremely pleased with the way things have fallen into place and looking at our numbers, we are really in for one great reunion.

I'm sure most members would have been involved in the ANZAC Centenary commemorations in one way or another; we had a huge attendance here in Bendigo, lots of hard work but very rewarding for those involved. With ANZAC Day out of the way it's time to get back into the Reunion, Snow has done a good job in this newsletter of outlining agendas of where we are going and the events/functions we have lined up, we are now at the stage of double checking bookings and transport arrangements, all in all everything is starting to come together nicely.

It's nice to see the numbers we have coming to Bendigo, I have noticed a couple of new names on the list and I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone.

Keep well

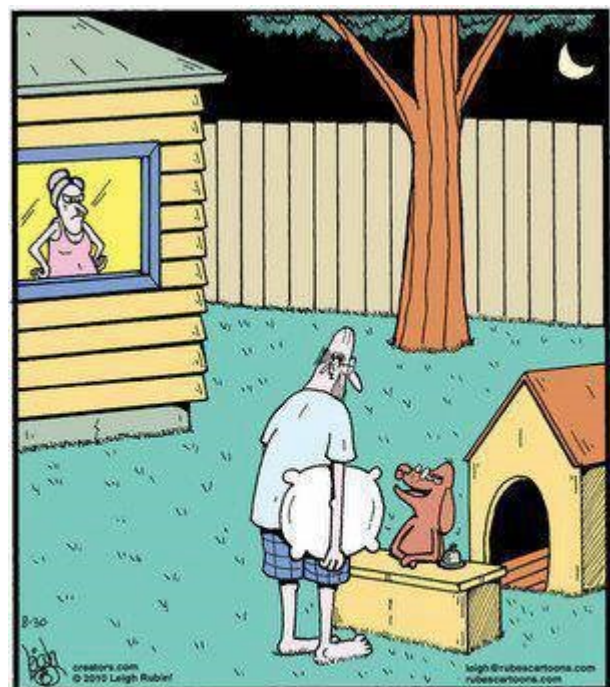
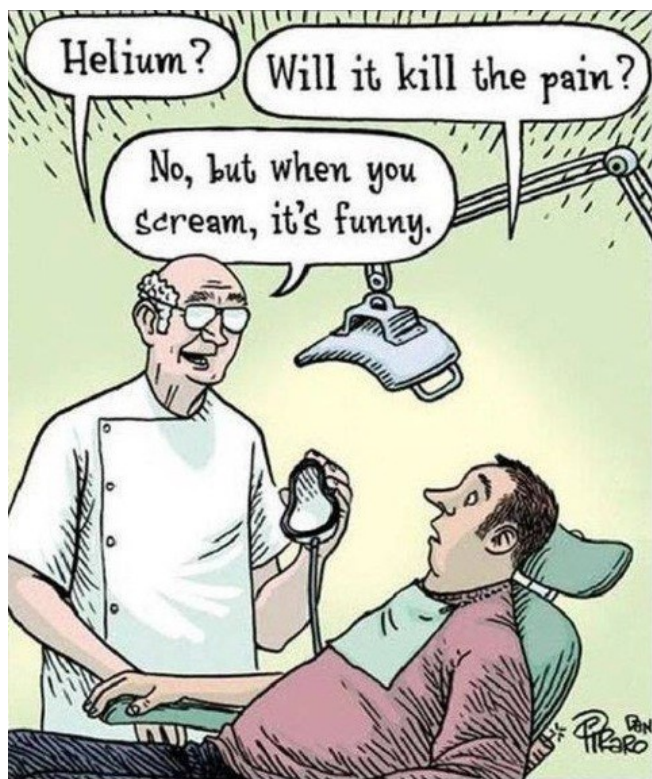
Cliff and Trish Richards

Our Sponsors

Our reunion is looking really good and our costs per head have been kept down due to a number of sponsors putting up their hands to assist us in making this event a very successful one. On behalf of our members, I would like to acknowledge the following who have donated financially to our Bendigo Reunion.

George Jones, The Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch, The Bendigo Vietnam Veterans Association, Wood Brothers MAZDA (Mr Frank Dann), Nanzo Valuri Mechanical Repairs, Centerline Markings (Mr Paul Grogan) and Roger Herrod.

Thank You.



Think About The 2017 Reunion

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to consider where you want to go for the 2017 reunion. To date we have had reunions at the following places. Canberra, Launceston, Perth, Sydney, Brisbane, Darwin, Alice Springs, A Boat Cruise, Clare and now Bendigo.

It has been suggested that Queensland Central Coast (Rockhampton or Mackay) could be considered. Have a think, talk to your mates and put a plan together. But please bear in mind that we need somebody who resides in the area for organizational purposes.

BENDIGO Reunion

We have had an overwhelming response to our 2015 Bendigo Reunion with 165 members and partners registering to attend.

The increase in numbers has posed some thought provoking for the organising committee, but an agenda has now been settled and we are extremely confident that the Bendigo Reunion will be a very pleasant event indeed.

For the first time, at the request of the members, we will be holding the reunion during the week, giving us a five day schedule rather than three. This factor alone has created an increase in costs, however, with a number of sponsors putting their hands into their pockets, we have been successful in keeping the cost to members to a very reasonable \$165.00 per head.

The reunion itself has entertainment, a bus trip to Seymour to visit the Vietnam Memorial Wall, ladies tram tour of Bendigo, as well as a tour of Bendigo Pottery. All in all, this is a reunion not to be missed.

Mixed in with our social events, we have a parade, wreath laying and service in the City of Greater Bendigo.

*Upon arriving at your Bendigo Accommodation, you will receive an official detailed agenda with timings etc. for all of our events and activities. If you are not booked into the **Big 4 Ascot Holiday Park, Langley Hall** or the **Allara Motor Lodge** you will need to contact Snowy Whykes when you arrive on Monday morning for our orientation at the **Big 4 Ascot Holiday Park**.*

Although there are a lot of functions and events, there is still a good amount of free time.

If you have made your own accommodation arrangements you will need to contact Snow before the commencement of the reunion.

THE REUNION AGENDA

Monday 19th October

Registration, Morning Tea and BBQ Lunch at Big 4 Ascot Holiday Park.

Evening meal at RSL Entertainment Complex.

Tuesday 20th October

Morning - Unit Parade and wreath Laying Ceremony at the Soldiers Memorial Pall Mall. Medals to be worn.

Light Luncheon at RSL Entertainment Complex followed by a Battle of Fromelles presentation by George Jones.

The evening is FREE. You may wish to organise dinner somewhere with your mates.

Wednesday 21st October

Morning - Ladies Tram Tour of Bendigo including morning tea.

Men will have Morning Tea at the Vietnam Vets Sheds at the Bendigo RSL followed by our General Meeting.

Ladies and Men will then have lunch at the Chinese Museum.

The evening is our Formal Dinner at RSL Entertainment Complex.

Thursday 22nd October

Day trip to Seymour and visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Walk.

Evening is FREE. It is suggested that you contact your mates and organise your evening meal.

Friday 23rd October

Visit to Bendigo Pottery with light lunch.

*Evening BBQ and reunion wind up at **Big 4 Ascot Holiday Park**.*

REGISTRATION FEES

*As previously mentioned, the Reunion Registration Fee is **\$165.00 per head.***

This has been greatly reduced from an estimated \$253.00 by the generous donations of our sponsors.

PAYMENT

To pay your registration, you can pay via direct debit OR if you do not have internet access, please pay directly into our Common-

wealth Bank account. Our account details are as follows:

Bank: Commonwealth

BSB: 066 000

Acct Number: 10100303

Acct Name: 17 Const Sqn Wksp Vietnam Assoc.

***** Please make sure that your NAME is included on the transaction so we know who has made the payment.**

Cap or Floppy Hat ????

*Do you want a Reunion **Cap** or a **Floppy Hat**?? Please inform Snow if you require an Association Reunion cap or a floppy hat. Go to the last page of this newsletter for details.*

*Some people have asked if they can get both. The answer is YES you can. The cost of any extra cap or hat is **\$10.00** per extra unit. Include any extras in your order. Eg. 2 Caps 1 Floppy.*

Reunion Polo Shirt



Once again we have arranged to have a reunion Polo Shirt on sale for members who require them.

*Please note that this year the shirts do have a monogrammed pocket. The price for a shirt is **\$25.00** per unit. Once again, please go to the last page of the newsletter to place your order.*

I have already received a number of orders, please do not reorder unless you require extra shirts.

VALE - Felicity Kolek

It is with the deepest regret that we inform you of the passing of Felicity Kolek. Felicity, wife of stalwart member Henry, passes away suddenly on Christmas Day 2014.

Felicity was a happy go lucky lady who enjoyed attending our reunions with Henry and will be sadly missed by Association members.

To Henry and family, our most sincere condolences from the members and partners of 17 Construction Squadron Workshop Vietnam Association.



Rest In Peace

Sick Parade

We have received news from Bob Callinan that Ray "Macca" McDougall is not travelling too well. Macca has been moved into care in Newcastle. We wish Macca and his family well and hope that he is being well looked after.

At Ease

It's not unusual to experience sadness, distress or anger after deployment. At Ease can help veterans, ADF personnel, and family members identify the symptoms of not coping. When you need to reach out, seek treatment or identify effective ways to move forward, At Ease can provide tips, treatment options & resources. At Ease also has clinical resources for health professionals who may be treating members of the veteran & defence community.

The Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) provides free and confidential, nation-wide counselling and support for war and service-related mental health conditions, such as posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, sleep disturbance and anger. Support is also available for relationship and family matters that can arise due to the unique nature of military service.

To confirm your eligibility please call VVCS on 1800 011 046.



VIETNAM VETERANS' FEDERATION

8 Mary Street Granville PO Box 170 GRANVILLE NSW 2142,

Phone (02) 9682 1788 Fax (02) 9682 6134

Incorporating

Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Association NSW Branch

Vietnam Veterans Federation Queensland Branch

Vietnam Veterans Federation ACT Branch

Vietnam Veterans Federation Victorian Branch

Vietnam Veterans Federation South Australian Branch

Vietnam Peacekeepers Peacemakers Federation of Tasmania

Vietnam Veterans, Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Federation of Australia WA Branch

14 January 2014

Dear State and Sub-branch Presidents

A Link Between Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Alzheimer-type dementia

As we know, lots of war veterans have or will develop Posttraumatic Stress Disorder.

Evidence has been mounting that there could be a link with Alzheimer-type dementia.

This is important, because if there is, GPs should be made aware of it and be on the lookout for early symptoms.

Also any link should be recognised by the Department of Veterans Affairs for compensation and treatment purposes.

So in September 2012, the Vietnam Veterans Federation presented the evidence it had gathered, and asked the Repatriation Medical Authority to investigate.

This the Repatriation Medical Authority did, resulting in a new factor being inserted into the Alzheimer Statement of Principles.

That factor recognises the link. In summary it states;

The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, the Statement of Principles concerning Alzheimer-type dementia Instrument No. 22 of 2010, by:

Inserting the additional factor:

Having posttraumatic stress disorder at least five years before the clinical onset of Alzheimer-type dementia.

(see the Statement of Principle itself for the exact wording)

Yours sincerely,

Tim McCombe

National President

Copies to: VVAA, RSL, RAR Association, APPVA, AVDSC, DFWA, SAS Association, Soldier On.

It is not too late to attend the reunion. However, the Caravan Park is FULL. Please click on the following link and follow the instructions. (if it does not open, cut and paste into your browser). Link details:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1r454KYPHST8qECBoKU8KmrCaAoGovz8TLc2Kb3A4F2k/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

OR

Contact Snow on 0892761920 or 0411810077 IMMEDIATELY

***** Please Note *****

You need to reply NOW - URGENTLY

Those Who Are Attending

Tres	Adams	Shorty	Ellis	Bruce	Nunn
Brian	Bailey	John	Farmelo	Allan	Orchard
Ian	Betteridge	John	Fenton	Kevin	Pearce
Peter	Bevilacqua	Steve	Finetti	Brian	Pope
Adrian	Blackburn	Ruffy	Fleiner	Pratty	Pratt
Jeff	Blythman	Vic	Fratus	Allan	Puli
Wally	Bohlmann	Danny	Garlin	Jack	Reeves
Rick	Bowley	Lance	Gillespie	Cliff	Richards
Stewy	Brett	Les	Hall	Graeme	Richter
Kevin	Brosnan	Lofty	Herrod	Robo	Robinson
Rod	Brown	Tom	Hurford	Kerry	Ryan
Bob	Callinan	Peter	Ingrey	Bob	Shewring
Eric	Campbell	Jenko	Jenkinson	Don	Sims
Greg	Carson	George	Jones	Andrew	Smithett
Brian	Coates	Phillip	Jones	Ray	Spackman
Bob	Cook	Roger	Keegan	Kevin	Stuart
Chalkie	Chalk	Dave	Kelly	Alan	Thornton
Chappo	Chapman	Henry	Kolek	Noel	Tucker
Chatty	Chattin	Keith	Lawry	Rob	Vear
Frank	Clayton	Bob	Lee	Philip	Vitale
Ian	Craft	Derro	Lennox	Sandra	Walker
Mal	Crawford	John	Lewin	Bazza	Warn
Ryan	Critchlow	Dave	Lindeman	Geoff	Weston
Mike	Culley	Steve	Lowe	Snow	Whykes
Denis	Cush	Wes	Lugowski	Geoff	Williams
Bill	Dallas	Lynch	Lynch	Gordon	Young
Daisy	Day	Steve	MacFarlane	Tony	Zammit
Gerald	Detmar	Doggie	Martin		
Dunny	Dunn	Macca	McDonald		

Just So Nasho's Can UNDERstand

Dumb civilian, I said to myself, but openly I said, "The system is really quite simple."

You see, all people in the Army are soldiers, all privates are soldiers, but not all soldiers are privates. Some are officers who are commissioned, but some are officers who are not commissioned. Obviously if every private was called private it would be confusing, so some privates are called things like trooper, driver, gunner, craftsmen, sapper or signaller. Not all of the drivers actually drive because some of them cook, but we don't call them cooks, for that matter, not all drivers are called drivers – some of them are privates or gunners. Gunners as I'm sure you know are the blokes that fire guns, unless of course they are drivers or signallers in which case we call them gunners rather than drivers or signallers just to make it clearer. All gunners belong to the artillery, except that in the infantry we have gunners who are called privates because they fire a different sort of gun, for the same reason we call our drivers and signallers private as well.

A Lance Corporal is called Corporal, unless he is a Lance Bombardier then we call him Lance Bombardier to distinguish him from a full Bombardier, who is just like a Corporal. All other ranks are called by their rank for the sake of simplicity except that Staff Sergeants are called Staff, but they are not on the staff, some Warrant Officers, who are not officers, are called Sergeant Major although they are not Sergeants or Majors. Some Warrant Officers are called Mister which is the same thing that we call some officers but they are not Warrant Officers. A Lieutenant is also called Mister because they are subalterns, but we always write their rank as Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant, and second comes before first.

When we talk about groups of soldiers there obviously has to be clear distinction. We call them Officers and Soldiers although we know that officers are soldiers too, sometimes we talk about officers and other ranks which is the same as calling them soldiers. I guess it is easiest when we talk about rank and file which is all the troops on parade except the officers and some of the NCOs - - and a few of the privates – and the term is used whether everyone is on parade or not.

A large unit is called a battalion, unless it is a regiment but sometimes a regiment is much bigger than a battalion and then it has nothing to do with the other sort of regiment. Sub units are called companies unless they are squadrons or troops or batteries for that matter. That is not radio batteries and don't confuse this type of troop with the type who are soldiers but not officers.

Mostly the Army is divided into Corps as well as units, not the sort of Corps which is a couple of divisions but the sort which tells you straight away what trade each man performs, whether he is a tradesman or not. The Infantry Corps has all the infantrymen for example and the Artillery Corps has all the gunners. Both these Corps also have signallers and drivers except those who are in the Signals or Transport Corps. In fact the Signals Corps is not a service at all because it is an Arm. Arms do all the fighting, although Signals don't have to fight too much, rather like the Engineers who are also an Arm but they don't fight too much either

So you see, it's really quite simple

REUNION Merchandise Questionnaire

We will once again have available a reunion Polo Shirt. This year we intend to have a pocket which will include the reunion details and will be similar to the Clare Polo Shirt. It is anticipated that the shirt will be in the range of \$20.00 - \$25.00 each.

If you are attending the reunion would you prefer a Cap or a Floppy Hat.

You can place your order by clicking (or cutting and pasting) on the following link

<http://goo.gl/forms/7ZKPIBlsrf> **NOTE - You can TRUST this site**

OR

Fill in the details below and post it to the Secretary/Treasurer **NO LATER THAN 31st May 2015**

SURNAME: _____

GIVEN NAME: _____

Would you prefer a floppy hat or a cap Cap

☐

Floppy Hat

☐

I would like to purchase a Bendigo Reunion Polo Shirt(s)

	Size	Qty
Small	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Medium	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Large	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
XL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2XL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3XL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4XL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>