



17 Construction Squadron Workshop Vietnam Association



THE FURPHY WAGON NEWSLETTER - October 2020

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A Little Bear Will Fix

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Port Macquarie Beaches and Waterways



LEFT

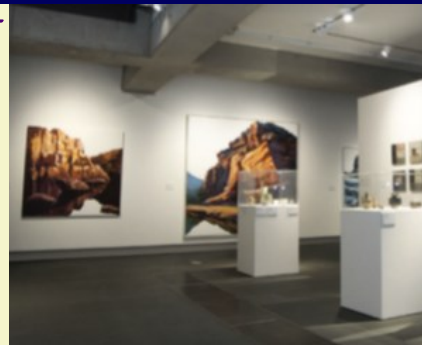
Crystalline Pottery
Address:
60 Jolly Nose Drive,
Bonny Hills

Phone:
02 6585 4035

Right

Glasshouse
Regional Gallery
Address:
Corner of Clarence
and Hay Streets

Phone:
02 6581 5888



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What The Prez Sez

I hope that all goes well with you and your families, with no contact with this Covid19 virus that has caused a lot of dishevel around the World.

With this in mind we are going ahead with the organising of the 2021 reunion in Port Macquarie, and will see how things are going by next MAY. This will give us time to assess the situation and make a decision to go ahead or cancel. Let's hope that things are better by then, and if we have to put it off until 2022, so be it.



What have you all been doing during your extended time in lockdown? Bunnings is doing a roaring trade, I have trouble finding a parking space whenever I go there, which is quite often of late. (Wear a mask)

I must be getting madder as I get older, one of my Covid19 projects was to replace the carpet and lay a parquet floor. 7500 wooden tiles - must be mad.

Keep Well

Peter

It is an old joke two dogs.

Veteran Benefits Australia



At Veteran Benefits Australia our goal is to connect Australian DVA card holders with the benefits they are entitled to. We understand that it's hard to find what benefits your DVA card entitles you to. So we decided to make an easy directory to help find the Australian businesses that provide these entitlements, exactly where to find them and how to claim.

Visiting this site is very well worth the effort - Snow

To Find Out More Info!

Click ►

<https://veteranbenefitsaustralia.com/>

Veteran Benefits Australia Cont.

G'day Veterans,

This month we have 2 featured services that are both fully funded for Gold and eligible White card holders. Both have got extremely good feedback from veterans currently participating.

1) Exercise Programs

Exercise physiologists are ready help our Aussie veterans get back on track with their fitness goals and injury repair.


DVA Gold and eligible White Card Holders can receive exercise programs fully funded to help them get back to feeling great.

Programs are designed by a professional to fit your specific needs and abilities.

They tackle:

- ✓ Chronic disease
- ✓ Mobility and strength
- ✓ Weight management
- ✓ Injuries
- ✓ Diabetes
- ✓ And much more!

Available across the country

 FREE for DVA Gold and eligible White Card Holders

To join simply click the button below and fill out the short form and one of our friendly team will contact you in the next 48 hours with more information and how to get started.

[Click Here To Register For Free Exercise Programs](#)

2) Occupational Therapist Consultation (via Telehealth)

How can an Occupational Therapist help you?

An Occupational Therapist (OT) can now perform assessments over the phone and help you find out what services or aids equipment you may be eligible for. An occupational therapist consultation is fully funded for DVA Gold and eligible White card holders and if services or aids equipment are recommended by the OT then these are often fully funded.

Veteran Benefits Australia Cont.

An OT can complete a number of assessments over the phone to check eligibility for fully funded services or aids equipment including

✓ AIDS Equipment such as

- ☐ Recliner Chair
- ☐ Mobility Scooter
- ☐ Daily essential items
- ☐ More!

✓ Fully Funded Services

- ☐ Home Cleaning
- ☐ Gardening
- ☐ General Household and Health Services

Available across the country

📄 FREE for DVA Gold and eligible White Card Holders

To get your free consultation simply click the button below and fill out the short form and one of our friendly team will contact you in the next 48 hours with more information and how to get started.

[Click Here To Register For Free Occupational Therapist Services](#)

Fully Funded Online Program for Current and Former Australian Defence Force

As veterans we are trained for war, but we are not trained to come home.

Physically we may look fine, but inside things have changed - anger, anxiety, depressive thoughts, and of course PTSD may be playing a role.

But there is away to adapt and overcome these adversities, and not just survive, but thrive!

Created and developed by Dane Christison, a veteran of the Australian Defence Force, Survive to Thrive Nation is a fully-funded online coaching program with 24hr access to peer support for current and former service personnel looking to regain control of their lives.

- ◆ Take control of your mental health
- ◆ Complete Program in Comfort of Own Home
- ◆ Get 24hr Access to Peer Support, Mentoring, & Mateship

Learn more about how this incredible program is building resilience and changing lives.

[Click Here To Register Your Interest!](#)

TPI Exemption Exercise Physiology and Physiotherapy

I have finally received confirmation from DVA on the TPI Exemption for the Exercise Physiologists (EP) and physiotherapy. DVA has recommended that the following be forwarded to your members and placed on your websites, Facebook pages and in your magazines.

"As announced on 24 April 2019, the Australian Government has committed to exempting veterans who receive the Totally and Permanently Disabled (TPI) pension from the treatment cycle for exercise physiology (EP) and physiotherapy services. Other allied health services accessed by TPI veterans will be subject to the treatment cycle arrangements.

The treatment cycle will commence on 1 July 2019 (with the exemption for TPI veterans for EP and physiotherapy services).

TPI veterans can advise their EP and physiotherapy providers that the treatment cycle does not apply and service provision can continue as usual.

The Department will be sending letters to clients, GPs and allied health providers in the coming weeks. Treatment cycle information will also feature in DVA communications, e-news and the Provider news."

Thank you

Pat McCabe OAM

World Use?

A market researcher calls at a house and his call was answered by a young woman with three small children running around her.

He asked her if she minded replying to his questions and she agreed. He asked her if she knew his company - Cheeseborough-Ponds. When she said no, he mentioned that among their many products was Vaseline and she certainly knew of that product.

**When asked if she used it, the answer was "Yes."
Asked how she used it, she said, "To assist sexual intercourse."**

The interviewer was amazed. He said, "I always ask that question because everyone uses our product and they always say they use it for the child's bicycle chain, or the gate hinge; but I know that most use it for sexual intercourse.

**Since you've been so frank, could you tell me exactly how you use it?"
"Yes, we put it on the doorknob to keep the kids out."**



PBS Safety Net threshold lowered – 1 January 2020

From 1 January 2020 the PBS Safety Net thresholds have been lowered:

from \$390.00 to \$316.80 for concessional patients

from \$1550.70 to \$1486.80 for general patients.

As a result of these changes concessional patients/families require 12 fewer PBS scripts filled each year in order to reach the safety net. For more information on the Safety Net and the lower thresholds, visit the [Department of Human Services](#) website.

Pharmacists will need to apply the lower threshold amounts when issuing Safety Net entitlement or concession cards. Pharmacists can access information on the Safety Net at the Department of Human Services [PBS Safety Net for pharmacists](#) website.

What are the current patient fees and charges?

Patient co-payments

The co-payment is the amount you pay towards the cost of your PBS subsidised medicine. Many PBS medicines cost significantly more than the co-payment amount.

From 1 January 2020, you may pay up to \$41.00 for most PBS medicines or \$6.60 if you have a concession card. The Australian Government pays the remaining cost.

Since 1 January 2016, pharmacists may choose to discount the PBS patient co-payment by up to \$1.00. This is not mandatory and it is the pharmacist's choice whether or not to provide a discount. The option to discount the co-payment does not apply for prescriptions which are an early supply of a specified medicine.

The amount of co-payment is adjusted on 1 January each year in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Thank you

Pat McCabe OAM

President

Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen & Women Ltd

www.tpifed.org.au

0417 291 546

Disabled in our Service - United in our Cause

Planning Ahead

Commemoration Planning

Good afternoon members

The following information has been provided by Paul Nothard, AM, CSC, CSM (Director, Office Of War Graves) that may be of interest. It is in all members best interest to have clear instructions left with NOK. DVA can provide a Planning Ahead booklet to assist in this regard. Please also ensure your NOK information is recorded correctly at State Office. Below is a precis of the information received from the Office of War Graves.

- **Eligibility for Official Commemoration:** A veteran must have "qualifying service" to be eligible for an official commemoration. It's important to note that OAWG / CWGC only commemorate war service. We are not able to recognise all types of service through official commemoration.
- **Qualifying service** includes "war" service or "non-warlike" service (ie/ peacekeeping, truce monitoring etc). Information on our web page identifies that the following service is not viewed as qualifying service:

Peacetime Defence Service (MRCA and Part VI VEA)

Defence Hazardous Service (Part IV VEA)

British Nuclear Test Defence Service (Part IV VEA)

Peacekeeping service by a person other than a member of the ADF (Part IV VEA)

Service with other nations' forces other than as a member of the ADF (regardless of any eligibility for Australian Repatriation Benefits)

- For those that meet the eligibility criteria (for example a TPI recipient who has the requisite qualifying service), then regardless of the cause or date of death, they will be eligible for an official commemoration.
- **Use of Service Badges.** Defence have only provided OAWG with authority to provide permission to use the three service badges on private commemorations. Use of all others must be applied for through the respective Brand Manager (for Army, RAN or RAAF) or to the ADF Brand Manager for those seeking permission to use the ADF logo.
- **Planning Ahead.** Speaking to our families and leaving behind clear instructions on the veteran's wishes regarding burial and official commemoration wording

Unfortunately, the system that we work within requires the process for acceptance of an official commemoration to be triggered by the DVA Bereavement Team following the passing of the veteran.

Sending out blank forms has caused problems in the past, where veterans who are not eligible for official commemoration have filled them out and provided them to their families, who are then subsequently devastated to find out that the veterans wishes can't be met.

While we can't send out an incomplete form, Veterans can go on line into MyAccount and select "Commemoration Planning" from menu and mark their preferences there. As a side note, DVA is looking to shift this function across to "MyService" in the future.

The Qld TPI website has the "Planning Ahead" document on its website (<https://www.dva.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/publications/health/Planning Ahead/kitp00063.pdf> If you open to a blue screen scroll down to the document) and a navigation guide for the "Commemoration Planning" page can be found at <https://connect.dva.gov.au/resources/prototype/mydetails/commemoration-preference.html> . Note that you will need to log in to mark your preferences.

Could you please pass on this email to others who may be interested, with my compliments.

Kind regards,

Chris Richards

State President

Beryl Murray

Office Manager

Qld TPI

GOOD ENGINEERING

Citroen's WW II Sabotage

You're likely unaware that this year is the 100th anniversary of Citroën.

While doing some research I have happened to stumble upon a fascinating bit of wartime Citroën lore. It involves screwing with Nazis in a genuinely clever and subtle way that nevertheless had big repercussions. I'll explain.

So, when France was occupied by the Germans in 1940, major French factories like Citroën were forced to produce equipment for the Nazis. Citroën president Pierre-Jules Boulanger knew he couldn't just refuse to produce anything, but he also knew there's no way in hell he's going to just roll over and build trucks for a bunch of filthy Nazis. [Pierre had a plan.](#)

[John Reynold's book Citroën p2CV](#) describes Boulanger's sabotage efforts. Of course, he instructed workers to set a nice, leisurely pace when building trucks (likely Citroën T45 trucks) for the Wehrmacht, but that's fairly obvious. What was brilliant was Boulanger's idea to move the little notch on the trucks' oil dipsticks that indicated the proper level of oil down just a bit lower.

By moving the notch down, the trucks would not have enough oil, but German mechanics would have no idea, because, hey, the little notch on the dipstick says its just fine. Then, after the truck has been used for a while and is out deployed somewhere crucial, whammo, the engine seizes up, and you've got a lot of angry, stranded, vulnerable Nazis, balling up their little fists and madly barking curses in German.

It's such a fantastic act of sabotage: it's extremely cheap to implement, it's subtle, there's no way to see something amiss is happening as the trucks are being built, and it delivers its blow away from the site of the sabotage and when it will cause the most inconvenience and trouble.

That's some mighty good sabotaging, Pierre.

Happy 100th Anniversary, Citroën. The Free World thanks you.

QUOTE

"Just think - if it weren't for marriage, men would go through life thinking they had no faults at all". Anon

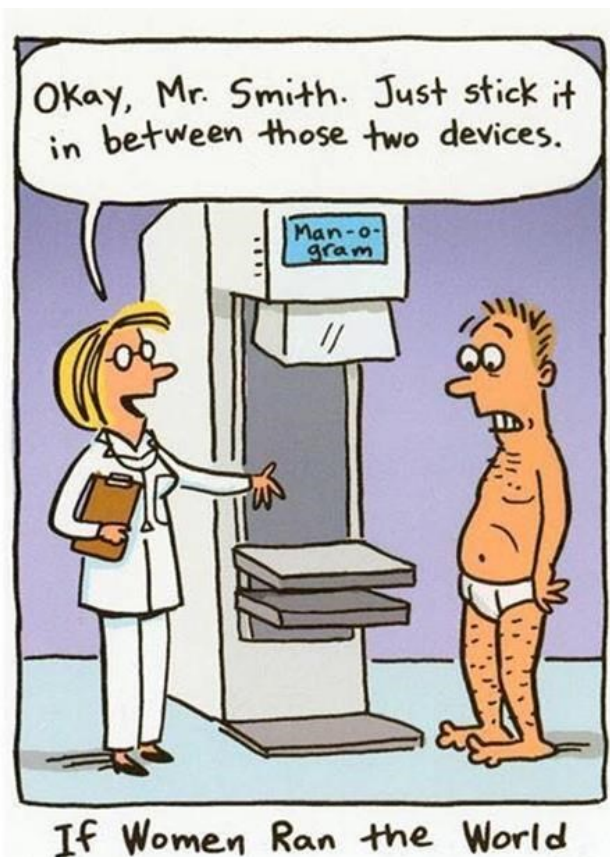


DID YOU KNOW?

IN 2007, SCOTLAND SPENT SIX MONTHS OF RESEARCH AND \$162,972 TO CREATE A NEW SLOGAN THAT WOULD BOOST TOURISM. THEY CAME UP WITH "WELCOME TO SCOTLAND."

NEVER BE AFRAID TO TRY SOMETHING NEW. REMEMBER, AMATEURS BUILT THE ARK; PROFESSIONALS BUILT THE TITANIC.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BIG SISTER AND A BIG BROTHER...



If Women Ran the World