



Veterans Support & Advocacy Service Australia (Inc.) - Warwick Auspice 'MONTHLY NEWSLETTER'



Vol: 2/18

"We are now on Facebook – Look us up"

FEBRUARY 2018

President's Report:

On the 1st December 2017, we had an excellent General Meeting attendance, with members taking home the new proposed name and constitution to pursue over the holidays. During the break we also had 'Maxi Kleen Carpets' come into the Centre and thoroughly clean our carpets. We also extend our best wishes for Carol and Kevin Hughes, as they have announced their retirement and closing the business.

Our Christmas Party was a massive success, with sixty-four members, wives/partners and guests, attending for an excellent meal, organized at the Warwick RSL Memorial Club by Events Manager, Lisa Forde. The following day, Friday, was our last meeting for 2017 and we welcomed and reopened the new year, on Friday the 12th January 2018.

A Special General Meeting was held on the 19th January 2018, to vote on the acceptance or rejection, of the new association name, the new constitution, the commencing date and the annual subscription fees. After some long debates and at times clashes of personalities, the majority of the financial members in attendance passed all four items.

We will as from the 1st July 2018, become the 'Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated' or short title, 'SDESA Qld Inc' with the constitution that was distributed to all financial members on the 1st December 2017 and our annual subscription fees will stay the same at twenty-five dollars per annum.

There was only one alteration to the new constitution at this point, that being Rule: 22 (b).
* Please remove "approved by the executive committee" and change to "registered by the chief executive", (chief executive means the officer in the Government Department).

We have had to cancel our proposed 'Southern Downs Steam Train Trip' to Stanthorpe and Wallangarra in March, as advertised in the last issue of the newsletter. It seems that we have clashed with many other functions that are happening throughout the area, including the 'Warwick Show' 24th & 25th March 2018. We will endeavour to arrange another outing during the year.

We hope over the coming months, to have new signage erected advertising our new name and there will be some changes in and around the Drop-In-Centre area. There is a fair list of items to be dealt with during the changeover period, however it **will not affect** the running of the association in any way, we will still be '**Open**' each '**Wednesday and Friday**' as usual and there will always be a cuppa available for visitors and guests. We are hoping for an ex gratia payment from VSASA Inc, as promised to assist with the changeover expenses and we thank VSASA Inc, for their support.

On the 17th February from 1100hrs to 1400hrs, members of 17ACC are visiting the Centre for a BBQ luncheon. Any member available to assist and talk with these young Army Cadets, will be most welcome.

your mate,
Ken Ashton

In Loving Memory

On behalf of the management committee and members, we wish to express our sincere condolence to our member Greg Linnett and family, on the passing of his beloved wife, Elaine Patricia Linnett, on the 3rd January 2018

Board of Management 2018

Board of Management Executive:

President: Ken Ashton 0417.623.722
Vice/Pres: Margaret Trahair 0422.361.551
Secretary: Barry E. Kelly 0417.740.282
Ass/Sec: Kevin Stow 0448.699.183
Treasurer: Rod Brittain 0407.020.267
Ass/Treas: Eddie Marshall 0458.573.876

Board of Management Committee:

Peter Ashton 0438.802.366
Ray Wingett 07.4661 3508
Alan Doust 0428.241.413
Kevin Stow 0448.699.183
Lee Wells 0450.375.712
Steve Kelly 0412.000.214
Eddie Marshall 0458.573.876

Appointments 2018

Patron: Hon. David Littleproud. MP
Federal Member for Maranoa

Patron: Mayor Cr. Mrs. Tracy Dobie
Southern Downs Regional Council

Auditor: Mr Jeff Hannaford
Jeff Hannaford Pty Ltd.

Raffles: Paul Guy 0429.011.166
Centre Mowing: Ray Wingett 07.4661 3508
Memorabilia: Barry E. Kelly 0417.740.282
Newsletter Ed: Barry E. Kelly 0417.740.282
Funeral Officer: John Skinner 0427.612.087
Chaplain: Rev. Kevin Stow 0448.699.183
Solicitors: Alex Gudkovs 07.4661.2766

Veterans' Support and Advocacy

Service Australia Inc.

Warwick Branch

1 Tooth Street, Warwick Qld 4370
(Or)

PO Box 631, Warwick Qld 4370

Phone: Office - 4661 5099

BANK: Warwick Credit Union
BSB: 817-001.

ACCOUNT NO: 400305133

CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2018

Fri 2nd 9.00 am Drop - In Centre

Wed 7th 9.00 am - 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Fri 9th 9.00 am Drop - In Centre & **'Committee'**

Wed 14th 9.00 am - 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Wed 14th 6.00pm Dine In/Out **'Allora RSL'**
called the **"Whistle Stop Café"**



Fri 16th 9.00 am Drop - In Centre

Sat 17th 1100 hrs to 1400 hrs, 17 AAC visiting for
a BBQ luncheon and talk with members.

Wed 21st 9.00 am - 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Fri 23rd 9.00 am Drop - In Centre & BBQ

Wed 28th 9.00 am - 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display



YES - 'We are on Facebook' - under
Veterans Support and Advocate Service Australia Inc.
Warwick Branch.

There are stories and photos, including what we are
about, this is an invitation for all to come down and see us.
Go check it out and write a post about us.

BIRTHDAYS in FEBRUARY 2018



Mark McGowan (10th)

Margaret Trahair (15th)

Lee Wells (20th)

VSASA LADIES MONDAY LUNCHEONS

VSASA Ladies meet
each month on a Monday
at 12 Noon, to have a
luncheon together.



For further information -
coordinator:
Mrs. Helen Nielson
Ph: (H) 07.4661.5772
Mob: 0429.615.772

Jeff Hannaford Pty Ltd

Ever met a Chartered Accountant
with a
sense of humour?

With a nickname of **'Hairy'**, contact Jeff Hannaford, who is a community minded Chartered Accountant and doubles as a Trouble Shooter.

What can Jeff and his staff solve?? Anything!!

Jeff Hannaford is a Community Chartered Accountant and Trouble Shooter who has been in business since 1978 when he opened his first office in Inglewood. His business has now grown with another two offices in Texas and Millmerran.

Jeff supports the AOOB Organisation because they are involved in charity and charity begins at home.

Try Jeff and his staff's experience in solving your Accountancy, Taxation and Financial worries.

Don't delay, contact and enjoy the experience of good old-fashioned service. VSASA Warwick does and are extremely pleased with all their results.



For a free insight into what changes you could make to your business or life phone:

- Jeff 0429 894 937
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e: traxscope@bigpond.com
a: 12 Taylor Street, Maryvale Q 4370

Allison Ashton
ADMINISTRATION
0458 563 654

MEN!!!

After 10 years, the wife starts to think their kid looks kind of strange. So, she decides to do a DNA test.

She finds out that the kid is from completely different parents...

Wife: Honey, I have something very serious to tell you.

Husband: What's up?

Wife: According to the DNA test results, this is not our kid!

Husband: Well, don't you remember? When we were leaving the hospital, we noticed that our baby had pooped.

You said: "Please go change the baby, I'll wait for you here." So, I went inside, left the dirty one there and got a clean one.

Moral:

*Never give a man a job
that doesn't belong to him.*

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"CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017"

Warwick RSL Memorial Club



President Ken had pleasure in presenting one of our longest serving members, Number 25, John Mitchell with a VSASA plaque.



Our co-Patron Mayor SDRC, Cr. Mrs. Tracy Dobie, enjoyed the company of the members, their wives/partners and family.



Four generation of conflict came together on this table. Max (*Afghanistan*), Curly (*Korea*), Dave and Phil (*WW2 veterans*) and Ray (*Vietnam.*) All enjoying each other's company, as they do each Friday morning.



VSASA Ladies Christmas Party 2017



The VSASA Ladies Monday Luncheon members, had their 2017 Christmas Party at ‘Just Because Gifts and Flowers’ in Warwick, where the ladies enjoyed themselves and all had a great time.



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'Circus Adoption'.

A husband and wife who work for the circus go to an adoption agency. Social workers there raise doubts about the living conditions in a circus, but the couple produces photos of their 50-foot luxury motor home, which is clean and well-maintained and equipped with a beautiful nursery.

The social workers also raise concerns about the education a child would receive while in the couple's care. "We've arranged for a full-time tutor who will teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin and computer skills."

Then the social workers express concern about a child being raised in a circus environment. "Our nanny is a certified expert in paediatric care, welfare and diet."

The social workers are finally satisfied and ask, "What age child are you hoping to adopt?"

"It doesn't really matter as long as the kid fits in the cannon."



Malaya Emergency, Vietnam, Korean and Gulf Wars

One of two Aust RAANC nurses, part of an operating theatre team, Vung Tau, Vietnam, 1969. (Image courtesy of the Australian War Memorial.)



After 1947, women were not as involved in the services as they had been during World War II. Thirty-three nurses deployed overseas during the Malayan Emergency and Australian service-women worked in British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) hospitals in Japan and Korea during the Korean War.

The Vietnam War involved forty-three members of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps (RAANC). Australian women civilians also deployed to Vietnam serving as journalists, entertainers, Red Cross support and civilian medical teams. In 1972, the RAANC appointed its first male Nursing Officer.

During the first (1990-1991) and second (2001-Present) gulf conflicts, Australian forces deployed to the Persian Gulf to enforce trade embargoes on Iraq and ground forces were assembled throughout the middle east. Women were active in service during both conflicts as pilots, medical and support staff on military bases from Saudi Arabia to Afghanistan. Australian Service-women were also deployed on ships in all roles except as divers.

Recognizing Australian women's war efforts



Staff Nurse Pearl Corkhill receives a Military Medal. Image courtesy of the Australian War Memorial.

Australian women have received formal recognition, for example 388 of the 2,562 women who served as AANS nurses in World War I were awarded medals.

Recognition of women's war service with the military has not always been extended to the right to march with servicemen on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

The Australian Service Nurses National Memorial is one of several public reminders to commemorate and honour the war efforts of Australian servicewomen, and the supreme sacrifice some made. *Australian Women and War*, compiled by Melanie Oppenheimer and published by the Department of Veterans Affairs, was launched with more than 300 photographs from public and private collections. It is a tribute to Australia's women as nurses and volunteers, as workers taking over the jobs of soldiers away at war, as mothers, wives and lovers.



The Australian Service Nurses National Memorial is on Anzac Parade, the principal ceremonial and memorial avenue of Canberra, the capital city of Australia. The memorial honours past and present nurses of the Australian Defence Force, serving in the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army, and Royal Australian Air Force and associated services.



Navy's Seahawk Bravo S-70B-2



Leading Seaman Daniel Crowe, Chief Petty Officer Michael Bryan, Warrant Officer Brian Pashley, Ms. Stephanie Boyle, Mr. Ian Parrott, Lieutenant Caleb Muggeridge and Lieutenant Commander Damien Liberale with the Australian Navy's S-70B-2 Seahawk helicopter fondly known as 'Christine'.

With the retirement of the Australian Navy's Seahawk Bravo S-70B-2 helicopter from service scheduled for 1 December, aircraft 872 (fondly known as 'Christine') will be taking up a new home at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. In the lead up to her big move the Memorial Senior Curator, Stephan

Boyle, visited HMAS *Albatross* to interview personnel who had a close association with both 'Christine' and the Seahawk Bravo.

The interviews will contribute to the Memorial's extensive Oral History Collection and a broad mix of participation and perspectives were sought. The histories provided covered the breadth of Bravo operations and included histories from Ian Parrott who delivered 'Christine' from Avalon to Nowra in 1991 to Lieutenant Caleb Muggeridge who is flying the Seahawk today. Lieutenant Commander Damien Liberale said his association with the Seahawk Bravo started in began in 1989 at HMAS *Nirimba* when a Seahawk made a short motivational visit to apprentices under training. Lieutenant Commander Liberale first posted to 816 Squadron in 1993 and said he saw the oral history project as a unique opportunity. "I was very keen to participate. The project captures a snapshot of my service career and gives me the chance to share my experiences with people who may have no experience with military and service life," he said. The project also allowed Lieutenant Commander Liberale to share his enthusiasm for the aircraft.

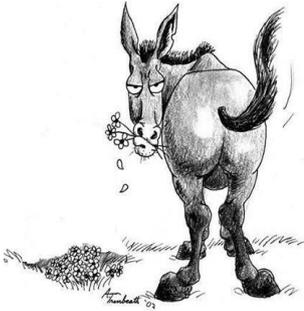
"I was always comfortable flying in them, 100 nautical miles from land, 200 feet over water at night without night vision devices. I always trusted the aircraft, the people who flew them, and the personnel maintaining them." Having joined 816 Squadron in 1993, Warrant Officer Aircrewman Brian Pashley has had a long, and often exciting, association with the Bravo Seahawk and was able to provide the Memorial with accounts of his experiences in the 1994 Sydney bushfires, the 1995 rescue of French sailor Isabelle Autissier after her racing yacht capsized 800 nautical miles south-west of Tasmania, and the 2003 Canberra bushfires for which Warrant Officer Pashley received the ACT Emergency Services Medal.

Warrant Officer Pashley also received a Bravery Medal for his actions in one of Australia's largest peacetime search and rescue operations, the 1998 Sydney to Hobart yacht race where he was winched in darkness, 30 knot winds and a 10 metre swell to rescue an injured sailor. He said the Bravo S-70B-2 was a great asset to Navy.

"It was such a versatile machine, able to lift heavy loads, flag fly, perform search and rescue, anti-submarine warfare, surface warfare. It did it all with power to spare and in relative comfort. You could trust the aircraft to do whatever was asked of it," he said. Leading Seaman Aviation Technician Aircraft Daniel Crowe is currently the last Trade Supervisor on the shop floor for the S-70B-2 draw down, and his pride in the aircraft and his team's work is obvious. "I have a strong passion for military history, including that of the Fleet Air Arm, and I wanted to be involved in the oral history project to tell the story of what it means to be part of the maintenance team at 816 Squadron and what it was like to maintain the Bravo Seahawk," Leading Seaman Crowe said.

"While my history with the S-70B-2 is quite short, only six years, in that time I have done a few small deployments to the Middle East in support of Bravo Flights on rotation, South East Asia deployment in 2016 (with 872) in HMAS *Anzac*, and I was in Kaikoura NZ last year during the earthquake disaster relief aboard HMAS *Darwin*

'OLD LADIES DON'T FOOL EASLY.'



AN OLD WOMAN WALKED UP AND TIED HER OLD MULE TO THE HITCHING POST. AS SHE STOOD THERE, BRUSHING SOME OF THE DUST FROM HER FACE AND CLOTHES, A YOUNG GUNSLINGER STEPPED OUT OF THE SALOON WITH A GUN IN ONE HAND AND A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY IN THE OTHER. THE YOUNG GUNSLINGER LOOKED AT THE OLD WOMAN AND LAUGHED, "HEY OLD WOMAN, HAVE YOU EVER DANCED?" THE OLD WOMAN LOOKED UP AT THE GUNSLINGER AND SAID, "NO, I NEVER DID DANCE... NEVER REALLY WANTED TO." A CROWD HAD GATHERED AS THE GUNSLINGER GRINNED AND SAID "WELL, YOU OLD BAG, YOU'RE GONNA DANCE NOW," AND STARTED SHOOTING AT THE OLD WOMAN'S FEET.

THE OLD WOMAN PROSPECTOR -- NOT WANTING TO GET HER TOE BLOWN OFF --STARTED HOPPING AROUND. EVERYBODY WAS LAUGHING. WHEN HIS LAST BULLET HAD BEEN FIRED, THE YOUNG GUNSLINGER, STILL LAUGHING, HOLSTERED HIS GUN AND TURNED AROUND TO GO BACK INTO THE SALOON.

THE OLD WOMAN TURNED TO HER PACK MULE, PULLED OUT A DOUBLE-BARRELED SHOTGUN, AND COCKED BOTH HAMMERS. THE LOUD CLICKS CARRIED CLEARLY THROUGH THE DESERT AIR, AND THE CROWD STOPPED LAUGHING IMMEDIATELY.

THE YOUNG GUNSLINGER HEARD THE SOUNDS, TOO, AND HE TURNED AROUND VERY SLOWLY. THE SILENCE WAS ALMOST DEAFENING. THE CROWD WATCHED AS THE YOUNG GUNMAN STARED AT THE OLD WOMAN AND THE LARGE GAPING HOLES OF THOSE TWIN BARRELS.

THE BARRELS OF THE SHOTGUN NEVER WAVERED IN THE OLD WOMAN'S HANDS, AS SHE QUIETLY SAID, "SON, HAVE YOU EVER KISSED A MULE'S ASS?"

THE GUNSLINGER SWALLOWED HARD AND SAID, "NO M'AM... BUT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO. THERE ARE FIVE LESSONS HERE FOR ALL OF US:

- 1 - *Never be arrogant.*
- 2 - *Don't waste ammunition.*
- 3 - *Whiskey makes you think you're smarter than you are.*
- 4 - *Always make sure you know who has the power.*
- 5 - *Don't mess with old people; they didn't get old by being stupid.*

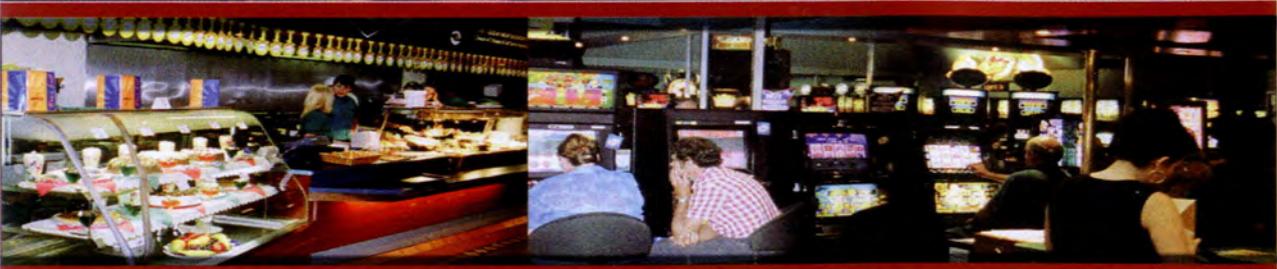


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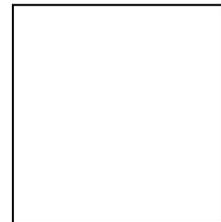
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