



**SOUTHERN DOWNS EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION
QUEENSLAND INCORPORATED and
VETERANS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY SERVICE
WARWICK AUSPICE
'MONTHLY NEWSLETTER'**



Vol: 3/18

"We are now on Facebook – Look us up"

MARCH 2018

President's Report:

We started off well in January with a special Friday **'Australia Day'** morning tea, terrific to see so many there, as many functions were in and about Warwick.

We particularly congratulate member **John Telfer**, for being conferred with the **'Australia Day Cultural Award for 2018'**. John is also to have the privilege of carrying the Commonwealth Games Baton in Warwick, on the 29th March. **Well Done John.**

A Special, General Meeting was also called on the 19th January, when four motions were passed.

a. Passed - the name, 'Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated,' or short title; 'SDESA Qld Inc' by financial members, for the new associations name.

b. Passed - the Constitution by financial members, for the new association.

c. Passed - that the Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated, become endorsed, as of the (First) 1st July 2018, thereby commencing the start of the new financial year for 2018.

d. Passed - that the annual subscription fee of the SDESA Qld Inc, be \$25.00 Twenty-five dollar, for the years 2018 to 2019.

I would just remind all members that at any meetings of the association, personalities, bullying, or any other disruptive behaviour, will not be tolerated by the chair and the member will be required to leave the meeting.

On Wednesday the 14th February, 39 members, family and friends attended our 'Dine In/Out' night at the Allora RSL "Whistle Stop Café". VSASA Warwick provided a Haidley's Coach to travel over in comfort and return. The food was excellent and the company superb. Thanks everybody for your support.

On another note, we hosted the Cadets and Staff of 17 Australian Army Cadets from Warwick, on Saturday the 17th February. Many thanks to those VSASA members who took the time out to attend and talk with these young cadets and cook and excellent BBQ for them.

17 AAC OC MAJ. Jason Gard was most appreciative of the event and the support given by our members. We hope to make this an annual event, as the VSASA members and the Cadets thoroughly enjoyed the interaction, mateship and the BBQ luncheon, cooked by John Palmer and Steve Kelly.

This month also sees the commencement of the Australian Rules football 'Cardinal Cup' in Warwick. VSASA/SDESA, are sponsoring the **(Redback's)** AFC, on Saturday and Sunday, the 10th & 11th March. We have supplied their football shorts being worn by the players. If you have time, come on down and enjoy the game and say 'Good day' to the 'Cardinal' himself, member Colin Pope.

We have announced that we will be having a 'Special General Meeting' on Friday the 29th June, commencing at 10.00am. This meeting is to formally transfer VSASA Warwick Auspice and invite all VSASA members, to become members of the Southern Downs Ex-Services Association, without having to fill out new paperwork. We will also formally transfer all property, assets and finances, from VSASA Warwick Auspice, to the Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated, with effect from the 1st July 2018.

Our Annual General Meeting has been called for the Friday the 3rd August 2018, this gives time for our auditor, Mr. Jeff Hannaford to complete the necessary financial books etc., and will place the current committee of management, in a 'caretaker mode' from the 1st July until the 3rd August 2018.

Over the coming months you will see some physical changes around the Centre area, with new signage and logos, but it will be business as usual, nothing inside will change, just good mateship, tea, coffee and a cream biscuit.

*Your mate,
Ken Ashton*



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.

Solicitors: Alex Gudkovs 07.4661.2766

Raffles: Paul Guy 0429.011.166
Centre Mowing: Ray Wingett 07.4661 3508
Chaplain: Rev. Kevin Stow 0448.699.183
Memorabilia &
News Editor: Barry E. Kelly 0417.740.282

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 MARCH 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'

Sat 11th & Sun 12th 'Cardinal Cup' AFC Football
"REDBACK'S OVAL" Jackie Howe Drive. Warwick

Wed 14th 9.00 am – 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Wed 14th 6.00pm 'Dine In/Out'
'Horse & Jockey Hotel'



Fri 16th 10.00am 'Inaugural General Meeting' of the
'Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Qld Inc.'

Wed 21st 9.00 am – 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Fri 23rd 9.00 am Drop - In Centre Newsletter &
Sausage/Steakette BBQ

Wed 28th 9.00 am – 1.00pm
Military Memorabilia Display

Fri 30th CLOSED. Good Friday



Ray Hill. (2nd)

John Mitchell. (10th)

Wayne Bingham (10th)

Steve Kelly. (11th)

Terry Smart (14th)

Graham Carey. (15th)

Greg Linnet. (16th)

Grant Prendergast. (18th)

Gordon Nielson. (26th)

John Telfer. (29th)

VSASA LADIES MONDAY LUNCHEONS

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



26th March
'Belle Vue Café'

For further information -
coordinator;

Mrs. Helen Nielson

Ph: (H) 07.4661.5772

Mob: 0429.615.772

'Talking Dog for Sale'

A chartered accountant was driving around the back blocks of Inglewood and he sees a sign in front of a broken-down shanty-style house: 'Talking Dog for Sale.' He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard.

The bloke goes into the backyard and sees a nice-looking Labrador Retriever sitting there. "You talk?" he asks. "Yep" the Lab replies. After the accountant recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says, "So, what's your story?"

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the Federal Police. In no time at all they had me jetting from state to state, sitting in rooms with crooks and politicians, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running... but the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger, so I decided to settle down.

I signed up for a job at the Wellcamp airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."



The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars" the guy says.

"Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on Earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He's never been out of the yard."

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 officers in Texas and Millmerren.

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
- Millmerran 4695 1477
- Inglewood 4652 1106
- Texas 4653 1155



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Congratulations to member **John Telfer**, for being conferred with the **'Australia Day Cultural Award'** in Warwick for 2018.

"These awards acknowledge the outstanding contribution of individuals and groups who, through their commitment and effort, make our region a better place to live." John will also be carrying the Queen's Commonwealth Games Baton, on the 29th March through Warwick. *(Give him a wave.)*

Well Done John, from all the members of VSASA Warwick Auspice.



(Left) William and Jeremy Lister, enjoyed their Australia Day visit to the Centre and display, while chomping a 'Aussie' cupcakes made by Barbara Cutmore.

Australia Day was celebrated with many members attending a good morning tea and BBQ Sausage/Steakette BBQ.

Thanks to those members who contributed treats for the morning tea and our fearless BBQ sous-chefs.

HORSE & JOCKEY CARDINAL CUP 10TH ANNIVERSARY 2018



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Warwick Branch
Warwick Ice-Man
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Event Organiser

Colin Pope
0412 156 099
Further information as
event approaches

10th & 11th March 2018

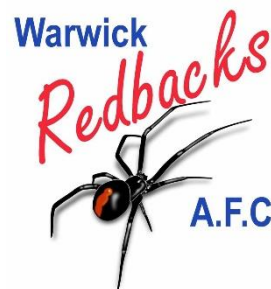
'Redback's' Australian Football Club are hosting the 'Cardinal Cup 2018'.

All members, wives, partners, family and friends are invited to attend this great event on either day. VSASA Warwick / SDESA Qld Inc are co-hosting the weekend with member, Colin Pope at the helm.

Both male and female football players are playing these games. Check out the players shorts, with the SDESA Logo on each player.

Hot food and cold drinks will be available at the ground,

**Warwick Credit Union Oval,
Jackie Howe Drive, Warwick**



NOTICE of 'Special General Meeting' of Veterans Support and Advocacy Service of Australia Inc. - Warwick Auspice.

On Friday the 29th June 2018, a 'Special General Meeting' has been called at 10.00am in the Centre, to move two motions.

1. That all property, assets and finances, be transferred from VSASA Warwick Auspice, to the Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated, with effect from the 1st July 2018.
2. That all current financial members of VSASA Warwick Auspice for the year 2018/2019, will be invited to become members of the Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated, without having to fill out new application forms, or unless otherwise directed by the member.

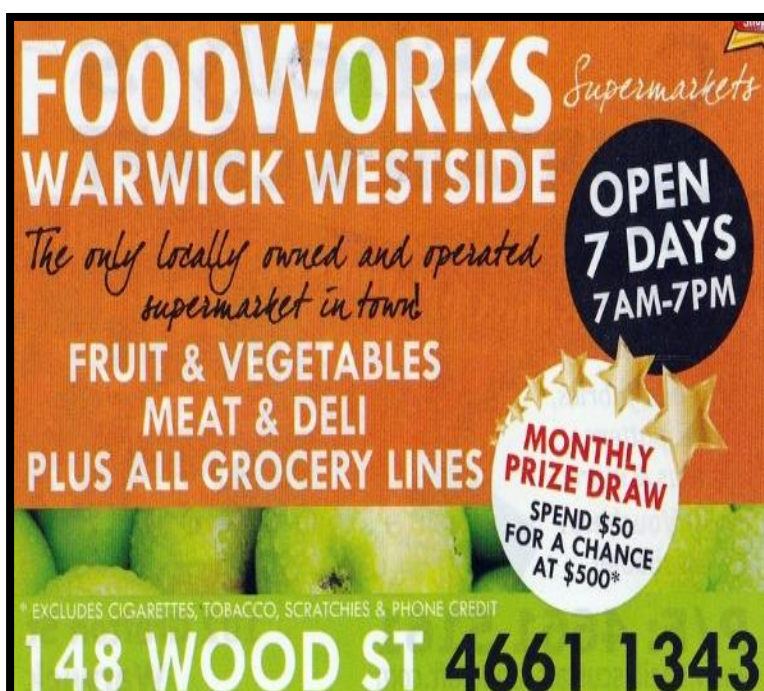
This is an important meeting, as it will be the last meeting of the 'VSASA Warwick Auspice'.

As from the 1st July 2018, VSASA Warwick Auspice will be known as the 'Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Queensland Incorporated'.

VSASA Constitution states;

28. WINDING-UP / DISSOLUTION:

If upon winding-up or dissolution of the Association, there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Association, gifts to which are allowable deductions under the provisions of section 78 (4) and (5) of the Income Tax Assessment Act, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income or property amongst its or their members, and which is a fund, authority or institution approved by the Commissioner of taxation as a fund, authority or institution referred to in section 78 of the Income Tax Assessment Act, such institution or, institutions to be determined by the members of the Association.



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e: traxscope@bigpond.com
a: 12 Taylor Street, Maryvale Q 4370

Allison Ashton
ADMINISTRATION
0458 563 654



Jokes



An old veteran drove through the McDonald's driveway window and he gave the young attendant a \$5 note.

Your total is \$4.25, she told the veteran.

So he handed her an extra 25c.

She said, 'you gave me too much money.'

He replied, 'Yes I know, but this way you can just give me a dollar coin back.'

The young lass sighed and went to get the manager, who asked the veteran to repeat his request.

He did so, and then handed back the 25c to the veterans and said 'We're sorry but we don't do that

kind of thing.'

The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

Do not confuse the people at Maccas drive through.

Paul was at the Brisbane cruise liner terminal recently, checking in at the gate when a security employee asked, 'Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?'

To which Paul replied, 'If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?'

The security employee smiled knowingly and nodded, 'That's why we ask.'

Can't trick an ol'e veteran.



A lady tells the story of when her husband and she arrived at a car dealership to pick up their car after a service, they were told the keys had been locked in it. They went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door.

As they watched from the passenger side, they instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked.

'Hey,' the lady announced to the technician, 'it's open!' His reply, 'I know. I already did that side!'

A neighbour had to have their garage door repaired.

The repairman told them that one of the problems was that the neighbour did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener. They thought for a minute, and said that they had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

The repairman shook his head and said, 'You need a 1/4 horsepower.'

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, 'NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two.'

We haven't used that repairman since...



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A PADRE'S TALE...

Chaplain Campbell Carroll returns from Active Service in the Middle East.

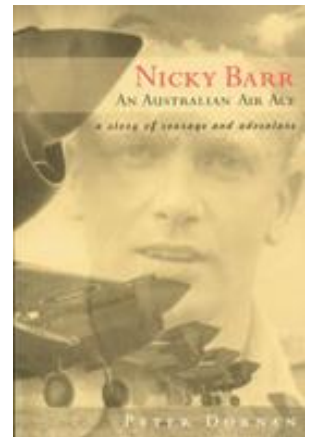


Well, I'm back at work now, and it's good to be back somewhere familiar, though it isn't going to last long because I'm off on Posting to RAAF Townsville in a few weeks. It feels strange to leave a place that I very much call home, but that's typical of military life isn't it...

Given the last three years that I've been here, I find myself reflecting on the things I've done - and it's a lot!

I've only recently returned from Active Service in the Middle East. I had promised myself, beforehand, I would do some professional development reading. As a Defence Chaplain I find that by the time I get home, the last thing I want to do is professional reading. - But not this time; I had taken with me three books I very much wanted to read. Given that I was in the desert, I figured the environment would create a 'feeling' for the promised reading.

The first book was about Nicky Barr; I couldn't put it down. I was captivated. The second was about Clive Caldwell, again I just couldn't put it down. The third was another about the Desert War in general and it just seemed to put a completely different perspective on what took place there. It enabled me to gain a very deep appreciation and pride to be part of our Squadron's impressive and extraordinary history.



As I travelled throughout the Middle East I was conscious of my own fore-fathers - not just our Lord (!), but the famous [Three Padres](#) who made history themselves, setting a standard I take pride in. I often found myself thinking about them and wondering what they'd do if they were with me, as I journeyed and experienced what war was all about.

Even when it got difficult (and at times it did...) I was often reminded that for the Three Padres - and both Clive and Nicky - it was 'their own people', the people they led or cared for, that came first. This same ethic was why I was here in the Middle East in the first place. It was a very real privilege to serve our people in those places.

Coming home was interesting. Going to War changes you, it's not until you come home you realise this fact. I took some time off, but I couldn't really wait to get back to work. I missed the Squadron - especially the noise and the dramas!

Once again, it was back to Richmond for the pre-ANZAC Day Service and the pride of my working career was marching in Sydney with the Squadron and the last of our WW2 Veterans. I thought at one point that the Three Padres were there, marching alongside. A Padre rarely gets to march, and this was a day I was going to remember for the rest of my life. Our CO granted me a passenger ride in an FA18 and the Pilot was DEVO - someone I admire greatly. I couldn't believe it! - If only "The Three Padres" could have seen it! Yep, I'm back at work, but I'm sad I'm leaving a Squadron that I feel extremely proud of. They have always been there both at the highs and the lows.

I think my heart will always belong to 3SQN. It's odd, but there is something about having been a part of something so unique. It's more than a fighter squadron - it's family.



PADRE CAMPBELL CARROLL
UNIT CHAPLAIN

3SQN WILLIAMTOWN

AIR FORCE



Cr. Tracy Dobie,
Mayor, SDRC
Patron of VSASA Warwick
and SDESA Qld Inc.

'Cyber-Bullying'



There are some members of our community who use social media to bully others. **When I use the term 'bullying'** I am referring to the definition from the Australian Government

Human Rights website: "Bullying is when people repeatedly and intentionally use words or actions against someone or a group of people to cause distress and risk to their well-being."

While the majority of people who use social media do not contribute to this sort of behaviour, there are a small number who do, and I believe they are having a negative effect on our community. These people believe they can write whatever they want about other people. They do this repeatedly and their intention is to cause distress to the person they are targeting.

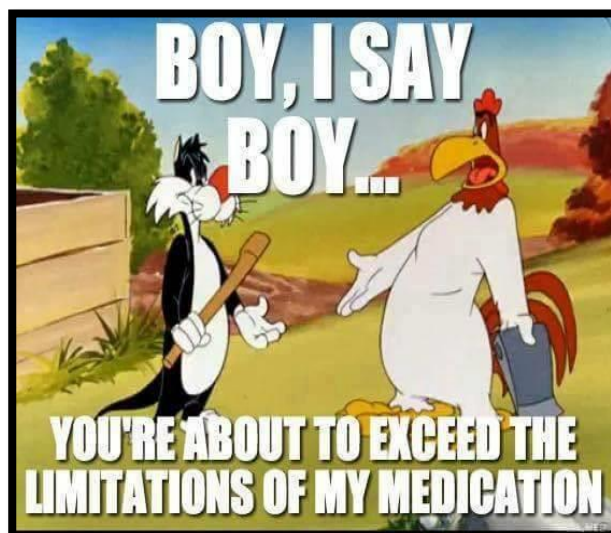
The problem is the people who take this action, particularly on Facebook, don't think they are doing anything wrong. I am not talking here about children or teenagers. I am talking about adults: parents and grandparents who are deliberately engaging in cyber-bullying.

I believe it is time to take a stand and I can only use myself as an example. Over the last two years I have been a target of cyber-bullying by a small number of individuals: on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. They have persistently attacked me by making statements that are cruel and meant to hurt. I have ignored these **people and their bullying behaviour because what they say doesn't affect me or influence the decisions I make.**

However, I have come to the conclusion that by ignoring their actions I am sending a message that it is acceptable for them to behave in this manner. This cyber-bullying if left unchecked, makes everyone feel as if they are powerless. Observers see nothing is done to stop these cyber-bullies and it has a cumulative effect: each person fears being the first to contradict them or call them out, lest he or she become their next target. This means each individual is being forced to live in fear. Every person has a right to be treated fairly and with respect. Every person has a right to feel safe when they go online and not to dread being confronted with hate statements posted there by bullies.

Over recent weeks I've looked more closely at what these people post on Facebook, not just about me but about other people as well. These people do not see themselves as bullies. They believe they are just expressing their opinions. But when they do that repeatedly and with the cruel intention to cause distress and harm to others; then they are bullies.

I anticipate that by me bringing attention to their actions, these bullies will become harsher in their attacks on me personally. Let them do so. Their bullying behaviour will be even more evident. By speaking out it is my goal to bring the behaviour of these people to public notice and to bring awareness to these people themselves that they are accountable, now and forever, for what they post on social media.



17 Australian Army Cadets visit VSASA on the 17th February 2018



President Ken Ashton, Welcomes the Cadets on Parade.



On **Saturday the 17th February**, the Veterans Support and Advocacy Service Warwick Auspice, played host to the members and staff, of **17 Australian Army Cadet Unit** in Warwick.

The Cadets paraded outside in front of an enthusiastic VSASA membership, then in groups of five, proceeded with a VSASA Member to enjoy the Military Memorabilia Display. Throughout the day the Cadets enjoyed talking with veterans from WW2, through to Afghanistan, as one member stated, they were firing questions like a machine gun. The event was coordinated with VSASA Warwick, through Officer Commanding AAC. MAJ Jason Gard.

The Cadets appreciated a hearty BBQ luncheon cooked by the VSASA members, plus experienced various videos and presentation given by members. VSASA Warwick is a 'Drop-In-Centre', for all past and present servicemen and women.

On the 1st July 2018, VSASA Warwick, will be changing its name to; 'Southern Downs Ex-Services Association Qld Inc' and will open its doors, not only past and present military personal, but also to past and present Police, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance and State Emergency Service members.

It is anticipated that in time, the Southern Downs Ex-Service Association will expand their current display of WW1 through to Afghanistan memorabilia, to include emergency service displays of mannequins dressed in past and present uniforms, badges, medals and photos, particularly those of items of interest, that have been hidden away for far too long within the Warwick area.

The Cadets and the veteran members got on like a house on fire, particularly when great videos of what not to do, in the forces! A lot of laughs were had by all.

Lunch was enjoyed by all, with bread rolls, with steakettes, sausages, coleslaw, BBQ sauce and good old tomato sauce and all this washed down with gallons of cold Coke, Fanta, Lemon and Diet Coke (yes, we also had ice cold 'Orange Juice' and freezing 'Cold Water' in bottles.)

Many questions were asked, and some sensible answers were given, *not by many?* Age was no barrier, *until...* an old bearded 'Turret-Head' arrived, LT (Retd) Paddy Costigan, talked about his APC experiences, which was well received by all.

(AAC) MAJ. Jason Gard has extended an invitation, through the President, for members to attend a 17 Australian Army Cadet Parade. Time and Place will be noted in the newsletter.

*"Thank you to our VSASA members,
for assisting, preparing, cooking, cleaning etc, on the day.*





\$100 million to enhance Army Artillery

Soldiers from Townsville-based 4th Regiment fire an M777 155mm Howitzer in High Range Training Area.

Queensland company NIOA has been awarded a \$100 million contract to supply 155mm M777 Lightweight Towed Howitzer ammunition to the Army. Minister

for Defence Industry Christopher Pyne said this ammunition would replace an ageing ammunition stock, providing increased range and lethality, as well as a greater range of effects, such as infrared illumination to enhance the Army's advanced night-fighting capability.

"This is an exciting new market for Australian defence industry and we hope after successful qualification of the ammunition, industry can start making the training rounds locally," Mr Pyne said.

"NIOA is also looking at additional opportunities for domestic manufacture of other types of 155mm ammunition.

"This follows my announcement in November last year where I congratulated NIOA on winning a separate contract worth \$95 million to supply more than 30 different munitions over the next five years to the military."

Established in 1973, NIOA is Australia's largest privately-owned company supplying weapons, ammunition and technical support to commercial, military and law-enforcement markets.

Minister Pyne said NIOA's partnership with Rheinmetall Defence, their subsidiaries and Junghans Microtec, demonstrated the innovative approaches embraced by Australian companies to ensure our military is equipped with the best capabilities in the world.

"Up to 22 new jobs will be created to acquire the modern high-performance 155mm ammunition.

"The contract will create 12 new jobs at NIOA for the next two years while the ammunition is qualified and then, subject to a successful business case, NIOA estimates employing up to 10 more people in the domestic assembly of training ammunition."





President Ken Ashton has entered the 'Movember' 2018 challenge.

(one of the members thought he had swallowed a black cat and left its tail out!)
but no, Ken is keen to spread the message about prostate cancer and help find a cure.

MOVEMBER



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WWW.MOVEMBER.COM

The 'Movember Foundation' is the only charity tackling men's health on a global scale, year-round. We have one goal: to stop men dying too young. Your donation will help us to continue what we've started and fund world class programs that are saving and improving the lives of men.


Thank you, members, – together we are changing the face of men's health.

The 'Movember Foundation' is authorised by the Australian Tax Office as a deductible gift recipient and tax-exempt health promotion charity.

Simply go 'on-line' at <https://au.movember.com> Go to the Aqua Blue button, click the 'Donate' button and where it says Search, type in Ken Ashton, click the new Aqua Blue Search Button and you will see his profile. Please donate to this very worthwhile cause.



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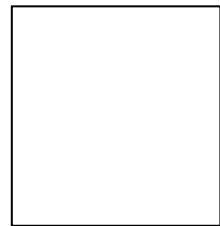
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