



RICOCHET



Monthly newsletter of VVAA Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. OCTOBER 2024

RARA slams government over medals

The Federal Government has been criticised for a “lack of sensitivity and common decency” in announcing a decision to revoke distinguished service awards from a number of young ADF officers named in the final Brereton Report just three days after the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide Report was tabled.

The criticism came from the Royal Australian Regiment Association (RARA) through its President Mr Michael von Berg MC OAM. Other defence and veterans’ organisations including the RSL have also criticised the decision.

“Of the report’s 143 recommendations, some 139 have been actioned by the ADF, exposing a complete disregard for procedural fairness, given that the ADF’s Office of Special Investigations is still engaged in their investigations, with only one charge brought before the courts,” he said.

“The RARA finds it inconceivable the Minister for Defence (Mr Richard Marles) could decide to strip medals from the commanders of accused soldiers, without these allegations being subject to the proper legal process. Our concerns are based on failures to apply the rule of law, procedural fairness and the presumption of innocence.

“As an Association, RARA advocates for the well-being and protection of our ADF Family (current and past serving persons and their families). We have a responsibility to support these young officers and others by promoting the rule of law in all Defence service matters.

“This egregious decision by the Minister not only lacks the required procedural fairness, it also lacks transparency in deciding how far up the ‘chain of command’ this decision should apply. We believe it should go all the way to the top. It would be the height of hypocrisy were it to be otherwise.

“The Royal Australian Regiment, which has been at the front line of military actions since 1949, strongly believes that if any allegation of criminal conduct by ADF soldiers is the subject of charges, and proven in the appropriate court of law, the individual must face the consequences. Until that occurs, the presumption of innocence must prevail.

“It is incumbent on the Government to reverse this decision,” Mr von Berg said.

Statement on closure of Afghanistan report at: <https://www.minister.defence.gov.au/statements/2024-09-12/statement-closure-afghanistan-inquiry-report>

COMMISSION’S REPORT A DRIVER FOR SAVING LIVES

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has handed down its final report containing 122 recommendations to drive improved health and wellbeing outcomes for serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force personnel – and save lives, the commission notes.

- Continued page 3.



OUR MISSION: To assist ALL veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

Our website: www.vietnamvetssc.org.au

Email: secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com **Editor:** ricocheteditor@gmail.com

General information Page 2 INCLUDING LATEST OFFICE NEWS

(Illustrations on each side of Ricochet title are “Returned from Active Service Badges”)

Veterans & Families Counselling

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VIETNAM VETERANS ASSN of AUSTRALIA SUNSHINE COAST

SUB-BRANCH Inc.

PATRON: Laurie Drinkwater (pictured)

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Junior V/President	Gordon Hall
Secretary	John Cunnington
Treasurer	Deb Day

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Kerry White	Ricochet Editor
John Cunnington	VV Day
Athol Johnson	Merchandise
John Huxham	Assistant Secretary
John Huxham	Office Manager
Bob Johnson	
Mark Doolan	

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Hospital Visitation

Alec Chesters	54761594
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Mentor/Assessor

Helena Smith	0439241442
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Mentor/Well-Being Officer

Ian (Ernie) Hartshorn	0422670080
Air Force Association	Chris Wessels
Tracker Dogs Assn.	Ian Atkinson
Mooloolaba Surf Club	Kevin Lynch
Buderim Hospital	Alec Chesters
Army Cadets/ARES	vacant
Air Force Cadets	Chris Wessels
Naval Cadets	Carl Britz

UPDATE: NEWS ON DROP-IN-CENTRE

Located at the rear of the Library Complex Administration Building (upstairs) , Cnr Sixth Avenue and Beach Parade, Cotton Tree. **OFFICE OPEN** Monday to Friday 0900 to 1200 (9am — noon). Office Phone 54794552 E-mail: secretaryv-vaasc@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS: *Currently the office at the Drop-In Centre is open Monday to Friday, except for Public Holidays. NOTE: Because of a drop-off in visitor numbers this is being reviewed. See notice board for information. Comments welcome.*

MEETINGS: *Third Tuesday of the month: Comm Meeting, General Meeting — times, check office for details.*

ACCESS: *Due to privacy and security issues, entry is no longer available via the back door, but only through the front door. However, if you need to use the lift in the main library building, you have to advise the office on phone 54794552 to arrange office entry.*

POSH MEETINGS: *Partners Offering Support and Hope meet Friday 1- 4pm in the meeting room beside the Drop in Centre. Coffee/tea/chat.*

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Advice Network (VAN)

129 Horton Parade, Maroochydore, QLD 4558.

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This service provides counselling and support to all veterans of overseas conflicts. The families of Vietnam Veterans are also able to receive counselling through us. Group programmes include the Lifestyle Management Program (5 days live-in with partner) and the Heart Safe Program (12 month gym). Other therapeutic/ educational groups are being planned for the Sunshine Coast.

DISCLAIMER: The committee of Vietnam Veteran Association of Australia Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. and its individual members take no responsibility for errors, omissions or inaccuracies in this newsletter, nor accept liability for any loss or damage suffered directly or indirectly from the use of information contained in this newsletter, and do not warrant that opinions published in this newsletter are necessarily the opinions held by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, this Sub-branch or the Sub-branch Committee, including individual members.

OUR MISSION: To assist all veterans and their dependents in all matters relating to their health, welfare and well-being.

- From Page 1

The seven-volume report is the culmination of an exhaustive three-year inquiry which has examined cultural, structural and systemic issues contributing to alarming rates of suicide and suicidality among Australia's Defence and veteran population.

It was delivered to the Governor-General by Commissioners Nick Kaldas APM, Dr Peggy Brown AO and the Hon James Douglas KC.

At least 1677 serving and ex-serving Defence personnel died by suicide between 1997 and 2021 – that's more than 20-times the number killed in active duty over the same period. On average, there have been three deaths of serving and ex-serving defence members by suicide every fortnight.

The Royal Commission also commissioned research that estimated one veteran has suicide-related contact with police and paramedics across Australia every four hours.

Separate commissioned research found ex-serving men and women were more likely to be admitted to hospital for a self-harm-related diagnosis than other Australians.

It has been the lived experience of people who've been touched by military suicide, shared in public hearings, private sessions and written submissions, that has helped the Royal Commission to pinpoint the issues failing veterans, and their families.

Royal Commission into suicide report

Mr Kaldas said the Final Report is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save veterans' lives. "This Government and future governments must take note of, and accept, the huge amount of evidence revealed through this Royal Commission," he said.

"The problems contributing to this national tragedy are now undeniable and must be dealt with, once and for all."

Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Mr Matt Keogh said: "The rate of veteran suicide is a national tragedy, and this Royal Commission has played a vital role in learning what can be done better to improve the lives of Defence personnel, veterans and families."

Mr Marles commented: "Our priority is ensuring that those who pursue a career in the ADF have a safe and inclusive workplace and are supported from the time they join, through transition, and after service."

EDITOR'S NOTE: The report and its findings cannot be adequately covered in Ricochet. The report and related material can be accessed on the Royal Commission website:

defenceveteransuicide.royalcommission.gov.au/

Anniversary for Wallaby Airlines crew

It's 60 years since RAAF Caribou transports first deployed to Vietnam and became known as Wallaby Airlines. To commemorate the event, 35 Squadron Association members who went to Vietnam or worked with the Caribou were invited recently to visit the RAAF Base Amberley Aviation Heritage Centre (right). Below: Caribou in flight.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THIS YEAR'S LADIES DAY LUNCH



PLEASE LET YOUR PARTNER KNOW

This year's Ladies Day Lunch will be held in the upstairs Function Room of the Maroochy RSL Club on Wednesday 27 November, 2024 from noon to 3 pm.

This function is completely free of cost and will include a three-course meal, wine, soft drink and tea and coffee. There will be live entertainment and you are guaranteed a great day out.

The occasion is the Association's yearly 'Thank You' to our long-suffering partners.

The Lunch is open to current financial Association Members (Ladies only), Partners and Widows of Financial Association Members.

Important: If you plan on attending the gathering, you must register by contacting the Duty Officer at the Drop-In Centre on 54794552, so details can be recorded. The DIC is open weekdays from 0900 hours to 1200 hours. Please register by 13 November to allow for catering purposes.



If you have any dietary requirements please advise the nature of such when registering. If past years are any indication, it will be a wonderful day.

If you have any further enquiries or have trouble registering, please contact John Cunnington on 0415375968.

From the President

Hi Everyone,

I sincerely hope that you and yours are all fit and well. I don't know about you lot, but I am having a great deal of trouble comprehending just what our society has allowed to happen over the past 2-3 decades.

I'm not what you would call a 'dinosaur or 'old fuddy duddy' but to me, our culture seems to have taken a massive nose dive. I am of course questioning the ability of the general public in our State to take control of the social turmoil we suffer within our community on a daily basis.

Apart from what might be termed as 'general crime' (committed by adults), juvenile' crime is totally out of control and continues to run rampant throughout our community. As a retired NSW Police officer with 37 years' service, I feel somewhat qualified to put an opinion forward regarding this issue.

The so-called 'Young Offenders Act' is, in my opinion, a complete disaster. For a start, there appears to be very little, if any, form of punishment handed down to those who either commit offences, or continually commit offences.

There was a news item recently where a recidivist juvenile offender was on 10 different bail conditions for numerous separate crimes and still allowed his freedom, and his situation is not a one-off case in point.

To efficiently combat crime, across all age groups, there must be some form of 'deterrent' and I think this is where our

society has failed miserably. In my opinion we should have demanded that those who commit criminal offences should be held fully responsible for their actions and to repeatedly claim that a 14 year old (today) is not accountable due to their age is, in my opinion, a joke!

The Collins dictionary states that the definition of the word 'deterrent' is: "A **deterrent** is something that prevents people from doing something by making them afraid of what will happen to them if they do it."

Well, guess what, we don't have a deterrent or any similar preventative or disincentive actions to stop these hoodlums from persistently causing destruction and absolute mayhem within our community.

My thoughts are that if you don't have any form of deterrent (which as said earlier; we don't) then all we are doing is actively encouraging people to commit crime. How hard is it to simply say to a young person or recidivist offender; "you were well aware of what you did at the time, and the inconvenience/pain you caused to others, now you will suffer the consequences for your actions". Just who are we afraid of upsetting by demanding justice for those who don't break the law in this country?

**Best Regards,
Mick Howe,
President.**



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From the Secretary

At the September Committee and General meetings, there was a unanimous consensus that the Sub-Branch investigate hosting more social activities for members.

These could include such things as winery tours, short cruises on local waterways, short bus trips to the hinterland or simple activities such as lunches at some of the Sunny Coast's great venues.

These get-togethers would foster camaraderie and could be reasonably subsidised by the Sub-Branch. For instance, the Sunshine Coast National Servicemen's Association hold regular social events and are currently subsidising a seafood lunch cruise on the Maroochy River (**pictured**) for its members. I will be speaking with the president of the NSAA soon regarding the possibility of combining some social events.

However, what is required is someone, or preferably a social committee to take on the task. Our trusty treasurer suggested that some of the ladies may be interested in getting involved as, in her opinion, women are better at organising social activities than men (Probably correct).

So, if there are members out there or partners of members willing to participate on a social committee, please come forward and let's get the ball rolling. Also, if any of our creative members have any suggestions for possible social activities please email to: secretaryvvaasc@gmail.com.

On another note, the Ladies Christ-

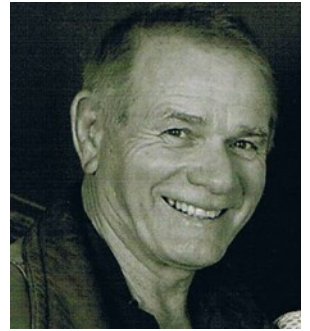
mas Luncheon is being held on Wednesday, 27 November at the Maroochy RSL Function Centre. The details are in the notice in this edition of Ricochet.

It is always an enjoyable event, and it is incumbent on all members to encourage their wives to phone the Duty Officer at the Drop-In Centre and record their name on the roll (Office hours are between 9 am and 12 pm Monday to Friday).

Until next month stay safe and "always take the high ground".

Regards

John Cunningham.



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Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch

Minutes of General Meeting, 17 September 2024

Meeting opened 1115 Hours. **Ode to the Fallen, Mick Howe.** **Attendance/Apologies:** As per attendance book. The July Committee Minutes were read by Mick Howe. (No General meeting in August). Moved Mick Howe. Seconded Kerry White. Carried.

Business Arising From Minutes: Reimbursement of the late Squizzy Taylor's life subscription to Margaret Taylor is in hand; sound system for Vietnam Veteran's Day was successfully organised: meeting with National Servicemen's Association re social outings is in hand.

Correspondence/Secretary's Report.

Incoming: email from Fiona Ewington organiser of the 2024 Ironman event; receipt from Dept. Justice and Attorney General re Annual Return Of Incorporated Assn; emails from CDC Bus Hire and Perry's Chair Hire

Outgoings: Letter to Mrs M Taylor re reimbursement of Squizzy's Life Subscription; various heads-up emails to members; letters/Emails re Vietnam Veterans Day:- Caloundra RSL, Maroochy RSL, State and Federal Members, CDC Bus Hire, Perry's Chair Hire; moved John Cunningham that Inwards and Outwards Correspondence be endorsed. Seconded Brian Earp. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Mick Howe informed that the Sub-Branch is financially sound; Deb Day's financial reports are available for perusal on the Notice Board; moved Mick Howe that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Seconded Gordon Hall. Carried.

Membership: There are currently 211 financial members. It is not expected that membership numbers will increase over the remaining part of the year. Moved Pieter Reuss. Seconded Mal Overend. Carried.

Ricochet: Pages of newsletter have been reduced from 20 pages to 16 due to withdrawal of a number of advertisers. The comments section on the Ricochet website has been removed due to an increase in scams. Moved Kerry White. Seconded Chris Wessels. Carried.

Office Manager: Asset audit has been completed although penny hat keyring numbers have changed due to a number of orders being filled. Duty Officer rosters have been completed to November thanks to Margo Christie. Over past three months 122 visitors have been recorded as attending the Drop-In Centre. It was suggested that, due to declining membership and a decline in visitors, members may want to consider a reduction in Drop-In Centre operating hours. Moved John Huxham. Seconded Brian Earp. Carried.

Sub-Committee:

Vietnam Veterans Day was close to our best yet. The 250 attendance at the lunch was the largest to date. The Ceremony went off without a hitch and all those who assisted were thanked in the September edition of Ricochet. The Maroochy RSL has been booked for next year's event and the deposit paid. The Ladies Luncheon will be on again on Wednesday, 27 November. A notice has been sent out via heads-up and will be repeated in the October and November editions of Ricochet. Moved John Cunningham. Seconded Kerry White. Carried. — continued next page

BT Sports & Health Centres

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BTPhysiotherapy.com.au

- from previous page

DHJ: Key rings have arrived from China. Only three people turned up at the last work day. Currently there are no pennies to work on. However, it may be possible to purchase more pennies in December. Moved Scotty. Seconded John Huxham. Carried.

General Business:

John Cunnington moved a motion that Mick Howe be awarded Life membership for his service and dedication to the Sub-Branch. Seconded Win Fowles. Carried

Jim Muir to have his membership card endorsed as a State Life Member.

Win Fowles advised that the Caloundra RSL Vietnam Veterans Day Service was well organised and would be a good venue for those that cannot get to Cotton Tree.

Win also spoke about the Royal Commission Report into veteran's suicide and expressed concerns that all 122 recommendations will not be acted upon by government. He recommended involvement by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia.

Mick Howe read the State Branch President's Report which has been posted to the Notice Board.

Mick also addressed the following issues:-

Office Opening Hours: Issue to be posted in Ricochet for member comment and will be reviewed at the next Committee and General Meetings.

Change of Constitution: re requirement for an annual Audit Report. The Sub-Branch does not require an annual audit as it does not meet the monetary requirements for such an audit. Not having the audit would save the Association a \$1500 auditor's fee. However, this would require a constitution amendment. Issue will be discussed again at the next Committee and General Meetings.

Social Outings: It was suggested that the Sub-Branch needs to look at subsidised social events for members. It was suggested that POSH ladies may like to be involved in organising social functions. Jim Muir also offered his assistance. Deb Day investigating cost of a trip (including lunch) on the Gymie Rattler. The matter of social outings to be discussed again at the October Committee and General Meetings.

Barbecue Trailer: The Sub-Branch's trailer is in storage and has not been used for some time. The future of the trailer was passed in for further discussion at the next Committee and General meetings.

Accommodation. It was advised that the Maroochy RSL would be happy to accommodate the Sub-Branch if it decided to move at some time in the future.

Closure: There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1213 hours. **Next meeting Tuesday 15 October at 1100 hrs.**



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NOOSA

A former recreation camp site at Ewan Maddock Dam near Landsborough is being converted to a camp for war veterans.

SMEAC has gained a 10-year lease with state-owned bulk water provider Seqwater for the former Camp Koongamoon (SMEAC is an acronym for: situation, mission, execution, admin & logistics and communications).

The site is being refurbished to deliver wellbeing programs and assist veterans to transition from military service under the premise 'veterans helping veterans'.

The veterans camp is intended to have minimal impact on the natural environment, with existing structures to be restored, site facilities to be maintained within the existing



campsite footprint and new camp amenities to be installed in line with environmental and water quality best practices.

SMEAC director Tim Cumming said the facility, which is being refurbished, would benefit the

Camp at dam for war veterans

veterans' community. "This site will reconnect and reintegrate veterans back into society," he said.

Sunshine Coast Council's Heritage website says the recreation centre (**one building pictured**) was officially named Camp Koongamoon by Caloundra City Council in 1994. Named after the Maddock family's home, the 50-hectare site was briefly also called the Ewen Maddock Recreation and Environment Centre.

The Eco Camp is neatly sandwiched between 200 hectares of state forest and The Ewen Maddock Dam. Camp SMEAC is around a dozen buildings on 50 hectares of mostly bush land situated just north of the Glasshouse Mountains, 82 km north of Brisbane and around 23 km west from Caloundra.

SMEAC is in the process of refurbishing Camp SMEAC an amazing piece of infrastructure located on the Sunshine Coast.—thanks to various sources for information.

SMEAC Inc. is a veteran run and operated charity which runs on the mantra of Veterans Helping Veterans. Phone 1800 4 76322 <https://smeac.org.au/>

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Where veterans of war remember their mates ... and others who perished nearby



The men who never made it home

A Beechcraft 200 Super King Air, ferrying oil workers crashed in the heavily wooded country here on Sunday 28th August 1983.

Eight Oil workers, three catering staff and the pilot were on board the twin-engine Beechcraft Super King Air when it crashed, killing all 12 people aboard. Returning home from Windorah to Toowoomba the men were looking forward to a well-deserved break from a few weeks of hard work. May they now all Rest in Peace.

Sincere thanks must go to the people of Adavale courageously acting as first Responders and assisting in a heart wrenching recovery Operation.

The families welcome you to visit the Memorial site, located 3.5kms (as the bird flies) from here, or 5.5kms by road, on the Adavale Red road to Quilpie.

More info and updates

John W Duane	Ken Moore	Stephen J Kirwan
Mark A Samuels	Ronald A Strate	Rex Dourman
Stephen Buchanan	Colin J O'Brien	Kenneth H Wetter
Geoffrey J Anderson	Allan R Vidler	Peter F Peck

GUESS who on the left? Local legend Ted Robinson is one of the team who have built up Adavale Veterans Retreat which has been well and truly established over the past three years. The facility offers accommodation and is staffed for most of the year by volunteers, becoming a part of the local community with an important link. On 28 August 1983, a twin-engine Beechcraft King Air flying from Windorah crashed near Adavale killing all 12 aboard — the pilot, eight oil workers and three catering staff. Locals have built a memorial (partly pictured).

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US presence in the
region and conduct-
ing exercises with
allied nations. They
were accompanied
by two KC-135R tank-
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'When you're laughing, the whole world laughs with you'

1. When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.
2. To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.
3. Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.
4. It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.
5. The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
6. When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.
7. I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.
8. I had my patience tested. I'm negative.
9. Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
10. If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"
11. When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing," it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.
12. I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.
13. I run like the winded.
14. I hate when a couple argues in public, and I missed the beginning and don't know whose side I'm on.
15. When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"
16. When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminium can stuffed with celery?
17. I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.
18. When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east."
19. Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out.
20. Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.
21. My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.

- from Facebook page "Crazy but fun".



"Keep Connected"

Veterans' Health Week Free Event

Mudjimba RSL Sub-Branch

43 Cottonwood Street Mudjimba

Saturday 12th October 2024

We Welcome all Veterans, Partners and Members

RSVP: secretary@mudjimba.rslqld.net.au – by 9th October 2024

0800-0820	Light Breakfast
0820-0830	Welcome, General Admin, VHW Theme – Graeme Wong - Lew MacLeod
0830-0900	Social Connection and Brain Health – Patty Shaw Psychologist
0900-0930	Relaxation Methods – Qi Gong – Julie Allen- Lifeforce Wellbeing
0930-1000	Relaxation Methods – Guided Meditation – Julie Allen - Lifeforce Wellbeing
1000-1030	Morning Tea
1030-1100	The Role of Food in Influencing our Social and Emotional Wellbeing – Zoe Marten Accredited Practicing Dietician
1100-1130	Group Exercise and the Connection to Wellbeing – David Barnes-Exercise Physiologist
1130-1145	Keeping Connected – with mates: Mates4Mates – Jack Halling
1145-1200	Keeping Connected- as a Volunteer: Disaster Relief Australia
1200-1215	Keeping Connected with the Community: Buderim Men's Shed- Doug Forsyth- Veteran
1215-1220	Closing remarks – Graeme Wong – Lew MacLeod
1220 -1320	Sausage Sizzle



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Come on in. Sit down. You know you asked me the other week about the decline in Christianity, citing lower church Attendance, closure of churches, fires in churches, lack of Sunday evening services throughout the country ... I have done a bit of research, and find while the census in Australia may say that those identifying as Christian has dropped, the converse is true, that throughout the world, Christianity is increasing, as the Bible says it should be. What do I mean? I am glad you asked.

When Jesus appointed Peter to be the corner stone of His church He stated: "Peter, you are the Rock on which I will build My church, and the Gates of Hell shall not prevail over it!" Wow, they are powerful words, so why is it that our churches have seen a decline in attendance over the years?

Children who went to Sunday School ceased going to church when they became older. Sadly, the grass always looks greener on the other side, and many of our younger folk set out to check out that other side, and never continued the pathway to Heaven.

Others continued their original walk but were not so dedicated and took a 'halfway path, attending church occasionally, but failed to take that path seriously. They met and married a partner with a lukewarm faith and, together, they melted into a lesser and lesser church attendee.

There is a chapter in Isaiah that refers to them: "Bring up a child in the way it is to go, and when it is old, they will not depart from it." Many times, as a Pastor, I counselled the parents of a child who had stopped attending church with the words, that Isaiah did not say, 'when he or she is twenty-one,

Fireside with the Padre



they will not depart from the faith' but when they are old', is the quote.

But there is growth in the church, not only in Australia, but all over the world. Just as we sent missionaries overseas in the past, soon missionaries from overseas will visit Australia.

Most Christian denominations believe that the spread of Christianity is about to occur, with the central figure of what Jesus Christ died on the cross and arose again from the dead, as paramount to that revival.

So, it is not all doom and gloom. You can start the revolution by attending the church of your choosing this Sunday. I can tell you there will be a warm welcome waiting for you.

Just tell them, your Chaplain suggested you just get with the church as it moves ahead, as Christ himself ordered, when He said: "Go you into all the world and preach the Gospel... and He concluded by saying: "and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Until next month, may you stay connected with your church,

Arthur Fry
Honorary Chaplain



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TIMELINE OCTOBER

1 October 1850: Governor-General Sir Charles FitzRoy signed an Act to establish the University of Sydney, 1 October 1850. It was Australia's first university and among the first public, non-denominational and secular universities in the British Empire.

3 October 1992: Dedication of Australian Vietnam Veterans' National Memorial in Canberra and opening by the Prime Minister.

4 October 1913: A fleet of seven brand-new grey-painted warships steamed out of the sea mist and through the Heads into Sydney Harbour, signalling the birth of the Royal Australian Navy with a battlecruiser, three cruisers and three destroyers.

4 October 1957: The Space Age began as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 pounds (83.4kg). and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days.

5 October 1951: The aircraft carrier, HMAS Sydney's, starts its first patrol off Korea's west coast, making Australia the third country (after the USA and Britain) to operate a carrier in the Korean War.

12 October 2002: About 11pm three bombs were detonat-

ed on the Indonesian island of Bali, two in busy Kuta Beach nightspots and one in front of the American consulate in nearby Denpasar; killed were 202 people including 88 Australians. It was carried out by Jemaah Islamiyah, a South-East Asian jihadist organisation with links to al-Qaeda.

16 October 1971: Australian forces hand over control of the Australian base at Nui Dat to South Vietnamese forces. The base was established in 1966 by members of the United States 173rd Airborne, the 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) and the newly arrived 5 RAR. At its peak it was home to about 5000 Australian personnel, but for much of the time most of them were deployed on operations outside the base.

17 October 1917: Stretching across 1693km of Australia's driest and most isolated terrain, the Trans-Australian Railway was completed, providing a link between the eastern states and Western Australia.

17 October 1946: Start of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme, with more than 100,000 working on it up to its official opening in 1972. Migrants of more than 30 nationalities made up about 65 per cent of the workforce.

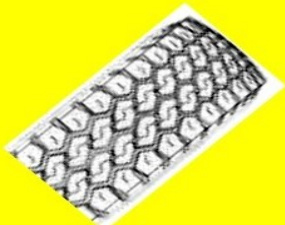
- More next page.

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TIMELINE OCTOBER

18 October 1967: HMAS Perth struck by return fire near Cape Lai, Vietnam, while on the United States 7th Fleet 'gunline'; the only occasion on which an Australian warship suffered casualties from enemy fire during the Vietnam War.

20 October 1973: Opening of the Sydney Opera House, one of the 20th century's most iconic buildings. It broke new ground for design and engineering around the world. It has become a symbol the world immediately associates with Sydney and Australia.

21 October 1805: The Battle of Trafalgar took place between the British Royal Navy and the combined French and Spanish fleets. The victorious British ended the threat of Napoleon's invasion of England. British naval hero Admiral Horatio Nelson was mortally wounded aboard his ship Victory.

24 October 1889: Henry Parkes delivered a speech at the Tenterfield School of Arts on the need for the Australian colonies to federate into one nation. The Tenterfield Oration is significant because, although politicians had been discussing federation for some time, this was the first direct appeal to the public.

25 October 1616: Dirk Hartog became the first European to set foot on the shores of Western Australia, and only the second to record encountering the Australian continent. He landed on what is now known as Dirk Hartog Island.



28 October 1916: A referendum to determine public support for conscription was held in October and failed by a slim margin; a second took place in December 1917 and again most Australians voted against it.

26 October 1985: The Australian Government handed back the title deeds for the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park (Ayers Rock) to the Anangu people, ending decades of determined lobbying by the traditional owners to have their rights recognised.

31 October 1940: The Battle of Britain ended after beginning on 10 July 10, 1940. British pilots in

Spitfires (pictured) and Hurricanes shot down over 1700 German aircraft while losing 915 fighters. "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few," declared Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Sources Include:

<https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/defining-moments-timeline>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_Vietnam_War

<https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/atwar>

<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar>

<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar>

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Roll of Honour — Vietnam, October 1962-75

October 1965

Field, Ronald Eric (214479), 22, 1RAR, Pte, War Cemetery, Rookwood, NSW.

Hansen, Allan Robert (214329), 25, 1 RAR, Pte, Crematorium, Rookwood, NSW.

Ross, Thomas (212612), 25, 1 RAR, LCpl, War Cemetery, Rookwood, NSW.

October 1966

D'Antoine, Gordon Henry (54865), 20, 5 RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Warburton, Graham Francis A (3786978), 21, Pte, 5 RAR, Warnambool Cemetery, Vic.

Womal, Norman James (15170), 28, 5 RAR, Cpl, Bowen General Cemetery, Qld.

October 1967

Freeman, John William (2226078), 21, 1 DivIntel Unit, Pte (Temp. Cpl), Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Sydney.

Harald, Noel Stuart (16141), 30, 2 RAR, Pte, Yeppoon Cemetery, Qld.

O'Shea, Geoffrey (18490), 20, 1SqnSAS, Mulumbimby Cemetery, NSW.

October 1968

Brewer, Kevin Frederick (6708915), 22, 4 RAR, Pte, Ulverstone Cemetery, Tas.

Byrne, Basil Eric (53741), 32, AFV Amenity & Welfare Unit (RA INF), Cpl (TempSgt), Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Davidson, Barry Norton (2788283), 22, 3 RAR, Pte, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Sydney.

Evans, Paul (1732701), 22, 1 RAR, LCpl, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Houston, Kenneth Raymond (2787776), 23, 3 RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

McInerney, Neil Anthony (217514), 20, 1 RAR, Pte, Gundagai Cemetery, NSW.

Shaw, Keith Charles (55358), 21, 4 RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Slattery, John Michael (2787079), 22, 1 RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Stahl, Donald Matthew (21934), 44, RAE, att AATTv, 1965-66, died PNG 1968), WO1, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Leppington, NSW.

Thomson, Ian James (2786038), 22, 3 RAR, Pte, Thirlmere Cemetery, NSW.

Tinkham, John Richard (3791207), 21, 4 RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Van Rijsewijk, Paul Richard (5715180), 21, 3 RAR, LCpl, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

October 1969

Binder, Bernd George Fritz (134994), 21, 9 RAR, Pte, Wangaratta Cemetery, Vic.

Casey, Albert Lesley (218715), 20, 3 CavRegt, Trp, Batlow Cemetery, NSW.

Connors, Ronald Francis (218554), 26, AACC (Att 5 RAR), Rookwood Necropolis, Sydney.

Duncuff, Alan Leslie (5716228), 21, 1 FldSqn, Spr, Allambie Park Cemetery, Albany, WA.

Hansen, Peter Roy (511317), 23, 6 RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Holloway, John Wallace (3794544), 22, 9 RAR, Pte, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

O'Neill, Allan Leslie (36547), 22, Cpl, 2SqnSAS (RA INF), Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Prior, Kevin John (1734329), 22, (RAR, Pte, Rockhampton Crematorium, Qld.

October 1970

Davies, Rex William (422514), 25, 7 RAR, 2Lt, Stirling North Garden Cemetery, Port Augusta, SA.

October 1971

Hall, John (243015), 30, 12 FldRegt, SSgt, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Parker, Roderick Thomas Ross (218346), 27, 12 FldRegt, Sgt, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Scott, Terence Ronald (38649), died 18 Oct 1971 aged 24, served 7 RAR 1967-68, Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Vic.

Schuit, Martinus Jacobus M (4720852), 23, 17 ConstSqn, Spr, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Willoughby, Garry Ian (3797671), 22, 2 RAR, Pte, Lilydale Cemetery, Melbourne.

- *Information and photos from Australian War Memorial, Roll of Honour; Department of Veterans Affairs; Virtual War Memorial, Australia; Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall of Faces; Find A Grave.*

'At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them ...'