



# RICOCHET



Monthly newsletter of VVAA Sunshine Coast Sub-Branch Inc. JANUARY 2022

## End of Vietnam War to be marked in 2023

A range of significant events around the country is being planned to commemorate next year's 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

The Australian Government has committed \$6 million towards the milestone marking formal declaration Australia's involvement was at an end when the Governor-General issued a proclamation on 11 January 1973.

The last combat troops came home in March 1972 apart from a platoon guarding the Australian Embassy, which left in June 1973. However, the RAAF sent aircraft back to Vietnam in 1975 to help with evacuations, the last flying out on Anzac Day that year.

"Australia owes our Vietnam veterans an enormous debt of gratitude," Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel, Andrew Gee Minister Gee said. "We honour and remember the service and sacrifice of each and every one of them.

"At places like Long Tan, Nui Lei, Binh Ba, Coral and Balmoral, Ap My An and many others, Australians served with distinction, in the finest traditions of our armed forces.

"Our country should be very proud

of all they achieved.

"Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam conflict will be an important opportunity for Australians to express the pride, gratitude and respect of the nation.

"The Vietnam War and its aftermath exacted a heavy toll on all those who served and their families. The treatment of our Diggers upon their return home by some of their fellow Australians remains a source of hurt and pain for many.

"The 50-year commemoration is

another important step in helping to heal the wounds that were inflicted back in Australia.

"I will be working closely with the Vietnam veteran community to ensure ... events that honour all Australians who served in the Vietnam conflict.

"The centrepiece will be a national commemorative service at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial on Anzac Parade in Canberra."

Further announcements on the details of specific commemorations and the consultation process will be made on the DVA website in due course.



**NOT an actual war scene, but taken after a floodwater 'invasion' in Maryborough. Gallipoli connection and details, Page 3.**

**See you at your AGM: Drop-In Centre, Tuesday, 22 February, 11 a.m.**



**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](http://www.vietnamvetssc.org.au)

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**General information Page 2.**

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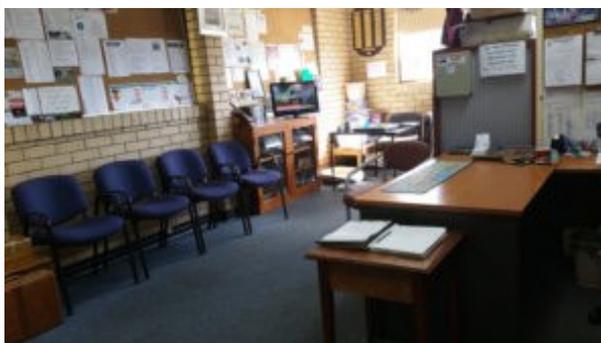
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This service provides counselling and support to all veterans of overseas conflicts. The families of Vietnam Veterans are also able to receive counselling through us. Group programmes include the Lifestyle Management Program (5 days live-in with partner)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

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

A new Army Aviation Command was established late last year within the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force.

“The alignment of Army’s aviation capability under its own command optimises Army Aviation to better support land, amphibious and special operations,” Chief of Army Lieutenant General Burr said.

He announced the establishment of the new command at a ceremonial parade and helicopter flyover at Blamey Square, Canberra.

“The command will improve resilience and adaptability and ensure Army’s training system is agile and contemporary.

“The unity, sense of purpose and focus in a single command will support our land forces to achieve more tasks, in more difficult environments.

“The command also represents the delivery of another key milestone set out in the 2020 Defence Strategic Update and 2020 Force Structure Plan.”

Commanded by Major General Stephen Jobson, Aviation Command will deliver aviation capability to support Army’s land power to enable the Joint Force.

“Aviation Command will coordinate the introduction into service of new helicopters and unmanned aerial systems, and enhance and assure the safety, effectiveness and sustainability of current aircraft,” he said.

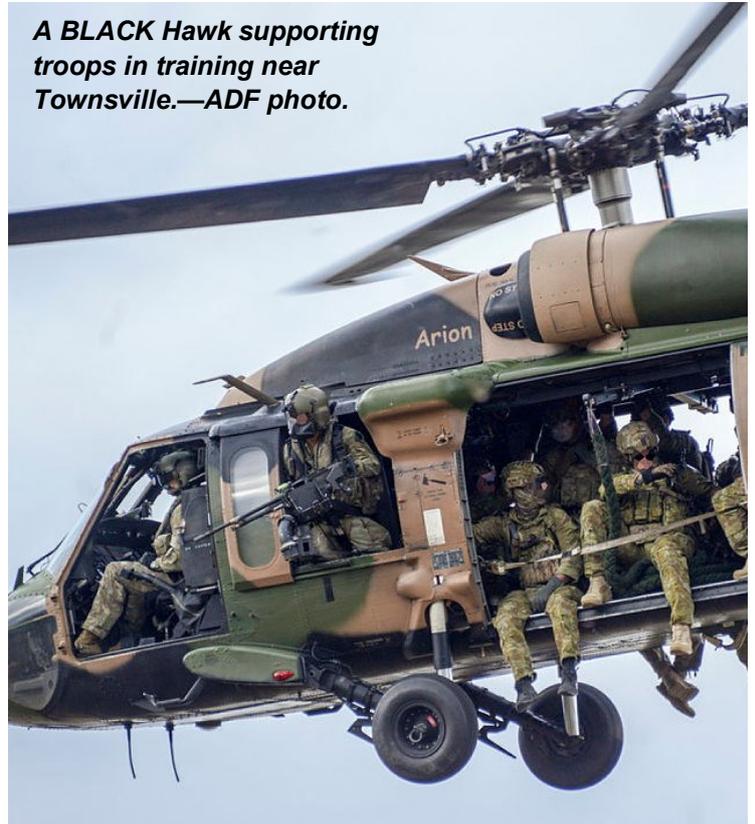
“The changes to Army’s aviation command and control structure will simplify the management of Army’s helicopters — one of the most multifaceted and resource-intensive platforms used by the land forces.”

It means that 16th Aviation Brigade and the Army Aviation Training Centre will transfer from Army Forces Command to Aviation Command.

Army’s aviation capability provides aviation recon-

# Aviation Command formed in Army

*A BLACK Hawk supporting troops in training near Townsville.—ADF photo.*



naissance, firepower support, air assault, and battlefield support and surveillance, in combined, joint and inter-agency environments.

Army operates various types of aircraft including the Boeing CH-47F Chinook, Eurocopter Tiger armed reconnaissance helicopter, NH Industries MRH90 Taipan multi-role helicopter and civil light utility helicopters.



**PAGE 1 photo:** *The effect after recent flooding in Maryborough on a memorial (above) to Lieutenant Duncan Chapman, a local boy who was first ashore at Gallipoli and later died (then Major) at Pozieres. The photos are by Jackie Burridge and from Maryborough State High School Facebook page.*

## Digger dies in flood

A 73-year-old man whose body was retrieved from floodwaters in Yalangur near Toowoomba in early December was a former president of the Roma Returned Services League and Vietnam veteran Robert Menz.

Long-time friend Glyn “Dogga” Dare said he met Mr Menz in the early ‘90s when they had shearing contracts in Birdsville, Bedourie, Innamincka and Thargomindah, it was reported in *The Courier-Mail*.

Mr Dare said he would often go fishing and used to have a drink with Mr Menz, his “great little mate” at the local pub in Thargomindah after work.

Robert Menz (2793245) was born on 5 November 1948 at Wagga Wagga and served with 2 RAR in Vietnam in 1970-71.

## From the President

Hi Everyone,

I sincerely hope that you and yours are both fit and well. Well, all I can say at this point is Thank God that December has been and gone. I don't know about you, but the Christmas period is certainly a telling period at my place. We had ten (10) people staying in the house over the two-week period and as the saying goes, it's nice to have family stay over but how good is it to get your house back again once everyone has gone.

Meanwhile, back at the fort (Drop-In Centre), things have been sailing along as usual. It's pleasing to see that a lot of you haven't forgotten to re-new your membership and the forms keep rolling in. An issue was raised recently by our Membership Officer concerning our membership cards.

It appears that the 'fisho' at Mooloolaba pier is no longer providing the 10% discount to our members as was its previous practice. Apparently, the person who originally arranged the discount is no longer with the firm and when he went, so did our discount! Unfortunately,

no one from the business bothered to tell us about it and we were only informed recently when a member applied for the discount whilst shopping and was told that it was no longer valid.

We have a couple of events coming up over the next couple of months so will be looking for volunteer road deputies again. When and if contacted, please try and make yourself available. As I've said many, many times before, its only for a couple of hours and at the moment, this type of activity is the only income we have coming into the Association.

I have enclosed a picture of a specialist team member, who shall remain an anonymous, showing his absolute skill whilst carrying out a small project on our behalf. God, what would we do without him!

**Best regards**  
**Mick Howe**  
**President**



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## From the Secretary

Well here we go again. Happy new year to all and I trust we are all starting 2022 as healthy as we can be.

As we launch into this new year it appears that Covid will again be our constant companion.

I have already had enquiries from event managers in Qld for upcoming triathlons starting in March.

We have our AGM on the 22nd February and the requirement for nominations to be registered well before by financial members only, is really important.

If you have let your membership slide, now is the time to renew to enable voting at AGM.

This year will again be a time to seek fundraising for our association, so any ideas you may see as opportune please let us know.

After speaking with several long term members of our association, it is quite evident we need to encourage younger veterans to become involved with a view

to strengthen membership and ensure the legacy continues.

I will be speaking with Mick Howe regarding this suggestion and hopefully we will have further action to put in place throughout the year.

Mick and I are keen to continue to volunteer for the upcoming events, men-

tioned earlier in this report, so we hopefully can rely on the usual suspects for support. In closing, I wish you good health and happiness in 2022.

**Kind regards**  
**Garry King**  
**Secretary**



*Three Diggers who were honored with the Victoria Cross were in London for celebration at the end of the war (from left) Privates Frank John Partridge, Richard Kelliher and Sergeant Reginald Rattey." (AWM)*



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# ‘Tonga Assist 2022’ under way

AN ARMY Chinook lands on HMAS Adelaide at Port of Brisbane before the ship sailed for Tonga to provide humanitarian assistance to the Government of Tonga after the eruption of an underwater volcano. BELOW: A RAAF Globemaster had already arrived with aid and crew got to work clearing volcanic ash from the tarmac. — ADF photos by LSIS David Cox, LACW Emma Schwenke. More at <https://images.defence.gov.au/assets/>



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# First lunch for year

AT THE first Rifleman's lunch for 2022 Laurie Drinkwater chatted with his 'Danger Close' altar ego Tim Weir while Tim's partner, Bre, fed baby Hunter. Below: Old Diggers and others enjoyed the catch-up.



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# ARMY M.P. TOOK PART IN MISS WORLD FINALS



Private Annette Sindiga of 1 Military Police Battalion, is one of five Victorian entrants who are involved in the Miss World Australia (pictured left and right).

Her family came to Australia from Kenya when she was 12, settling in Wagga Wagga.

"I noticed soldiers in Wagga Wagga and decided I wanted to join the Army," she said. First, she joined the cadets aged 13 and called Defence Force Recruiting (DFR) on her 16th birthday.

She selected military police and, after a brief posting to Darwin and a deployment to Butterworth, Malaysia, Private Sindiga was posted to 1 Military Police Battalion's Charlie Company at Simpson Barracks, Melbourne, in mid-2020.

She has also taken an interest in modelling and has become one of five Victorian entrants who took part in the Miss World Australia crowning ceremony 2021.



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**Darren Fletcher**  
Dip D.T Adv Dip D.P. (Syd)

Dental Prosthetist

## Special moment



Continuing a family tradition, nursing officer Lieutenant Emma Barker recently graduated from the Royal Australian Naval College, with her father Commander Nick Barker and sister Lieutenant Kate Barker proudly watching on. The sword originally belonged to Commander Barker's father, who served with the Royal Navy. – ADF photo.

## Standown Christmas



VETERAN Rob Eade sent some photos from Standown Park at Kia Ora between Gympie and Rainbow Beach where Christmas celebration were under way. Standown Park was established by Vietnam veteran Rod and Pam Elkington in 2005. Standown Park as a Caravan Park was originally set up as a Veterans Retreat for 'their mates' and later opened to the public to enjoy. They are looking for a buyer or manager to take over. Anyone interested can call 0754865144. On Page 12, the Padre mentions three other retreats.

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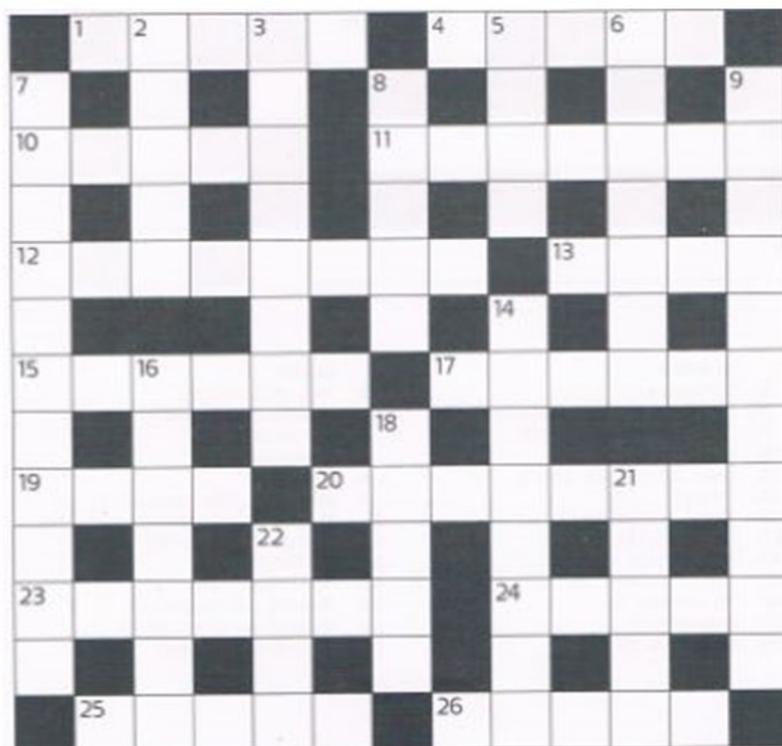
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# JC's BEFUDDLEMENT PAGE ....



**Across**

- 1. Impertinence (5)
- 4. Sunken Ship (5)
- 10. Aroused (5)
- 11. Ambiguous (7)
- 12. Memorial (8)
- 13. New Zealander (4)
- 15. Aboriginal (6)
- 17. Separate grain from straw (6)
- 19. Stumble (4)
- 20. Revenge attack (8)
- 23. Oil tune (anag) (7)
- 24. Oscillate (5)
- 25. Begin again (5)
- 26. Strong room (5)

2. Decorate (5)

- 3. Artistic (8)
- 5. Nation (4)
- 6. Narrow crack (7)
- 7. Attraction (11)
- 8. Vital infection (5)
- 9. Study of birds(11)
- 14. Personal magnetism (8)
- 16. Scottish emblem (7)
- 18. Film director \_\_\_ Bogdanovich (5)
- 21. Motionless (5)
- 22. Spouse (4)

**Down**

While enjoying their evening cocktails, the wife asks her husband, in a seductive voice, "Have you ever seen twenty dollars all crumpled up?"

"No," said her husband. She gave him a sexy little smile, unbuttoned the top of her blouse, reached down into the cleavage and pulled out a crumpled twenty dollar note.

He took the crumpled twenty dollar note from her and smiled approvingly

She then asked him, "Have you ever seen fifty dollars all crumpled up?" "Uh... no, I haven't," he said, with an anxious tone in his voice.

She gave him another sexy little smile, and seductively reached under her dress and pulled out a crumpled fifty dollar note. He took the crumpled fifty dollar note and started breathing a little quicker with anticipation.

"Now," she said, "have you ever seen fifty thousand dollars all crumpled up?" He said, "No!," trying to contain his excitement.

What the wife said next is on page 17.

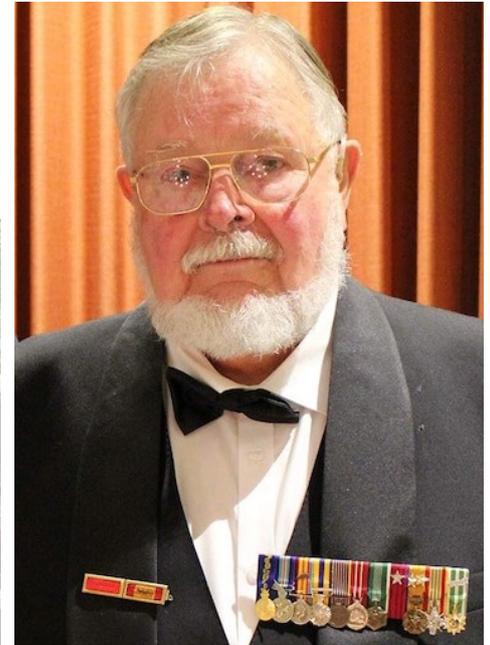
## Aussie Trivia

1. How many Senators are there in Australian Parliament?  
Options: 96, 76, 85, 101.
2. What worldwide pandemic killed more than 12,000 Australians in 1919?  
Options: The Plague, Polio, Spanish Flu, Lyme disease.
3. What was the name of the overweight man who appeared in the 'Life? Be in it' campaign launched in 1975?  
Options: Fred, Norm, Gary, Rob.
4. What was the first album to sell more than one million copies in Australia?  
Options: Whispering Jack by John Farnham, ABBA Gold – Greatest Hits, Thriller – Michael Jackson, Born in the U.S.A – Bruce Springsteen
5. Who is "Matilda" in the Banjo Patterson song Waltzing Matilda?  
Options: Sheep, Swag, Kangaroo, Gum Tree.
6. In what year did Vegemite appear on Australian Supermarket shelves?  
Options: 1954, 1923, 1915, 1935.
7. In what year was Paul Keating elected as Prime Minister?  
Options: 1989, 1991, 1993, 1990.
8. In what year did the Eureka (Rebellion) Stockade occur in the gold-fields of Ballarat?  
Options: 1901 1887 1865 1854
9. Sir Ernest Edward "Weary" Dunlop, AC, CMG, OBE (12th July 1907 – 2nd July 1993) was an Australian surgeon who was renowned for his leadership skills as a POW of the Japanese during WWII. Prior to WWII while studying medicine at Melbourne University he participated in a sport in which he eventually represented Australia. What was this sport?
10. Which international cycling event is held annually in South Australia?
11. The Australian cinema industry began with the 1906 release of the world's first feature-length film. The film is called The story of the [— —]
12. The name Australia is derived from the Latin Australis, meaning ?
- 13 The general term for native Australian flora and fauna used as a source of food is [ b— t— ]

• ALL ANSWERS PAGE 17

# Long Tan veterans farewelled

AT THE funeral of fellow Long Tan veteran Kenneth Tronc in Brisbane recently were (from left) Barry Vassella, Graham Gordon, John Heselwood, Doug Fabian, Harry Smith and Laurie Drinkwater.



COLONEL Adrian Roberts MG MID OAM was farewelled recently after passing away on 29 December in Canberra. He was honoured for his efforts in leading reinforcements from 1 APC Squadron to Long Tan in August 1966, then a Lieutenant. — ABC photo.

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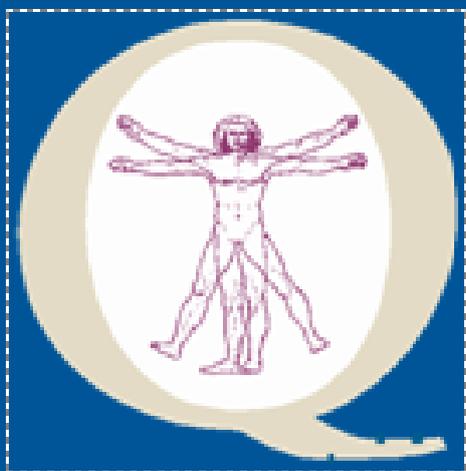
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## Aussie victory in their first battle of WW2

On January 3, 1941, Australian troops fought in their first battle of World War Two at Bardia in Libya.

It involved the 16th Brigade of the 6th Australian Division and later the 17th Australian Brigade.

The attack cost the Australian forces 130 killed and 326 wounded but the enemy 1703 killed, 3740 wounded and nearly 40,000 Italians taken prisoner.

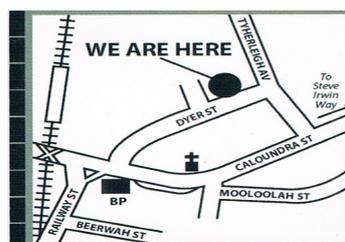
The town was occupied by the Axis forces for the third and last time in June 1942 and abandoned without a fight following their defeat at El Alamein in November 1942.

Bardia is a small town on the Mediterranean coast of Libya, in the region of Cyrenaica, approximately 30 kilometres from the Egyptian border. During the early decades of the 20th century it was developed as a military outpost during Italy's colonisation of the region.

## FRIENDS HELPING OUT



**THANKS** to volunteers like Gordon Hall, Remembrance Day sales were again successful. Gordon organised the stand at Woolworths Sippy Downs where friends Laraine and Susan helped out.



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# When you're laughing, the whole world laughs with you

He was a widower and she a widow. They had known each other for a good number of years, having been high school classmates and having attended class reunions in the past without fail.

On this 60th anniversary of their class graduation, the couple shared the festivities with two other senior singles. They had a wonderful evening, spirits high, with the widower throwing admiring glances across the table . . . and the widow smiling coyly back at him.

Finally, during one dance, he picked up the courage to ask her, "Will you marry me?"

After about 6 seconds of careful consideration, she answered, "Yes... yes, I will!"

Needless to say, the evening ended on a happy note for the widower. However, the next morning he was troubled. Did she say "Yes" or did she say "No"? He couldn't remember. Try as he would, he just could not recall. He

went over and over the conversation of the previous evening, but his mind was blank. He remembered asking the question, but for the life of him could not recall her response.

With fear and trepidation, he picked up the phone and called her. First, he explained that he couldn't remember as well as he used to. Then he reviewed the past evening. As he gained a little more courage, he then inquired of her, "When I asked if you would marry me, did you say "Yes" or did you say "No"?"

"Why, you silly man" she replied, I said, "Yes. Yes, I will! And I meant it with all my heart!"

The widower was delighted. He felt his heart skip a beat.

Then she continued. "And I'm so glad you called. I couldn't remember who asked me!"— JC

The Smiths were unable to conceive children and decided to use a surrogate father to start their family. On the day the proxy father was to

arrive, Mr. Smith kissed his wife goodbye and said, "Well, I'm off now. The man should be here soon."

Half an hour later, just by chance, a door-to-door baby photographer happened to ring the doorbell, hoping to make a sale. "Good morning, Ma'am", he said, "I've come to..."

"Oh, no need to explain," Mrs Smith cut in, embarrassed, "I've been expecting you."

"Have you really?" said the photographer. "Well, that's good. Did you know babies are my specialty?"

"Well that's what my husband and I had hoped. Please come in and have a seat!"

After a moment she asked, blushing, "Well, where do we start?"

"Leave everything to me. I usually try two in the bathtub, one on the couch, and perhaps a couple on the bed. And sometimes the living room floor is fun. You can really spread out there."

• continued next page

# leef.

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<p style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;">Dementia</p>	

• **from previous page**

“Bathtub, living room floor? No wonder it didn’t work out for Harry and me!”

“Well, Ma’am, none of us can guarantee a good one every time. But if we try several different positions and I shoot from six or seven angles, I’m sure you’ll be pleased with the results.”

“My, that’s a lot!”, gasped Mrs Smith.

“Ma’am, in my line of work a man has to take his time. I’d love to be in and out in five minutes, but I’m sure you’d be disappointed with that.”

“Don’t I know it,” said Mrs Smith quietly.

The photographer opened his briefcase and pulled out a portfolio of his baby pictures. “This was done on the top of a bus,” he said.

“Oh, my God!” Mrs Smith exclaimed, grasping at her throat.

“And these twins turned out ex-

ceptionally well - when you consider their mother was so difficult to work with.”

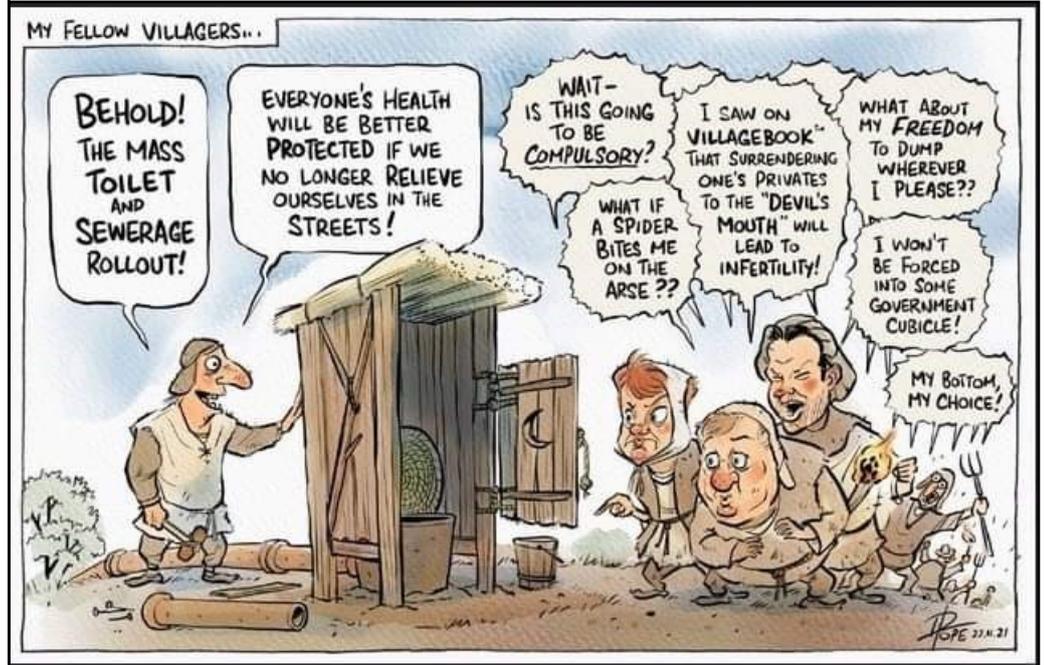
“She was difficult?” asked Mrs Smith.

“I’ll set-up my tripod and we can get to work right away.”

“Tripod?”

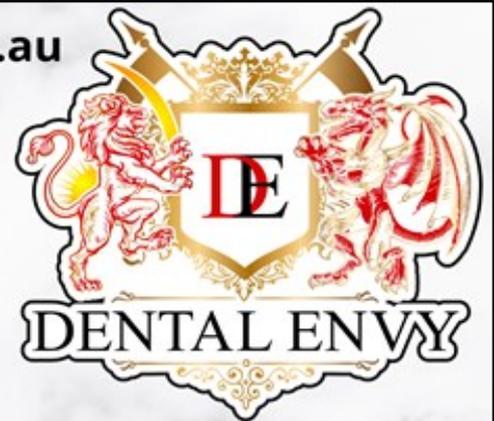
“Oh yes, Ma’am. I need to use a tripod to rest my Canon on. It’s much too big to be held in the hand very long.”

Mrs Smith fainted. – from Mick Howe:



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# February Timeline — from Ba Ria to Breaker Morant

**1 February 1968:** A major Viet Cong attack in the Battle of Ba Ria in the main Australian area of operation in the Vietnam War is defeated with heavy casualties inflicted.

**1 February 1984:** The Medicare system was introduced, establishing basic health care for all Australians.

**3 February 1966:** At Pentridge Jail in Melbourne Ronald Ryan became the last person hanged in Australia. He was convicted of murdering a prison guard while escaping from jail.

**6 February 1851:** On 'Black Thursday' European settlers in Victoria faced their first catastrophic bushfires, which burnt a quarter of the colony. In the previous winter, the Europeans saw snow for the first time in Melbourne, followed by deluges and floods. On 7 February 2009, 173 people were killed in bushfires, again in Victoria.

**February 6 1952:** King George VI (pictured) of England died. Upon his death, his daughter Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Her actual coronation took place on June 2, 1953.



**6 February 1968:** An Australian businessman, Charles Keith Hyland, is captured by the Viet Cong, being one of few Australian civilians held captive during the war. He was released on 25 November, 1968.

**12 February 1851:** The fires did not stop the search for gold with the first discoveries of payable gold at Ophir in New South Wales on this date and later at Ballarat and Bendigo Creek in Victoria. This started a series of rushes that transformed the Australian colonies.

**14 February 1966:** On Valentine's Day Australians woke to a brand-new currency. The decision to change from the Australian pound (with its awkward shillings and pence) to a decimal currency – the Australian dollar – had been a pragmatic, economic one. Yet decimalisation became an opportunity for Australia to assert itself as an increasingly self-assured and forward-thinking country.

**15 February 1942:** Singapore fell to the Japanese and, with one million citizens trapped in the city and water supplies at critical levels, British commander Lieutenant General Arthur Percival surrendered. More than 130,000 Allied troops were taken prisoner.

**15 February 1989:** Soviet Russia completed its military withdrawal from Afghanistan after nine years of unsuccessful involvement in the civil war between

Muslim rebel groups and the Russian-backed Afghan government. Over 15,000 Russian soldiers had been killed in the fighting.

**21 February 1907:** The first surf lifesaving club was founded at Bondi in February 1907 and several others were established soon after. Surf lifesaving clubs soon spread around the country and the surf lifesavers themselves became an Australian icon.

**23–24 February 1966:** 1 RAR is involved in the Battle of Suoi Bong Trang, while providing protection to US engineers building a tactically important road in Bình Dương Province.

**27 February 1902:** Just before the end of the Boer War, lieutenants Harry 'Breaker' Morant (pictured) and Peter Handcock were executed by firing squad for murdering 12 Boer prisoners of war. The controversy surrounding their trial and execution led to Morant becoming a folk hero.



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

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

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~ Onwards and Forward ~



## ***Sleepbus for our homeless***

*Maroochydore Neighbourhood Centre has taken delivery of its Blue Sleepbus (pictured) for homeless men after a successful campaign launched in May 2020 to raise \$100,000.*

*The funding has paid for the installation of safe modern sleeping quarters in a second-hand bus donated by CDC (formerly Buslink).*

*Strong community support and significant large donations from local philanthropists ensured the target for the Sleepbus was reached in 12 months.*

*In June 2021 another \$100,000 was raised in a matter of three weeks to fund another — Pink Sleepbus — for homeless women and children, with fit-out underway. It is scheduled for delivery mid-year.*

## **ASK YOUR ACTIVOT OT**

### **WOULD YOU BENEFIT FROM AN ELECTRIC SCOOTER OR ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR?**

If you have a condition that impacts your mobility you may be eligible for an electric wheelchair or electric scooter through the DVA RAP program. To be eligible you must have the following:

**VETERAN GOLD CARD:** Gold Card holders with a clinically assessed need that is due to a condition that affects mobility.

**VETERAN WHITE CARD:** White Card holders with a clinically assessed need arising from a war-caused or service-related injury/disease/condition covered for under the Treatment Principles.

The application for an electric scooter or wheelchair involves a comprehensive process and may take some time as it requires prior approval from DVA. To start the application process, talk to your general practitioner (GP) or medical specialist first as they will need to complete a medical questionnaire.

Once you have medical clearance your ActivOT OT can complete the next steps. Your OT will visit you in

your home environment and assist you to work out what item will best suit your needs and make sure you have somewhere safe and secure to store it and charge it. Once approved your OT will arrange a trial of suitable electric scooters or wheelchairs to take place at your home. Then once it is delivered your OT will continue to work with you to ensure you can safely operate the scooter or wheelchair.

We are happy to assist you in accessing eligible products and services you are entitled to through the DVA RAP program. It is always our aim to work with you to help keep you living safely and independently in your home for as long as possible.

***Warmest wishes,  
Your ActivOT OT  
Nora***

***Nora English  
Occupational Therapist  
M: 0435874440  
E: [nora@activot.com.au](mailto:nora@activot.com.au)***





## ***War Memorial featuring 1945 to present***



**Conflicts 1945 to Today Gallery at the Australian War Memorial combines cutting edge technology with large iconic objects to tell powerful stories about Australian involvement in conflicts over six decades. Highlights include: a Iroquois helicopter in the Vietnam gallery (above); Kapyong diorama in the Korean gallery; bridge of HMAS Brisbane; Long Tan film; a gun from battle of Fire Support Base Coral and the nose of a Meteor jet fighter (left). You can see highlights and stories here: <https://www.awm.gov.au/visit/visitor-information/galleries/post-1945-galleries>**

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A 'milestone'! This is my 80<sup>th</sup> article since I began writing for 'Ricochet' some seven years after becoming your Chaplain, with the first edition written in May 2013. I did miss a few months in the early days. Further, that Christmas, I decided to change the title, and called it 'Poolside with the Padre.' That idea received a huge 'thumbs down,' so it has been 'Fireside with the Padre' ever since.

One of the many joys in life we have had was when our Association managed Alaric, north of Quilpie. Sadly, we only visited Alaric a few times, but took away great memories of the site and the people who stayed there. Our caretakers always made sure our experiences of Alaric were top-notch, and we thank them for that. It was a fair distance to travel, and I am sure that was the chief reason so many of our members limited their visits to Alaric.

On one visit, we stayed overnight in Charleville, meaning to make it to Quilpie and then Alaric for the Easter



## Fireside with the Padre



Sunday Dawn Service, planned to be held in the Bush Chapel at Alaric that was built by fellow Veterans from Geelong district. We were delayed and did not arrive in Alaric until noon, which was too hot to hold a 'Dawn Service.'

We finally held our 'Dawn Service' at 4 p.m. in the Bush Chapel. My 2 Cav. mate, Neil, was the 'Altar Boy' for the service, and I never did find out where he stashed the left-over altar wine.

Many years later, Neil found another Veterans Retreat, Camp Gregory, on the Gregory River near Woodgate, close to Childers. Neil and I became Members of Camp Gregory and popped in to see the advances the local Maryborough and Hervey Bay Veterans had made to the site. But we kept happy memories of Alaric, memories that can never be repeated.

Earlier this year, Neil found a Veterans' retreat advertised on the internet, and took the courage, (ex-Tankie, you know?) to book 10 days at Columboola Country Veterans' Retreat, situated midway between Chinchilla and Miles on the Western Downs.

Columboola (pictured) has well-appointed cottages, fishing, swimming, creek-side settings with waterfalls flowing through the 265-acre property, modern amenities, peace and quiet, bush camping, powered sites, and a large, covered communal shed with barbecues. Rates are most competitive and should please visitors.

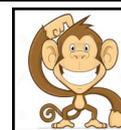
In order that we can share the good news of a really good Veterans retreat, new to the Veterans' market, interested campers can contact Colin or Venessa (ph. 074665 8293; email [columboola.country@bigpond.com](mailto:columboola.country@bigpond.com) or see [www.columboolacountry.com.au](http://www.columboolacountry.com.au). Annette and I may see you out there soon.

Until next month, please keep praying that the Covid-19 virus will be eradicated from our lives, and that life, as we knew it, can return to normal. May God bless us all.

**Arthur Fry**  
**Honorary Chaplain**



## Answers from page 11



### Trivia Answers

1. 76.
  2. Spanish Flu.
  3. Norm.
  4. Whispering Jack by John . Farnham.
  5. Swag.
  6. 1923.
  7. 1991.
  8. 1854.
  9. Rugby Union
  10. The Tour Down Under
  11. Kelly Gang
  12. Southern
  13. Bush tucker
- (PHOTO: No. 9, Weary Dunlop as a rugby player)



### Crossword Answers

**Across:-** 1. Sauce, 4. Wreck, 10. Awoke, 11. Unclear, 12. Cenotaph, 13. Kiwi, 15. Native, 17. Thresh, 19. Trip, 20. Reprisal, 23. Outline, 24. Swing, 25. Renew, 26. Vault.

**Down:-** 2. Adorn, 3. Creative, 5. Race, 6. Crevice, 7. Fascination, 8. Mumps, 9. Ornithology, 14. Charisma, 16. Thistle, 18. Peter, 21. Still, 22. Wife

Poser: What the wife said next!  
She said, "Check the garage."



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# Roll of Honour – Vietnam, February 1962-75 ...

## February 1966

Andrews, John Harker (211090), 40, AATTV (att. RAI), Sgt (Temp. WO2), Albany Creek Crematorium, Brisbane.

Belleville, Graham Rhodes (54956), 32, AATTV (att. RAI), Lt (Temp. Capt.), Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Grills, Edward Anthony (215418), 20, 1RAR, Pte, Stroud Cemetery, NSW.

MacDonald, James Alexander (53283), 27, RAE (att. AATTV), Sgt (Temp. WO2), Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Seipel, Raymond Douglas (15985), 24, 1RAR, Cpl, Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.

Suter, Thomas (17665), 20, 1RAR, LCpl, Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

## February 1967

Arnold, Peter John (2781363), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Inverell Cemetery, NSW.

Birchell, Michael James (2781899), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Evergreen Memorial Park, Tamworth, NSW.

Bourne, Donald Mackenzie (23916), 35, 5RAR, Maj., Woden Cemetery, Phillip, Canberra.

Carruthers, John (36911), 28, 5RAR, Lt (provisional), Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Clark, Donald Murray (5713804), 21, 5RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, WA.

Cliff, Richard William (1411047), 21, 1FldRegt, Gnr, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Brisbane.

Green, George Bruce (2782127), 21, 5RAR, LCpl, Pinegrove Memorial Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.

Hanley, Maxwell Powell (43593), 31, AUSINT, Cpl (Temp. WO2), Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Kelly, Barry Walter (6410158), 22, 6RAR, Pte, Cornelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.

Kirby, John William (27758), 31, 6RAR, Sgt (Temp. WO2), Mount Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.

Milligan, Robert Bruce (29635), 30, 5RAR, Lt (Temp. Capt.), Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Sydney.

Mitchinson, Kevin Leslie (4717751), 21, 3Cav.Regt, LCpl, Garden of Remembrance, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Pomroy, Victor Ian (3786644), 21, 3Cav.Regt, Trp, Springvale Crematorium, Melbourne.

Poole, Michael Damien (342916), 20, 5RAR, Pte (Spec. List Bandsmen), Dromana Cemetery, Mornington Peninsula, Vic.

Powter, Douglas Roy J (2782783), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Parkes General Cemetery, NSW.

Rich, Adrian William (38728), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Hazelwood Cemetery, Vic.

Riley, Wayne Maurice (5411599), 19, 6RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Rooney, Kerry Michael (15561), 24, 6RAR, LCpl, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs, Brisbane.

Sadow, Richard Wayne (43496), 20, 5RAR, Pte, Albany Creek Crematorium, Brisbane.

Waters, Brian David (5713981), 22, 6RAR, Pte, Tambellup Cemetery, WA.

Webster, David Raleigh (5713986), 21, 6RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, Perth.

Webster, James Clifton (5713751), 22, 5RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

Wilsen, Robert Peter (4717841), 21, 3CavRegt, Trp, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

## February 1968

Ayres, Marvin Walter (216920), 23, 7RAR, Pte, Rookwood Military Cemetery, Sydney.

Baines, George Terence (214230), 28, 1Sqn SAS, Sgt, Woronora Crematorium, Sutherland, Sydney.

Caston, Robert John (4719003), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

De Vries Van Leeuwen, Thomas J. (4718756), 22, 3RAR, Pte, Mount Barker Cemetery, SA.

Doherty, John Alexander (3789770), 23, 3RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

Garrett, John Edgar (1200473), 20, 1FldSqn, LCpl, East Ballina Cemetery, Ballina, NSW.

Godden, Guy Richard (6708763), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Carr Villa Cemetery, Launceston, Tas.

Grose, Thomas Joseph (61582), 20, 2RAR, Pte, Cornelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.

Mathews, Geoffrey Francis (5714739), 21, 3RAR, Pte, Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.

McLachlan, Colin William (13053), 38, 1FldSqn, Sgt, Canungra Cemetery, Qld.

McMillan, Ross Charles (2785033), 22, 7RAR, LCpl, Uralla Cemetery, NSW.

Menz, James Leslie (38838), 22, 1DivLocBtry, LBdr, Marysville Cemetery, Vic.

Parrello, Antonio (36337), 30, AATTV (att. RAI), Sgt, Botany General Cemetery, Botany, Sydney.

Pattison, Allan Graham (44042), 19, 1FldSqn, Spr, Kadina Cemetery, SA.

Perrin, Robert Graham (3789447), 22, 7RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

- Continued next page

## ... Roll of Honour – Vietnam, February 1962-75

Rogers, John (4718449), 22, 2RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Steen, David John (4719232), 21, 1FldSqn, Spr, Penola New Cemetery, SA.

Taylor, Leonard Alexander (3787987), 22, 3RAR, 2Lt, Box Hill Cemetery, Melbourne.

Vickers, Patrick John (O1622), 32, RAN HFV, LtCdr, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Wilson, Kevin Ronald (3411951), 22, 2RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Springvale, Melbourne.

### February 1969

Archer, Gary Alex (2788583), 22, 9RAR, Pte, Sydney War Cemetery, Sydney.

Byrne, Robert Alan (2786525), 22, 4RAR, Pte, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.

Chant, Peter Allan (44265), 239, 9RAR, LCpl, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

McConachy, Malcolm Ross (1201200), 21, 9RAR, LCpl, Belgian Gardens Cemetery, Townsville, Qld.

McGuire, Raymond Alfred (2787478), 23, 4RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Rookwood, Sydney.

Petersen, Victor Neils (1733375), 23, 4RAR, Pte, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

### February 1970

Baker, Douglas Alfred (43555), 27, 8RAR, Sgt, Happy Valley Cemetery, Happy Valley, SA.

Barrett, James Joseph (1200097), 24, 8RAR, LCpl (tempCpl), Mount Gravatt Lawn Cemetery, Brisbane.

Carlyle, Hugh (43941), 21, 3CavRegt, Trp, Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide.

Hoban, William Joseph (15400), 39, 8RAR, Sgt, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Hubble, Rodney Noel (55566), 19, 1FldSqn, Spr, Perth War Cemetery and Annex, WA.

Jackson, Robert James (2783512), 25, 8RAR, Cpl, Greta Cemetery, NSW.

MacLennan, Larry James (3795935), 21, 8RAR, Pte, Keilor Cemetery, Melbourne.

Maza, Reginald Nelson (15142), 39, 32SmlShpSqn, LCpl, Botany General Cemetery, Sydney.

Munday, Barry John (3795712), 22, 8RAR, Pte, Springvale Cemetery, Melbourne.

Pesonen, Timo Esko A (7154), 20, 8RAR, Pte, Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Richter, Philip Mackay (3796110), 21, 8RAR, Pte, Woden Cemetery, Phillip, Canberra.

Thompson, Barry John (2789920), 22, 5RAR, Pte, Gunning Cemetery, Gunning, NSW.

West, Garry Maxwell (61912), 19, 8RAR, Pte, Garden of Remembrance, Comelian Bay Public Cemetery, Hobart.

Whiston, Barry John (1202024), 23, 3CavRegt, LCpl, Mount Thompson Crematorium, Holland Park, Brisbane.

### February 1971

Kowalski, Peter Francis (1735712), 23, 2RAR, Pte, Nudgee Cemetery, Brisbane.

Lyddieth, Trevor (26832), 38, RAASC (at AATTV), WO2, Northern Suburbs Crematorium, Chatswood, Sydney.

Lyon, Terance Edward (52503), 35, 2AOD, WO2, Springvale Cemetery, Springvale, Melbourne.

Patten, Raymond Brian (2141115), 20, 7RAR, Pte, Rookwood Necropolis, Rookwood, Sydney.

Ross, Grant Stuart (17101), 27, HQ AFV RAAOC, Capt., Queensland Garden of Remembrance, Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Brisbane.

Talbot, Alan (3797623), 21, 7RAR, Pte, Fawkner Crematorium & Memorial Park, 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.**



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