

RSL WODEN VALLEY SUB-BRANCH ENEWS



August 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

After a fairly cold and wet winter, Spring has sprung and has brought some welcome sunshine and moderately warmer temperatures. Although Mother Nature can be a bit sneaky at this time of year, here's hoping for a bright time ahead, especially as the days get longer.

The past month has seen workloads in the Welfare and Compensation areas continue at a steady pace. Each area has provided some frustrations for our staff and volunteers who continue to assist and advise members and other clients.

In the Welfare Ream (and Day Club), a small but willing group of members have operated the telephone support network and have referred issues to Peter Sutton or Trish Lowe as required. In thanking those members who are on this roster, I commend it to others who might like to join in. If you would like information on what is involved, please contact either Trish or Peter.

The Compensation Team also continued to manage a steady flow of new clients as well as those who have been in the queue for several months. Concurrently, we have gradually been developing innovative methods to induct and train new compensation advocates under the watchful eye of those who have been on the job for a while. Although this will be a work in progress for a while, we are cautiously optimistic that we can maintain and enhance this essential capability.

Many of you will have seen reports of our engagement in the AATTV Commemoration Services that marked the 60th Anniversary of the Team's arrival in South Vietnam; the Vietnam Veterans Day Service; the Member for Bean, Mr David Smith's visit to a Coffee Catch Up (CCU); and my attendance at a Legacy function. Peter Sutton attended a meeting of what we hope will be a revived Kindred Organisations Committee (KOC) for the ACT.

14 members attended the August OGM in the hallways at Holder on 30 Aug. The Board has decided to hold the September OGM at Holder due to the continuing uncertainties regarding the COVID restrictions.

On the social side, a core group of caffeine addicts supports our Friday morning CCUs where they share some stories in good company. You might also have seen Warning Orders for the October Dinner that will be rebadged as an 'Afternoon Tea' to be held in *The Corey Room* as we did in June; and the Christmas Party that will be held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club on Wednesday, 7 December.

Please stay alert for the soon to be released flyers about Veteran Health Week activities we are planning from late September to early October, and several bus trips for November and December.

Our Patron, Dame Annette King provided the photograph and the story of Terry Colhoun's presentation to NZ High Commission.

If you are interested in hearing some excellent music in a commemorative setting, I commend the POW Requiem scheduled to held at Llewellyn Hall on 29 October. Please also see the notice about the recording of the Vietnam Requiem in this newsletter

In closing this newsletter, I commend all members to the Winter Edition of *The Serviceman*, in which Bob Cremer has again excelled himself. I also thank all members and staff who have contributed to any of our endeavors during the past month and encourage them and others to keep up the good work or to join in.

Best wishes to all and don't forget to call us if you need any advice, assistance, or just want a chat.

Jim Gilchrist

President

RSL Woden Valley Sub-Branch OGM on Tuesday 30 August 2022



Terry Coulhoun Donates Poster to NZHC

This poster was picked up in 1984 from New York City at the landmark 'Te Māori' Art Exhibition held at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Almost 40 years later Mr Ernest (Terry) Colhoun AM of Canberra gifts it to the New Zealand High Commission Australia.

STORY: *Mr Colhoun worked as a successful broadcaster for the ABC and at one stage was based in New York in the 80's. Mr Colhoun's late wife Jean picked up the poster some 40 years ago while attending the Te Māori exhibition in New York. She loved the Tā moko design so much she brought it back to Australia and had it framed and cared for all these years. Now at 97 years of age Mr Colhoun decided to honour his late wife's love for this art piece by gifting it to us. The poster is now proudly displayed at our High Commission office.*





**THE HON MATT KEOGH MP
MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL**

MS22-000244

Dear Sir/Madam,

2022 COMMEMORATIONS

I am pleased to provide you with the latest commemorative resources to mark the 75th Anniversary of Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers and the 2022 Remembrance Day.

On 14 September 2022, 75th anniversary of Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations will be commemorated. Australians were the first international peacekeepers in 1947, and have been serving on the ground continuously since that time. This anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on Australia's significant history as global supporters of peace and stability.

Remembrance Day is commemorated nationally on 11 November. On this day Australians pause for one minute's silence to remember those who have died or suffered in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

In addition to the posters, I have also included the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) 2023 commemorative calendar and the latest Century of Service book, *Independence*. The calendar explores the theme of friendship during military service. *Independence* shares stories of men and women who have served with the Royal Australian Navy. These products and further resources are available for free on the Anzac Portal at anzacportal.dva.gov.au.

Should you have further enquiries, please contact DVA's Community Engagement team on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) or email education@dva.gov.au. You can follow DVA's work on both Facebook and Twitter at facebook.com/DVAAUS and twitter.com/DVAAUS.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matt Keogh'.

HON. MATT KEOGH MP

29 August 2022

Encl



New resources are now available to help you recognise the 75th anniversary of Australian peacekeeping.

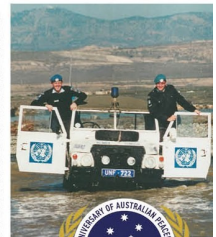
These include a commemorative poster honouring all Australians who have served in peacekeeping and peacemaking roles, and free education resources for primary and secondary students.

'Expressions', an art curriculum resource, looks at the experiences of peacekeepers in East Timor and the Middle East through different art mediums.

You can also download the 'Peacekeeping and the United Nations' digibook for primary aged students, and two new online teaching resources based on first hand interviews with peacekeepers.

Download all these new materials and much more from:

<https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/.../learning-about...>



Commemorating 75 years of Australian PEACEKEEPING

Australians have been in the field continuously since 1947, serving in multinational operations to restore and maintain peace and rebuild communities.



DFA and UNSW Defence Career Comeback Course - application period extended to 14 SEP 22

[Pilot program launched to support Defence families in staging a career comeback - Defence Families of Australia \(dfa.org.au\)](#)

We would like to advise that after families have asked for more time to apply, the application period has been extended to **Wednesday, 14 September 2022**.

The Defence Career Comeback Course (Pilot) is a three-day face-to-face program run by the AGSM at UNSW Business School Sydney from 15-17 November 2022.

All immediate family members of current or former serving ADF members based in NSW and ACT, including border towns such as Albury-Wodonga, can apply.

The program will help Defence and veteran family members to:

1. Clearly identify their career goals
2. Map the path to get there
3. Figure out what hurdles or challenges there may be
4. How to overcome those hurdles.

Participants will have access to mentors in their chosen sector through the UNSW AGSM business school alumni network.

There will be a formal application process facilitated through UNSW. Applications will be assessed by a panel consisting of a representative from DFA, Defence and UNSW.

This program is a pilot to test the concept and assess demand from families for this type of support. Applications close Wednesday, 14 September 2022.

Please share this opportunity with your stakeholders and family members. Information about the program is on our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

The Defence Career Comeback Course (Pilot) will be run in memory of the late Mrs Victoria Holland, DFA National Delegate for Central and Northern NSW, who passed away after a brief battle with cancer in November 2021.

This program is possible with the support of Defence through Defence Member and Family Support.

For more information about the program, please go to https://asb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3rYuX4QqCq8ApWm

Yours sincerely,



Melody Song (she/her)
National Communications Officer
My work days are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

☎ [0419 781 079](tel:0419781079)
✉ communications@dfa.org.au
🌐 dfa.org.au



REMINDER ! Flowers of Peace & 'Vietnam Requiem'



'POW Requiem' tickets on sale now

Tickets are now live for this once in a lifetime performance on Saturday, 29 October 2022, Llewellyn Hall, ANU School of Music, Canberra. Join us to witness a truly memorable concert featuring Greta Bradman, Andrew Goodwin, Riley Lee (shakahachi), Canberra Symphony Orchestra and guests, musicians from the Australian Defence Force, ANU Chamber Orchestra and Choirs when we will remember WWII Prisoners of War, primarily those captured in Asia, and their fight for freedom.

Chris Latham OAM, Director of the Flowers of Peace talks about his vision for this concert in the link below...

Book your seats now

[POW Requiem tickets | Llewellyn Hall | Ticketek Australia](#)

Director's vision

[POW Requiem - Flowers of Peace Director's vision - YouTube](#)



Re-live the 'Vietnam Requiem'

With Vietnam Veterans' Day 2022 upon us, at last we can offer you the opportunity to re-live the concert. The options are DVD or USB. Direct download will be coming soon. Both Act 1 and Act 2 are included, along the speeches from the Sunday performance. This concert recording has been made at cost and we have included trackable postage to ensure the contents do not get wet nor lost. After ordering, you can expect delivery approximately 10 days thereafter. We will keep you informed via email of progress with the despatch date.

What a treat this concert was. May you enjoy it over and over again.

Please keep your Program Guides handy when watching the video as it gives the facts and stories behind each of the movements in the Requiem. If you do not have a Guide you can download a copy [here](#).

Buy your copy now

[Music and art to help heal trauma \(flowersofpeace.com.au\)](http://flowersofpeace.com.au)

THE EDDISON DAY CLUB

“ Although only very few volunteers and members of the Eddison Day Club have over the past few months, at times only two, been coming to the Canberra Irish Club on a Friday for lunch, we had been hoping that more would venture out and attend. The latest wave of COVID-19 infections from the new variants are increasing the cases in the ACT and the states. The Canberra Irish Club has informed us that they have not reported any cases in the last few weeks. We had, a few weeks ago, four of the lunch attendees test positive. Although it is not readily definitive that these cases were infective at the Canberra Irish Club, it has made them and others hesitant to return. As mentioned before, we can't expect to have guest speakers or entertainers come with so few being there in the audience.

Following consultation with several of the now inactive management committee, it is clear that there is not a great prospect of many people returning in the immediate future due to the rapid increase in cases of COVID-19 everywhere. The only solution is at present to keep up the 'phone calls by those members and volunteers, to the small group that they were assigned in March 2020 after the first closure. If we can maintain regular contact with these people, they feel less isolated. There is regular contact by other groups, within the Club, outside of those groups. We also think that it is also important that those who do attend on Friday for lunch do not feel that they have been neglected if there is nobody there to greet them.

The Eddison Day Club is an integral and long-term section of the welfare area of the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch and it would be a shame for it to disappear.

Regards

Peter Sutton

Vice President Welfare



Woden Valley Sub Branch





COFFEE CATCH UP EVERY FRIDAY 10-12

Members and guests are welcome to join us for a chat and enjoy freshly brewed coffee & cake with former service mates. Every Friday from 10 to 12 in The Corey Room, Level 2A, of the Grant Cameron Community Centre, 27 Mulley Street, Holder.

Please note that the Eddison Day Club is currently meeting on only a very casual basis for lunch at midday Fridays.



Contact Us

Give us a call for more information or access to our services

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Visit us on the web at
www.rslwoden.org.au

Office hours are
9am-3pm Mon-Fri

PS.

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