

The Communicator

Royal Australian Signals Association (Queensland)



AUGUST 2015

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PRESIDENTS REPORT



N/A

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Secretary/Treasurer Report

The midyear function attendance was down in numbers, probably due to Bill Vanroosmalen and party being absent on leave and the fact that we travelled into the far reaches of the world (aka Toowoomba). However the ones that made the journey certainly enjoyed themselves, and to have a guest speaker join us from 7 SIG REGT was great. Thanks to our President for that little bit of an added bonus. We had the room to ourselves, the meal can out in double quick time and there was lashings off it. I thoroughly enjoyed my lunch and I think everyone else did too. There were a few of us who had made the lunch as excuse to have a weekend away, we enjoyed the company and overall had a good weekend. Hope to see more of you at Christmas time.

Chris

Editor

Adding to above report. The words from Major Andy Mullan from 7 Sig regarding where R A Sigs are at the moment and where they are headed was informative and interesting. Again the food was plentiful and good, again numbers were down let's see if we can have larger numbers at the Christmas function when and where yet to be decided. George Parker has thrown a suggestion into the ring for a function at Helensvale as soon as I know I will pass the info on.

Again if members have pc capabilities please send me your E mail address this will ensure you receive up to date info, thanks.

Membership dues

Remember. It's only \$5 per year.

You can post them to the treasurer at PO Box 3038 Chermside West Qld 4032 or a bank transfer to Royal Australian Signals Association (Queensland) BSB 638-260 Acc No 11247649 S26

If you have already paid and are financial then skip this bit

Digger



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FYI

PTSD Forum (From RSL Runner)

An estimated 1.5 million Australians are afflicted with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and there are millions more worldwide. PTSD commonly affects people in the Defence Force, emergency services and medical staff, with many affected being repeatedly subjected to tragic events. In fact, nearly all of us can experience some sort of tragic event that will challenge our senses, and can have a short-term effect, or it could be long-lasting, depending on the person and the event.

PTSD is one of the least understood health conditions by the general public and even the medical fraternity. Unfortunately, there is negligible support for what is the costliest health problem we have. In Australia, we are experiencing a growing crisis.

It is universally thought that PTSD can never be cured completely but it must be able to be managed much more effectively than is currently occurring. There are many different methods of treatment that are proving successful in limited situations. But they are not recognised and so they are not funded. These contributors deserve a hearing on a national stage. There are many questions posed that demand discussion. There are hundreds of thousands worldwide who have not been diagnosed. How do we reach out to them or they to us?

So what are we doing to make people aware of this condition?

Stand Tall for PTS and RSL (Queensland Branch) are partnering to bring you an international forum on PTSD at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, on the weekend of 11 and 12 September 2015.

The forum will bring together many of the people, both here in Australia and internationally, who are involved in funding, diagnosing, treating and researching all aspects of PTSD. As an outcome we are aiming to produce the first credible, comprehensive international report on post traumatic stress, complete with an action plan for the future. You can register for the PTSD15 forum now [online](#). In the lead up to this conference, an online forum has been launched to start the conversation around PTSD. If you are presently serving in the military; if you are a first responder; if you are a veteran of any kind; if you are a victim of crime, an accident or a national disaster – we encourage you to join the conversation [online](#) and contribute to unraveling the mysteries of this illness.



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Obligation to notify DVA

If you are receiving a means-tested pension, you are obliged to provide information about any changes that could affect either your eligibility for the pension or the rate at which it is paid. If you are informed that you are likely to receive an award, payment or settlement of a compensation claim, you are legally obliged to contact DVA to determine how this payment might affect your pension. More detailed information about your obligations if you are receiving any kind of DVA payment is included in the *Managing Your Pension* booklet.

If you currently receive other DVA benefits or payments and are granted compensation payment

You are obliged to notify DVA if you are already receiving a pension or other benefit and you are awarded compensation under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRCA) or *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (MRCA). If you already receive a pension including a war widow's/widower's pension or any treatment entitlement, you must inform DVA within 21 days of receiving compensation approval. If you receive Service Pension or Income Support Supplement, you must notify DVA within 14 days, (28 days if living overseas or receiving a Remote Area Allowance), to ensure the Service Pension is not overpaid. If you do not inform DVA about a change in circumstance within the legal time periods, you will be asked to pay any overpayment back.

- [DVA23 - Notifying DVA of your compensation payment \(HTM\)](#)
[DVA23 - Notifying DVA of your compensation payment \(PDF 96 KB\)](#)

If you currently receive any DVA payment and your circumstances change

You are legally obliged to contact DVA in writing or telephone to advise of any change in circumstances which may be relevant to compensation payments and any other DVA payments you are receiving. More information about the types of changes you need to report to DVA is included in the [You and Your Pension Booklet](#). The sorts of changes you need to contact DVA about are:

Personal circumstances: You need to inform DVA if your personal circumstances change in a way that may change your eligibility to receive DVA payments.

Circumstances: You need to inform DVA if your residential circumstances change in a way that may change your eligibility to receive DVA payments

Pension eligibility: You need to inform DVA if your pension eligibility changes in a way that may change your eligibility to receive DVA payments.

Financial circumstances; Your individual financial circumstances such as the type of pension you receive, whether you are single or partnered a home-owner or a non-home owner, and your mix of income, financial assets and non-financial assets all affect your rate of pension.

You need to inform DVA if circumstances change in a way that may change the rate or pay ability of your DVA payment. Details can be found in [You and Your Pension](#).

Contacting DVA

You can find more details on how to contact through the [contact DVA](#) webpage. For all forms needed same site.

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REUNIONS AND EVENTS

Golf Day

The day is Friday November 13th this year. To be held at McLeod Country Golf Club, Middle Park, Brisbane, 4074 and is a shotgun start at 1200hrs.

The cost is \$90, including cart and dinner.

The money raised \$16,500 over the past 3 years, goes to The SAS Resources Fund.

Denis Hare has been a volunteer at the last 3 events, and will be there again this year.

APPRENTICE REUNIONS

There are two reunions happening, all Intakes Apprentice Reunion in Albury 23-25 Oct 2015.

21 Intake Reunion at Balcombe 19-21 Feb 2016.

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

18 August 2015

CHRISTMAS GATHERING VVAQ 6/12/15

BYO Rations and Drinks, Banksia Beach, Solander Esp.

Bribie Island

103 Sig Sqn 50th Anniversary/Corp Week in Townsville.

Activities in Townsville during Corps Week 2-6 Nov 2015. 3CSR will commemorate this occasion by hosting 50th Anniversary celebrations for 103 Sig Sqn in Townsville over the period 2-6 November 2015. This will coincide with 3CSR hosting the annual Royal Australian Corps of Signals Corps week celebrations, where over 400 members of the Corps will gather to compete in the Caduceus Cup challenge and celebrate Corps life.

Parade will be held with a focus on 103 Signal Squadron, but may include elements of the older 104 Signal Squadron who are also celebrating their 50th Anniversary in 2015.

The 3CSR Ball will be held for 3CSR members and invited guests, specifically 103 Signal Squadron veterans, olds, bolds and ratbags. The ball will be held on the grounds of Jupiter's Casino on the night of the 6 November 2015, with a projected cost of around \$100. For more information on the planning, etc.

Contact Lofty Evans (3CSR Museum): loftuse68@optusnet.com.au

104 Sig Sqn 50th Anniversary Reunion 2016 .

Will be held at Twin Town Services Club **28-30 May 2016**.

Full details and registration form on the reunion website at:

Restricted to 350 attendees because of venue reconfigurations! 1CSR looking at possible unit activities in Darwin in November 2015 which may include old and bold.

<http://2016.au104.org>

Vietnam 50th Anniversary of Long Tan Reunion 15th to 23rd Aug 2016. See details at:

http://www.buddhas-place.com/avietnam_2016_1admin.html

RASigs Reunion Melbourne 9-14 Nov 2016 – To be held in the Yarra Valley, Victoria. Being hosted

by RASigs Assoc Vic. For more details contact Gavin Lee (President RASigs Assoc Vic)

gavin.lee18@hotmail.com

WRAAC 65th Anniversary (including RAANC) – Canberra 12 to 15 Feb 2016

Should any WRAAC/RAANC Corps members be interested in attending the 65th Anniversary, please contact Anniversary Organising Committee (AOC) Secretary wraac65@gmail.com or write to the AOC Secretary, WRAAC 65 PO Box 73, JERRABOMBERRA NSW 2619.



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**Liney Reunion
15-16 August
2015**



To all you (Mongrel) lineys that have not heard! Get this! It's on!

WHEN

15th August 2015

WHERE

Tocumwal

CONTACT

Gavin Lee gavin.lee18@hotmail.com

Darren Larkman: Facebook: Royal Order of Mongrel lineys

DO IT NOW! DO NOT WAIT.

RA Sigs Qld branch Christmas lunch

VENUE: Salt Water Creek Hotel Helensvale. 22 Signato Drive Helensvale (almost directly opposite Movie world) using the Movie world exit off the Motorway. Real easy to find.

DATE: Will be held on Sunday 29th Nov 11:30am

ADDRESS: 22 Signato Drive Helensvale (almost directly opposite Movie world) using the Movie world exit off the Motorway. Real easy to find.

Please RSVP Ken North ken13linda@optusnet.com.au

OR Bill Vanroosmalen on 3813 5040 by the 22/11/2015

VALES

35498 Edward Rex (Rex) WIGGINS	Kenneth Warren BEAL. OCS Class of Dec 67.	36776 Brian Robert (Gravel) FISHER 104 Signal Squadron South Vietnam 07/01/1971 - 30/09/1971	Major Keith McGrath. Keith was RSM of the School of Signals at Balcombe in the late 1950s early 1960s.
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**SEE YA
DIGGER**

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