

Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Sub Branch



PARADISE POST



July 2017

Welcome to this months Paradise Post, we hope you enjoy it, If you have a story or something to contribute please email Secretary@rydav.com
You can also receive Paradise Post via email. Just send me message to subscribe.

Support RSL

We are always seeking people who want to assist us in providing support to our current and former servicemen and women. There are many ways you can get involved:

BUY A BADGE

Show you support our veterans and those currently serving by buying a badge from an RSL representative and wearing it with pride on ANZAC or Remembrance Day.

DONATE TO AN APPEAL

Donations to our ANZAC and Poppy Appeals enable our Sub Branches to continue to provide welfare and wellbeing services in their local communities.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

RSL Sub Branches are involved in their local communities, visiting veterans, schools and community groups. Some ways you may be able to assist a Sub Branch include driving members for visits, providing administration or specialist support, or helping to sell merchandise to raise funds around ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. Contact your local Sub Branch to find out how you can help.

What's on in July

Next Members Meeting:

Wednesday 5th July @ 7pm. Reef Gateway Hotel.
Cold drinks and Tucker

Annual dinner the 19th August :

Vietnam Veterans day
Friday 18th August at cannonvale
Cenotaph
OC Reunion till 1400
Bus will run
Casual dress, gongs worn

Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Executive Committee 2017-2018

President: Terry Brown 0408763090 alibarber40@bigpond.com
Deputy President: Chris Bull 0429607849 Kaybull56@gmail.com
Vice President Bill Rose 49464486 Mob:0404416943
Secretary: Rod Davies 0499730316 Secretary@rydav.com
Treasurer: John Schweitzer 0438264114 Johnshweitzer@bigpond.com

Management Committee for 2017-2018

Badges Joan Rose 0404416943 Home: 07 49464486
General Duties Shane Matthews 0427461849 Jackomatho@live.com
General Duties Peter Mckellin 0448800091

Honorary and responsible appointments for 2017-2018

Welfare officer (local) Bill Rose
Welfare officer (Mackay) Tracey Victor 31283275 Mob:0448943604
Asset Trustee John Schweitzer
State and District meetings Bill Rose, Chris Bull
Auditors Leader Group
Legal Whitsunday Law
Padre Stewart Grice

Patrons for 2017-2018

John O'Neil 0418776606
RGH (07) 49462600

Life as Bill see's it.....

My young brother Bob,(also one of our members) who, I call my Mullumbimby madness connection, who usually has some yarns of his own, always says "If you can stay calm when all around you is chaos, then you probably haven't completely understood the seriousness of the situation". I reckon he's right.

My Old mate Ron won a super prize at his local RSL. The prize was a private box ticket in the members stand for the 3rd game in the state of origin. It includes business class airfares, all meals and booze, 5 star accommodation and a private limo to and from the airport and \$1000 spending money. To his horror he realised the match is on the same day as his second wedding, so he couldn't go. So he put an ad in the paper, If someone would like to go instead of me . It is at St peters church in Osborne park, Sydney at 3pm, 27th July and her name is lousie.

Just a thought. Beer, makes you see double and makes you feel single.

Our daughter bought her at the time boyfriend home to meet the family. During dinner i asked him " what are you studying?" He replied "philosophy". I then asked "what are you going to do with that" "I'm not sure but God will provide" he replied. I was a bit taken aback, then asked " Do you have any plans or aspirations for the future?" he answered " No but I have faith that God will provide" When he left to go home my daughter asked me what I thought. I tell her "I do like him, but he has no life plans and he's stupid, he thinks I'm God"

Just a thought. If you endeavour to win the rat race, It wont alter the fact you are still a rat.

We would like to to say a huge thank you to Shane Matthews who held the Paradise Post together for our Sub Branc. Without his and the support of his wife Jacqui. The post would have folded. It's member such as the Matthews family that keep our Sub Branch going, Once again Thank you.

THE ODE

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow
old,
Age shall not weary them
Or the years condemn
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.



The Annual Airlie Beach/Whitsunday RSL Dinner will be held at the Reef Gateway Hotel in the Reef Room on the 19th of August from 18:30-23:59. Muster 18:30 for 19:00 start. Corsage for ladies upon arrival. Music will be provided by the Cadillacs. Dress is ladies after 6. blokes mess dress, dinner suit black tie. Cost is \$ per head. The bus will be running for pick up and drop offs. The menu is

Entree

**Avacado prawns vinegarett
Or cream chicken bouches**

Mains

**Beef Wellington with champignon sauce
Or baked barramundie with parsley lemon cream.**

Vegetables

**Roast new potatoes, minted peas, herbed tomatoes, roast pumpkin
and sweet potato cubes.**

Sweets

Fruit salad pavlova

Or

**Vanilla slice, both with Chantilly cream, strawberries and mint
leaves.**

We hope to see you there for a great night out.

A heroic decoy

Corporal Daniel Keighran was awarded the *Victoria Cross* (VC) for Australia. His actions in Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, on 24 August 2010 included exposing himself as a decoy to assist with a medical evacuation.

The *citation* for his VC says, in part:

... when his patrol sustained an Australian casualty, Corporal Keighran with complete disregard for his own safety, left his position of cover on the ridgeline to deliberately draw fire away from the team treating the casualty. Corporal Keighran remained exposed and under heavy fire while traversing the ridgeline, in order to direct suppressing fire and then assist in the clearance of the landing zone to enable evacuation of the casualty .



FAST FACTS Defence Science

For more than a century, Australia has supported innovation in defence technology. Today, the Defence Science and Technology Group (DST Group) has research centres in each Australian state.

State	Operating	Responsibilities
Victoria	1907	Initially specialised in munitions and later aeronautical research
Queensland	1950	Research on materials and equipment in tropical conditions and exploring hypersonic flight
South Australia	1954	Research into long-range weapons, initially conducted in cooperation with Britain
Tasmania	1954	Research on developing techniques for food compression and creation of ration packs
New South	1956	Maritime research including amphibious operations and mari-
Western Aus- tralia	1996	Submarine research, including sonar data display analysis and surface-to-ship sonar systems



Captain John Dumaresq, sitting front centre, was an inventive man. As Captain of HMAS *Sydney*, he saw the benefits of planes being able to take off from a ship, and convinced the Royal Australian Navy to install a platform for this purpose on *Sydney* in 1917. He also invented a device that improved the accuracy of naval gunnery. The Dumaresq, named for its inventor, became an important instrument on navy vessels.

Tri-nation cooperation in the NT.

Exercise Southern Jackaroo hosted by 1st Brigade - Australian Army is a multi-national exercise held in the Northern Territory involving troops from The Australian Army, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps and Japan Ground Self-Defense Force. Each service's soldiers and marines gain experience exchanging ideas and tactics in foundation warfighting skills as well as standardising their operating procedures to facilitate future cooperation.

'Hurry Up and Wait!' Different Armies, same language. Japanese troops board a USMC MV-22 in Australia



Diggers from The Australian Army's 1st Brigade and US Army G.I.s from 25th Infantry Division wait for the next iteration of their training during Exercise Southern Jackaroo, Northern Territory.



Japanese troops from the Japan Ground Self-Defence Force board an MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft of the United States Marine Corps

For more great images, go to [1st Brigade - Australian Army](#) Facebook page. Images (c) Commonwealth of Australia. Photos: CAPT Muller

AUSTRALIAN and US forces are gearing up for mid-to-high intensity warfare against “near-peer” adversaries on the month-long Exercise Talisman Sabre (TS17), which begins at the end of June. Forces will clash in conventional, irregular and cyber battles in the Northern Territory and around the Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA). More than 30,000 Australian and US personnel will undertake operations at sea, in the air and on land, with small contributions of personnel participating from New Zealand, Japan and Canada. Director-General ADF Simulation and Training CDRE Allison Norris said the exercise would be conducted at locations in the US, Australia and on three seas. “Personnel will operate in Hawaii, Korea, Japan, the Northern Territory, Queensland and on the Timor, Coral and Arafura seas,” CDRE Norris said. “For the first time, the exercise will also use a non-Defence training area around Stanage Bay, to the north of the SWBTA, for amphibious operations.” TS17 is a US-led, Australian supported, combined and joint warfighting exercise, which CDRE Norris said would expose the 30,000 personnel to a wide range of military capabilities and training experiences. Air Force will contribute a range of aircraft and personnel with RAAF Bases Darwin, Tindal, Townsville, Cairns, Amberley and Williamtown all being used during the exercise.

“Australia’s Army contribution will be from brigades and units from Forcomd, 1 Div and So-comd,” CDRE Norris said.

HMA ships Canberra, Choules, Anzac, Toowoomba, Ballarat, Darwin, Melbourne, Success, Diamantina, Huon, Gascoyne and Melville are also involved. The US contribution will come from an aircraft carrier, amphibious ships and land units. The exercise is scheduled to finish on July 26.

Adelaide to host the 2018 Chief of Army Seminar

The Chief of the Australian Army, Lieutenant General Angus Campbell, DSC, AM, has today announced the location and venue for the biennial Chief of Army Seminar.

Scheduled to occur in September 2018, the Chief of Army Seminar will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Lieutenant General Campbell said the Chief of Army Seminar was a shared opportunity for the Australian Army, together with its national, regional and global partners, to discuss contemporary subjects relevant to land forces. "The Chief of Army Seminar is the Army's premier event. The seminar brings together defence industry leaders and senior military and government decision makers to share ideas and challenges," Lieutenant General Campbell said. "The seminar is a valuable opportunity for members of our Army, together with our colleagues and partners, to discuss not only how we work together, but also the common experience of preparing, equipping and deploying a land force. "I look forward to the Chief of Army Seminar in Adelaide next year, as well as the Land Forces international industry exposition, which runs concurrently to our event." The Land Forces industry exposition is a comprehensive showcase of products, services and technologies for the armies of Australia, Asia and the Indo-Pacific region and provides a direct conduit between major industry suppliers and key government and military decision-makers. Over 500 exhibitor companies from 23 countries participated in the Land Forces Exhibition 2016. The 2016 Chief of Army Seminar attracted a total of 34 international military, industry and scientific delegations from 18 nations, including 16 Chiefs of Army or senior military commanders.

For meritorious achievement in flight



Major Joel Domigan, whilst serving with the United States Marine Corps' Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 in Afghanistan, was involved in action against the enemy coming to the aid of Marines who were pinned down. For his actions, he was recently awarded the US Air Medal with 'V' device. Well done, Major D!

HMAS *Darwin* is making the most of her final months in service, progressing trainees through their qualifications. Designated as Navy's sea and harbour training ship, *Darwin* is delivering the final Mark 92 combat system course to ensure operators and maintainers can sustain the remaining Adelaide class frigates through to the end of their service life.

In the past few weeks, the ship has run frequent engineering casualty control in order to advance *Darwin's* already im-



pressive record for generating new marine systems technicians, marine systems controllers, marine systems managers and electrical plant control console operators. Marine Engineering Officer Lieutenant Commander Trevor Henderson said he is thankful to have a dedicated team of planners and trainers working in *Darwin's* marine engineering department. "They put a lot of effort into developing and assessing candidates," he said. "Thanks to them we have been able to train a large number of marine technicians so they can advance their careers." *Darwin* also received a number of phase two trainee Maritime Warfare Officers who are currently advancing their task books and learning the intricacies of ship navigation. A total of seven midshipmen and three sub lieutenants have been regularly keeping watches on the bridge. Eight of them are conducting phase two of their training, whilst the remaining two are on phase four. Commanding Officer *Darwin* Commander Phillip Henry said the ship was working hard to deliver a skilled workforce back to the Fleet. "We have seized the opportunity to offer a front-line platform for the purpose of up-skilling our workforce," he said. "By the time we decommission in December, we will release a much needed, highly trained workforce back into the Navy." "The crew are working hard to ensure we not only meet, but exceed training targets."

In 1942 the Royal Australian Navy lost seven ships and 670 members of their crews to enemy action. Many more officers and sailors subsequently died in captivity. In 2017 the Navy, Ex-Service Associations and the Nation will commemorate the 75th anniversaries of these losses with a series of commemorative activities. Ex-Service Associations will host services for HMA Ships *Perth*, *Yarra* and *Canberra*. Navy will host services for HMA Ships *Vampire*, *Kuttabul*, *Nestor* and *Armidale*.

HMAS *Vampire*

9 April 2017

Navy Heritage Centre, Garden Island, Sydney

HMAS *Kuttabul*

1 June 2017

Garden Island, Sydney

HMAS *Nestor*

16 June 2017

Navy Heritage Centre, Garden Island, Sydney

HMAS *Armidale*

1 December 2017

Armidale, NSW

WWII crew members of *Vampire*, *Kuttabul*, *Nestor* and *Armidale*, widows and families who are interested in attending the memorial services are invited to register their interest with Navy Events at Navy.Events@defence.gov.au. Interested members of the public are also welcome register their interest with Navy Events.



GPCAPT Timothy Churchill and CAPT Karl Andina cut the ribbon together, while left, GPCAPT presents CAPT Adina an Australian Flag, to be displayed in the new facility.

THE RAAF Mission Data Support (RMDS) detachment at US Naval Air Station Point Mugu recently marked the opening of a new shared Electronic Warfare (EW) facility – the Trans-Pacific Electronic Attack Research Laboratory (T-PEARL). The facility, one of several advanced EW facilities operated by the US Naval Air

Warfare Centre – Weapons Division (NAWC-WD), will serve as both a laboratory and a collaboration space, delivering EW operational support to both RAAF and USN aircraft – primarily EA-18G Growler, P-8A Poseidon, F/A-18F Super Hornet and MQ-4C Triton aircraft. Director Growler Transition Office GPCAPT Tim Churchill said the significance of the event was a symbol of the deepening ties between the RAAF and USN EW communities. “This facility represents the strong strategic EW partnership established between the RAAF and USN that will enable our forces to maximise operational integration for our shared missions” GPCAPT Churchill said. “The outputs of this facility are key to ensuring the sensors, weapons and mission systems of Air Force’s emerging platforms remain effective in the future operating environment.” There are currently four Air Force members and a DST Group engineer embedded within NAWCWD to promote integration and provide operational support to common platforms and mission systems.

STATIC DISPLAY AIRCRAFT SUPPORT SECTION

A program of work to improve the appearance of the ‘gate guard’ fleet now referred to as Static Display Aircraft (SDA), is undertaken by the SDA Support Section (SDASS). The work of the SDASS had its origins in 2010 when the RAAF Heritage Advisory Council agreed to trial a concept for the refurbishment of the RAAF Wagga SDA by using a combined Reserve and contractor workforce.

The trial resulted in the council deciding to establish an in-house capability within the Directorate of Air Force Heritage and based at RAAF Amberley. The SDASS consist of reservists whose technical skills have enhanced the appearance of static aircraft on public display at the entrance to RAAF bases. The SDA fleet comprises all complete aircraft on static display at RAAF bases, excluding those used as training aids or preserved in the RAAF Museum as part of the RAAF Heritage Collection.

Over the past five years, the SDASS has refurbished 11 SDAs. In 2012 the team repainted an Iroquois at Amberley and spent several months refurbishing a Neptune maritime patrol aircraft at RAAF Base Townsville using parts from two ageing airframes.

In 2013 the team prepared and repainted another Canberra bomber at Amberley and refurbished two Bloodhound missiles, one Mirage fighter and a Mirage tail fin at RAAF Base Darwin. In 2014 the team relocated Macchi aircraft in Edinburgh, Wagga and East Sale and conducted baseline assessments of the SDA fleet and repairs at several locations. In 2016, the SDASS received a CAF Group Commendation for its work.

As the body of research about Aboriginal and Torres Strait servicemen in the First World War grows, new stories are emerging. The longstanding tradition of Indigenous service, which had begun before federation, is becoming clearer, with numerous examples of Aboriginal families providing sets of brothers to serve in the First World War. The Australian War Memorial has recently added two names to the list of First World War servicemen: James Smale and Walter Edward Smale. With increasing public interest in the Memorial's efforts to identify and recognise men and women of Indigenous descent who have contributed to Australian military efforts, this sort of addition is not uncommon. What is unusual is that the brothers formed a true Anzac family: Walter served with the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) on Gallipoli while his brother James was there with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P00889.005

Making a difference

WITH her hands covered in grease, Craftsman Adrianna Rogers from Mackay says there's nothing better than getting to grips with the mechanics of a Bushmaster PMV. The 23-year-old vehicle mechanic is deployed with TGT-4, where one of her jobs is to keep the task group's PMVs on the road. "As heavy diesel mechanics our job can change from day to day," Cfn Rogers says. "Today, for example, we're pulling apart a suspension system to change out the shock absorbers on a PMV. "The maintenance work we do on the vehicles makes a big difference. It allows the training teams to do their job out on the range with the Iraqis."



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VCDF VADM Ray Griggs and National President of the RSL Robert Dick with the Australian Invictus Games training squad at the launch of the 2018 Games in Sydney. Photos: Jayson Tufrey

THE start of the 500-day countdown to the 2018 Invictus Games to be held in Sydney was announced at Admiralty House on June 7. The function was attended by Patron of the Invictus Games Foundation HRH Prince Harry, Governor-General GEN Sir Peter Cosgrove (retd), Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Defence Marise Payne, NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Chairman of Invictus Games Sydney LTGEN Peter Leahy (retd). They spoke about 50 members of the 2017 Invictus Games Australian training squad who were joined at the launch by family and friends, as well as squad coaches and medical and support staff. Later in the day the Invictus Games squad showcased some of the adaptive sports on the 2018 program at the nearby overseas passenger terminal, and an ADF team conducted a sailing demonstration on Sydney Harbour. Prince Harry said he was delighted to join the athletes and their families as they prepared for the final team selection to represent Australia, and was thankful for the opportunity to explain the importance of the games.

“In February 2008, I was forced to leave Afghanistan where I had been serving as an officer with the British Army until my presence on the frontline leaked to the press,” he said.

“I could no longer stay with my soldiers as it would have put them at greater risk.

“It was a decision over which I had no control, but the guilt of having to leave my guys behind was hard to swallow – as anyone who has served would understand.”

Prince Harry said it was the flight home from Afghanistan which put him on the path to create the Invictus Games. “While we sat waiting to board, a coffin with a Danish soldier was loaded onto the plane, along with three young wounded British soldiers,” he said.

“All three were wrapped in plastic, some with missing limbs, and tubes coming out of them everywhere. The sacrifices we ask our servicemen and women to make came home to me so powerfully in those moments.” Four years later, after another tour in Afghanistan, Prince Harry began to look for ways to support veterans who had returned with injuries that in previous years would have been unsurvivable.

A visit to the US Warrior Games in 2013 was a demonstration of what needed to be done and how sport could make a difference. Prince Harry said in 2018 the games would be held in one of the most “sports mad” and iconic cities in the world, Sydney, which would be the custodian of the Invictus spirit.



WELFARE

Household Assistance

You may be entitled to DVA supplements to help with household costs. Supplements include:

Energy Supplement
Clothing allowance
Essential Medical Equipment Payment
Certified Essential Medical Equipment
Certified medically required heating and/or cooling

For more information about household assistance supplements, go to

<http://www.dva.gov.au/health-and-wellbeing/home-and-care/household-assistance>

General enquiries (8am-5pm, Mon-Fri)

Telephone: 133 254

Regional callers: 1800 555 254

International callers: 61 2 6289 1133

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency	000
Police Whitsundays	49488888
DVA	133 254
country areas (Freecall)	1800 555 254
VVCS	1800 011 046.
Beyond blue	1300 22 4636

COMSUPER/DFRDB

MEMBERS

Phone 1300 001 677

Email: members@dfrdb.gov.au

Fax (02) 6272 9616

Post: DFRDB, GPO Box 2252

Canberra ACT 2601

Overseas callers +61 2 6272 9624

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Monday to Friday (except for ACT public holidays)

PENSIONERS

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Email: pensions@dfrdb.gov.au

FAX: (02) 6272 9616

Post: DFRDB, GPO Box 2252

Canberra ACT 2601

Overseas callers: +61 2 6272 9626.

Whitsundays Vets Welfare..

We have several people that Bill our welfare officer visits and helps out with shopping and other various task. All are well. We have one couple of ww2 vets that have had it a bit harder over the last couple of months but are holding up well and improving situation.

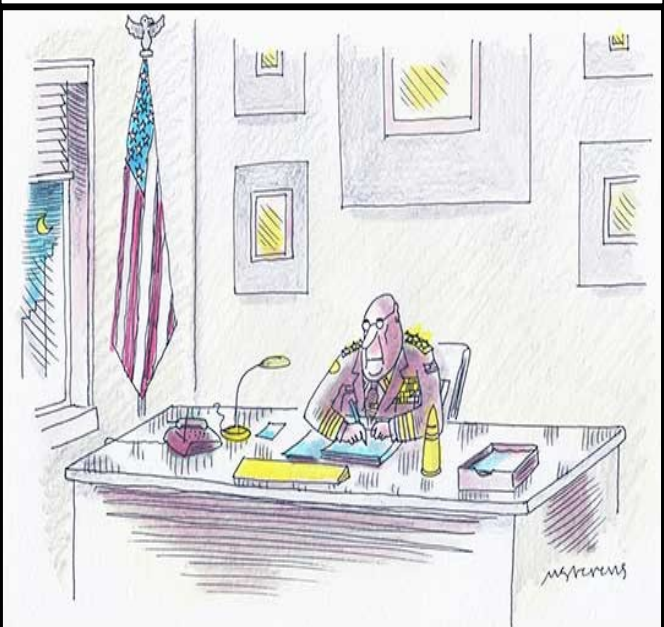
If you need assistance please contact the club or Bill.

PTSD Group Programs

DVA provides group treatment programs for PTSD in hospitals across Australia. These programs treat current as well as former serving members of the Australian Defence Force and veterans. To find out more you can contact the hospitals directly and speak to the PTSD program coordinators. A list of the programs and relevant contact details are available at: <http://at-ease.dva.gov.au/professionals/files/2016/02/Trauma-Recovery-Programs-Feb-2016.pdf>.

Useful web Links.

www.dva.gov.au
www.my.gov.au
www.vvaa.org.au
www.defence.gov.au
<https://csc.gov.au/>
<https://www.rslqld.org/>



"Dear Diary, Incredible news! Unfortunately, it's all classified."