Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Sub Branch



PARADISE POST







What's on:

Next Members Meeting:

Wed 5th September : @ 7pm.

Reef Gateway Hotel. Cold drinks and tucker

1st Sept: Annual Dinner

07 Sept: Meat tray raffles

28th Sept: Meat tray raffles

Badge sales

We urgently need members to assist with the badge and raffle sales. Please contact Bill on 49464486

Your Sub Branch needs

YOUR HELP

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 your support to 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.

Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Executive Committee for 2018 -2019

President & Post editor Rod Davies 0499730316 president@airlibeach.rslqld.net.au

Vice President Terry Brown 0408763090 alibarber40@bigpond.com

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Peter McKellin 0448800091

Honorary and responsible appointments for 2018 - 2019

Welfare Officer: Tracey Victor 31283275 0448943604

Asset Trustee: John Schweitzer

State and District Meetings: Billy Rose. Joan Rose.

Auditors; Leader Group Legal; Whitsunday Law. Padre; Stewart Grice

Patrons for 2018 - 2019

John Oneill 0418776606

RGH 49462600

LIFE, AS BILL SEE'S IT !!

AFTER PASSING OUT OF RECRUIT TRAINING; WE WERE NOW REAL JACK TARS". WE WERE ALL GIVEN ONE WEEK'S LEAVE PRIOR TO OUR NEXT TRAINING FOR A SEA POSTING. MY OLD MATE RON WAS SITTING NEXT TO ANOTHER BLUKE AS WE HEADED HOME FOR THE FEW DAYS OFF. AFTER A WHILE THE CONVERSATION, AS IT DOES, GOT AROUND TO "WHAT ARE YOU GUING TO DO, AND WITH WHOM" RON GOT HIS WALLET OUT AND PULLED OUT A PHOTO OF HIS WIFE, AND SAYS: "SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T SHE?" THE BLOKE REPLIES; "IF YOU THINK SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, YOU SHOULD SEE MY GIRLFRIEND, MATE!" "WHY?" SAYS RON," IS SHE A STUNNER?" "NO, COMES THE REPLY," SHE'S AN OPTOMETRIST!"

JUST A THOUGHT: THE HAPPIEST PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THE BEST OF EVERYTHING.
THEY JUST MAKE THE BEST OF EVERYTHING.

I TOOK A PART TIME JOB ONE LEAVE PERIOD. IT WAS AT A BEACH AND AT A BOAT HIRE MOB. ANYWAY I WAS "ON WATCH" TAIS DAY, YOU KNOW, HIRE OUT THE VESSEL, TAKE THE CASH, GIVE DIRECTIONS, WHERE NOT TO GO, ETC, AND CALL THE CRAFT IN WHEN THE TIME IS UP. ANY WAY A BIT OF TIME WENT BY AND I PICKE UP THE MEGAPHONE AND YELLED" NUMBER 99, COME IN PLEASE, YOUR TIME IS UP. A FEW MINUTES PASS, BUT THE BOAT WAS STILL OUT THERE. SO ONCE AGAIN I BELLOWED OUT, "BOAT 99, RETURN TO DOCK NOW OR I'LL CHARGE YOU OVERTIME!" THE BOSS RUSHED IN TO THE KLOSK AND SAID "WHY ARE YOU CALLING FOR BOAT 99? WE ONLY HAVE BO BOATS!" "OH S--T", I SAID, AND RAISED THE MEGAPHONE AGAIN AND CALLED" BOAT 66, ARE YOU OK?"

JUST A THOUGHT: IF YOU TELL YOUR BOSS YOU ARE ZERO TASKING LIS THAT TO MEAN YOU'RE ADMITTING YOU'RE DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

THE RECRUIT CLASS I JOINED UP WITH HELD A RE-UNION FOR OUR 50th Anniversary. I Decided to attend and see how Many could Make IT, and see what they had done with their lives after service. One BLOKE, who I didn't Recognise, came Rushing up to ME and Shouted, Bill You look exactly the same as you did on Joining up. I nodded and Said "Now I know why none of the wrans would go on a date with Me."

SOPIETIMES LIFE HURTS - DON'T IT!

Our articles are sourced from the following sites. For more information on our stories and much more please visit

https://www.rslqld.org/RSL-Members/RSL-News

http://www.defence.gov.au/publications/newspapers/

http://www.contactairlandandsea.com/

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We would also like to thank our advertisers who without them this publication would not be possible in this format.

We hope that you think of using our advertisers next time you need one of their services. 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.

Army News



Regiment in combined pitch

Combining with the Royal Netherlands JTACs from 16ALR deployed Delamere Air Weapons Range in the Territory to conduct joint trainoperations.

JTAC evaluator Sgt Corey Freckleton Exercise Pitch Black enabled JTACs cross-train and share intelligence to a wide range of missions.

"We've been working with the Dutch at the Delamere Air Weapons predominantly operating from observation tower engaging targets a tactical urban environment," Sgt said. "Once the training target was identithe RAAF 4 Sqn PC-9 dropped a marker for coalition fighters to on a close air support mission.

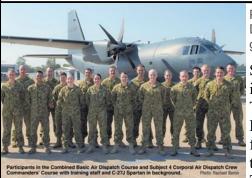
"Other target engagements used precimunitions including

joint direct attack munitions and laser-guided munitions with aircraft from the US Air Force, Royal Singaporean Air Force, US Marine Corps and other international forces.

"Throughout the exercise, we will provide support for a multitude of countries including Canadian, Dutch and German JTACs." Delamere is the RAAF's primary range for air-to-surface weapon delivery training, located 536 kilometres from Darwin and covers 2112 square kilometres of Commonwealth land.

"Delamere's vast open spaces provide an environment where JTACs from across the world can integrate to achieve joint learning outcomes," Sgt Fickleton said.

"The exercise reinforces Australia's commitment to the on-going development of JTAC interoperability with other nations."



Participants in the Combined Basic Air Dispatch Course and Subject 4 Corporal Air Dispatch Crew Commanders' Course with training staff and C-27J Spartan in background. Photo: Rachael Baron

SUSTAINING Army's operations with new aircraft and ships will play an important role in training the next generation of air dispatchers.

Twice a year, Air Mobility Training Development Unit (AMTDU) at

RAAF Base Richmond conducts the nine-week initial employment training for air dispatchers. AMTDU is a joint Air Force and Army unit that has trained personnel in aerial delivery techniques since the Vietnam War. The unit recently graduated 14 students from its IET Air Dispatch and Sub-

ject 4 Corporal Course, comprised of 12 full-time soldiers and two reservists. Sgt Simon Ingram, an instructor at AMTDU, said air dispatchers would continue to play an important role in sustaining Army operations. "The need for air dispatchers and their unique aerial logistic qualifications will only grow as aircraft like the C-27J Spartan move towards final operational capability," Sgt Ingram said. "There will also be high demand for external lift from the decks of Navy ships to deploy and resupply ashore. "These students will play a key role in sustaining and enabling Army's Force Generation cycle going forward." AMTDU works with the Army Logistic Training Centre to evolve and progress the training continuum, and will provide a greater focus on aviation safety in future courses. The importance of aviation safety is reinforced during course highlights such as external lift training. The role has been long-practised by Defence, but will potentially see greater application when used in concert with Navy's Canberra-class LHDs. The air dispatch course instructs students on the safe preparation of external lift loads, and 'hooking' them onto a helicopter – such as an 11-tonne CH-47F Chinook – while it's hovering less than a metre above them. "The external lift component is a highlight for the students on every course," Sgt Ingram said. "Standing underneath a CH-47 or MRH90 takes the students well and truly out of their comfort zone." Another course highlight is manual dispatch training, where students build and deliver payloads from a RAAF C-130J Hercules. The role can be employed on the C-27J Spartan or C-17A Globemaster, and used to resupply troops in the field or provide humanitarian rations during an emergency. Pte Makenzi Maloney said manual dispatch was an experience the students were looking forward from the outset.

"Before dropping, the process was explained to us thoroughly to ensure it ran smoothly," Pte Maloney said. "It was an exhilarating feeling standing on the edge of the aircraft ramp dispatching a load that we rigged. "The overall experience is something I'll always remember and hope to participate in again." On completion of

the nine-week course, the students are posted to 9FSB or 176 AD Sqn.

Army News



Female cadets of the Afghan National Army Officer Academy undertake night training.

TRAINING for female Afghan officer cadets is evolving at lightning pace at the Afghan National Army Officer Academy (ANAOA), with the support of Australian mentors who assist Afghan instructors on the curriculum and conduct of training.

Capt Louise Broadfoot works alongside coalition partners to advise and mentor female Afghan instructors at ANAOA. "One of the greatest achievements I've witnessed on my deployment so far is the introduction of night training for the female officer cadets," she said.

"Culturally, it is a big step to have Afghan females and males training side-by-side, in particular at nighttime.

"Seeing women work outside at night, conducting activities that have previously been the exclusive domain of men challenges Afghan social norms." The ADF team deployed to mentor Afghan instructors worked over many months to support them in designing a safe and appropriate training environment whereby the females can go out at night so they too can receive the full military training experience.

For a country where women are routinely confined to roles such as cook and cleaner, institutions like ANAOA offer roles of empowerment.

"I've seen the confidence grow in my mentee Bridmal (Sergeant) Hanifa in delivering training to her officer cadets," Capt Broadfoot said.

The mentors make a conscious effort to enable and empower the female instructors through their chain of command, providing enthusiastic instructors with additional responsibilities.

The drive demonstrated by the Afghan female instructors under the mentorship of Australians flows through to their female students who push boundaries and challenge expectations of others every day.

Capt Broadfoot, who is also a former cricketer with Australia's national team, said she was continually impressed by the female officer cadets' physical training abilities.

"It is inspiring to see, given they do their PT in all kinds of weather, wearing full-length tracksuits and head-scarves, especially considering Afghanistan is not the kind of country where young girls grow up playing sport and being active as a matter of course," she said.

Since 2014, more than 150 female officer cadets have graduated at ANAOA under instruction of female Afghan instructors, who are in turn mentored by Australian and coalition officers and NCOs.

DCA Maj-Gen Jake Ellwood presents Col Jason Groat with his certificate of promotion.

WHEN first stepping into a role at Defence Force Recruiting (DFR) Perth, Col Jason Groat didn't imagine he would return to the organisation many years later as Deputy Director Recruiting Delivery, leading to promotion to Colonel and a command appointment on overseas operations.

"I first went to DFR as a captain in the role of senior defence interviewer. "I thoroughly enjoyed my role," he said. "Not only was I able to promote Army, but I reflected on why I loved the job and was invigorated by the enthusiasm of those who wished to join." "I consider my time at DFR to



be very rewarding, both personally and professionally. "It is important to enhance and contribute to Army's future capability, and what better place to do that than recruiting the right people for our organisation." DFR works to recruiting targets and priorities set by the three Service Chiefs, including placing the right people into the right jobs at the right time and meeting diversity goals. "As we know, it is vital we have the right people in DFR to inspire and provide the best impression of the ADF to potential recruits. Our staff are fulfilling a vital role," Director General Defence Force Recruiting Air-Cdre Sue McGready said. "Army's priority is recruiting broadly to better represent the society we serve, and we must fulfil future needs – putting the right people into the right jobs. "The importance of this role should not be underestimated." "Col Groat's recent promotion is testament to the positive impact working in DFR can have on your career.

"Some soldiers and officers may not have thought about coming to DFR. We encourage those seeking a rewarding posting to come and join us."





LEUT HArley Slatter

AS THE air war raged overhead during Exercise Pitch Black, it was the job of No. 2 Security Forces Squadron to defend the Batchelor airfield, assets and personnel from ground attack.

Batchelor came under "enemy" attack from Air Force and Army assets throughout the exercise. Along with trained squadron members, military working dogs, specialised equipment and Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicles helped support oprations at the austere airfield scenario as part of the exercise.

2SECFOR Defensive Operations Commander SQNLDR Kevin Auld said austere settings at

Batchelor tested personnel. "We provided security to both the airfield and the surrounding area to support air operations out of this airfield," SQNLDR Kevin Auld said. "Setting up security commenced with a hand over-take over from our No.4 Squadron combat controllers." We were then able to push out and establish our defences to hand over to the contingency response squadron. "Our role after that was to clear the area of operations, then provide depth and security to that perimeter." US Air Force's 736th Security Forces Squadron supported 2SECFOR at Batchelor. Technical SGT Robert Keefe, a Contingency Response Element Squad Leader from 736SECFOR, said they were in charge of strengthening perimeters, manning defensive fighting positions, quick reaction forces and screening the surface-to-air missile footprint. SGT Keefe said they had a few Australians embedded in their squad which was great for integration. "That means we could learn their standard operating procedures and they can learn ours," he said. "The benefits of being able to train with regional allies and learn from each other was a valuable opportunity during Pitch Black. "In the event that we work together again down the road we should be able to pick up where we left off."

FLGOFF Bel Scott

IN THE skies above the Northern Territory, Exercise Pitch Black was being fought with simulated enemy forces providing vital training for our friendly aircraft.

No. 75 Squadron played the role of Red Force, alongside a deployed US Marine Corps (USMC) All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron out of RAAF Base Tindal near Katherine, NT.

Both squadrons simulated the enemy during the exercise with set training serials for Air Force and participating nations to fight and develop tactics against.

Mission Commander SQNLDR "F" said Red Force provided an adversary air threat to test personnel in a large force employment training environment.

"Pitch Black flying scenarios had about 50 Blue Force and 35 Red Force aircraft creating a big, complex picture and a difficult problem to solve for 'friendlies' to carry out their mission," SQNLDR F said.

"We already have a very close relationship with the USMC and develop tactics with them regularly through exercises such as Pitch Black.

"Working closely together with other nations, including visiting USMC Hornets from Japan and the Royal Canadian Air Force Air-to-Air Refuelling CC-130H(T), strengthens our interoperable force.

"This training ensures basics like our avionics data can be shared, our systems are compatible and our tactics between the nations are aligned and working well."





XO 20SQN FLTLT Robyn Connell, pictured, soon discovered that posting to Woomera offered plenty of unexpected surprises.

FLTLT Connell said she warmed to the positive team environment and found personnel were dedicated and worked well together.

She said the community spirit in the outback was a welcome change.

"As a junior logistics officer, this position exposes me to many challenges in terms of influence, opportunity to go into different areas and be responsible for different areas that I would never get exposed to at a main base," she said.

"That exposure spans across a really broad range of responsibilities and having that influence not just on our immediate team but the community in general.

"To get the opportunity to go out to the Woomera test range and understand where we fit in within the big picture – the trials and exercises – really is amazing."

FLTLT Connell said personnel would be surprised at the "awesome" experience a

FLTLT Connell said personnel would be surprised at the "awesome" experience a base such as Woomera could offer.



All for one, one for all

IT's not every day you find military personnel from 16 countries working side by side, but that is exactly what Exercise Pitch Black was all about.

Exercise Director GPCAPT Matthew McCormack said the training scenarios developed for the second half of the international air exercise helped to develop the skills of the diverse team so they were able to operate effectively as part of a large force.

"The exercise construct had the 'good guys' flying out of Darwin each day to conduct weapons release operations

and practise hitting targets on the ground in mock scenarios focused on assisting a neutral country located to the south of Darwin," GPCAPT McCormack said.

"The 'bad guys' operating out of Tindal were focused on disrupting the coalition mission and ultimately gained superiority of the airspace." The exercise control force known as white force was in charge of developing scenarios and setting exercise parameters. They also ensured all participating nations had the opportunity to practise as a subunit commander for a strike or offensive counter air mission and then to further command as a mission commander. "The opportunity for multiple mission commanders from different nations was great as everyone learnt from each others' experience," GPCAPT McCormack said.

"Working closely with our international partners ensured we know how to operate together so that if we need to in the future, we will be able to do it in a real operation."

Major Faiz Fauzi, an F/A-18 pilot from the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF), said although the exercise was challenging it had been a positive experience for his team and there had been many lessons learnt.

"The opportunity to practise as part of a large force employment is something different for the RMAF as it isn't usual to practise back home with so many aircraft," he said.

"Pitch Black gave us the chance to operate on a large scale with different nations and different procedures, but with a group of people who operate in a similar way." Large force employment exercises are instrumental in giving pilots the opportunity to practise in a complex environment with a greater number of aircraft in the airspace than normal training would usually allow.



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Navy News



The catafalque party, comprising Navy members of Australia's Federation Guard, goes through its drill during the HMAS Canberra I memorial service.

THE 76th anniversary of the loss of the original HMAS Canberra in the Battle of Savo Island was commemorated at a ceremony in Canberra on August 9. The ceremony took place at the permanent memorial to Canberra I and those who sailed in her.

CO current HMAS Canberra CAPT Ashley Papp reflected on the nature of sea service after the ceremony on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin. "My counterpart

in the original Canberra was a 43-year-old career naval officer who had joined the Navy as a 13-year-old mid-shipman," CAPT Papp said.

"CAPT Frank E. Getting was at the peak of his career, but operational service during armed conflict carries risks then as it does now.

"Sadly he died from wounds received after his ship was hit by Japanese torpedoes and shells. Along with 83 other members of the ship's company, he paid the ultimate price in the service of his country." In August 1942, Canberra I operated with the naval force supporting the American landings at Guadalcanal and Tulagi.

After being struck by at least two Japanese torpedoes and numerous enemy salvoes during the battle on August 9, she was deemed unsalvageable and consequently evacuated and sunk off Savo Island later on the same day.

CAPT Getting was one of 193 personnel either killed or wounded from the ship's company of 819.

"We come together each year to pay tribute to that sacrifice and service," CAPT Papp said.

"Canberra III under my command today is a very different ship with vastly improved capabilities and technology than the original.

"That said, the nature of service at sea today has many similarities to the service provided by our forebears. "As the Commanding Officer of the modern Canberra, the ceremony today reminds me that our Navy's history and future are both built on the commitment from our people." Commemorations for Canberra I were also held in Honiara.

Jeffrey McIntyre, a former member of the RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam (RANHFV), was presented with a Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) at the end of July. CO NHQ-SA CMDR Andrew Burnett paid a timely visit to Rose Court Residential Aged Care Home in Adelaide to present the UCG to Mr McIntyre, who was a member of the RANHFV from October 1967-October 1968.

The presentation was made in front of family and friends in his private room. While bedridden, Mr McIntyre had lost none of his memories or sense of humour and entertained the group with stories of his time in the RAN. Sadly, he died four days after the presentation. CMDR Burnett said it was a privilege to present him with his UCG. "Notwithstanding his condition, his joy and pride in the award were obvious and I am grateful that his family invited me to make the presentation," he said.

The RANHFV will be honoured at a ceremony at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial at the Australian War Memorial on August 18. The story will appear in the September 6 edition.

August 23



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Navy News



Guided Missile Frigate Systems Program Office Director CAPT Jason Sears, Defence Minister Marise Payne and Tasmanian Senators Steve Martin and Jonathon Duniam at the announcement that HMAS Darwin is to become a dive wreck. AFTER a long and distinguished history, ex-HMAS Darwin will receive a new lease on life as a dive wreck in the waters off Tasmania.

Making the announcement at Fleet Base East on August 9, Defence Minister Marise Payne said she was pleased the decommissioned frigate would call Tasmania home after sailing more than 1 million nautical miles during her 33 years of service.

"The government is pleased that ex-HMAS Darwin will be used in Tasmania as a dive wreck, particularly given the significant tourism and economic

benefits that will flow from the decision," Senator Payne said Tasmanian Senator Steve Martin said the decision to gift Darwin to Tasmania would give a much-welcome boost to the local tourism sector, creating jobs and bringing more visitors to the east coast.

"The creation of a dive wreck offers small businesses in Tasmania the opportunity to capitalise on national and international interest to dive in the magnificent Tasmanian waters," Senator Martin said.

The fourth of six Adelaide-class guided missile frigates, Darwin was commissioned in July 1984. Two of her sister ships, ex-HMA Ships Canberra and Adelaide continue their service as dive wrecks in Victoria and NSW.

The long-range escort frigates undertook roles including area air defence, anti-submarine warfare, surveillance, reconnaissance and interdiction.

In August 1990, Darwin became the first Australian ship to deploy to the Persian Gulf.

In 2014 she intercepted more than 1000kg of heroin and more than 6000 kg of hashish off the east coast of Africa. In 2016 she intercepted heroin worth \$800 million and a cache of weapons from a fishing vessel off the coast of Oman.

Two Adelaide-class frigates, HMA Ships Melbourne and Newcastle, remain in service as the Navy phases in the enhanced capabilities of the Hobart-class guided missile frigates.

Darwin was granted three Battle Honours: East Timor 1999, Persian Gulf 2002-03 and Iraq 2003.



THE CENTRE for Innovation allows sailors to test new ideas and innovations, but it's also displaying the latest technology to help inspire the next big breakthrough. The Launch Pad series gives companies an opportunity to display everything from high-strength fibres to new electronic warfare technology and underwater drones at Fleet Base East. The latest in the series, held in July, focused on enhanced surveillance technology, with Australian company Intelligent Security Integration presenting their Rapid Scout mobile surveillance vehicle and deployable surveillance kit. Directorate of Navy Continuous Innovation Project Manager CMDR Steve Thompson said the series aimed to inspire new applications for existing products, in collaboration with industry. "It's about offering companies an avenue to showcase the latest technology to the military and civilian staff of Garden Island," CMDR Thompson said. "As we become aware of different projects which are relevant to the naval community, we'll approach the owners and give them the opportunity to present at the centre.

"We hope that seeing what technology is out there will generate creative ideas and thought processes from our staff, which can turn into a new innovation." CMDR Thompson said it was important to be aware of emerging technologies. "The latest display gave our sailors the opportunity to sit at the controls and check out a capability which could offer increased situational awareness for a ship," he said.

"We've had a lot of interest in the series from all of the different organisations at Fleet Base East and seen a great take-up from the staff."





Jubilee Central



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Airlie Beach / Whitsunday

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http://at-ease.dva.gov.au/professionals/files/2016/02/

Trauma-Recovery-Programs-Feb-2016.pdf.

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assistance

Government Portal www.my.gov.au

Vietnam Veterans

www.vvaa.org.au

Defence Force

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https://csc.gov.au/

Email: members@dfrdb.gov.au Email: pensions@dfrdb.gov.au

Bravery Trust

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Defence Care

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Bereavement assistance for Defence families who have lost loved ones

https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support

Help with compensation claims through the Department of Veterans' Affairs

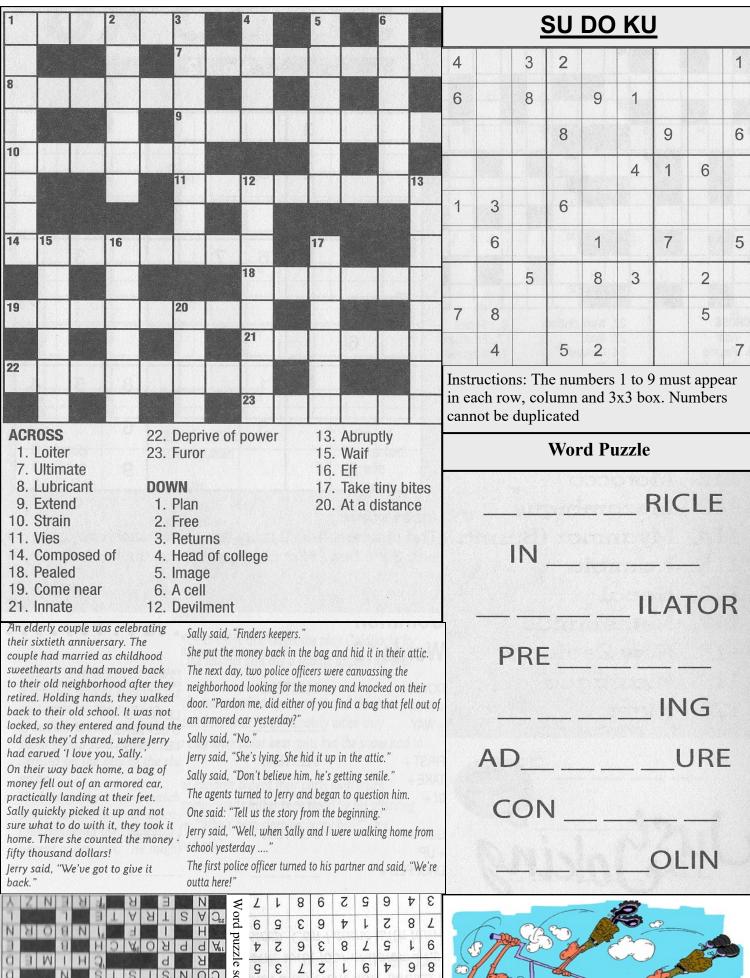
https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support

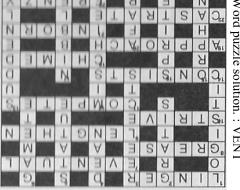
Referrals to peer support groups and other specialist services

Visiting the sick, injured and lonely in hospital and/or at their homes

https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/Mental-Health-Support

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