Airlie Beach Whitsunday RSL Sub Branch



PARADISE POST







What's on:

Next Members Meeting:

Wed 6th February

@ 7pm. Reef Gateway Hotel. Cold drinks and tucker

1st and Last Friday of the month

Meat tray raffles. @RGH. from 4pm

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

Your Sub Branch

NEEDS YOUR HELP

2019 Subs are due and must be paid prior to the end of February. Please call membership officer John on 0438364 114 or Bill on 49464486.

How do you want your Paradise
Post delivered. Please let us know
as we have gone more digital and
some people do not have email.
Please email
Rod.Davies@airliebeach.rslqld.net.
au
For you preference.

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

Deputy President Billy Rose 49464486

Secretary Diane Trueman 0408353450 Secretary@airliebeach.rslqld.net.au
Treasurer John Schweitzer 0438264114 treasuer@airliebeach.rslqld.net.au

Management Committee for 2018 - 2019

Joan Rose 49464486 0404416943 Badges

Robert Voigt 0448848490 rpvoigt@gmail.com

Sara Voigt

Shane Mathews 0427461849 <u>jackomatho@live.com</u>
Tracey Victor 31283275 0448943604 (Mackay)

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 SEES IT?

HHILST I WAS IN THE DUTFIT I WAS ALWAYS A BIT AGAINST GOING TO THE SCAB LIFTERS (SICK BAY) BUT AS LIFE GOES, I DEVOMED AN EYE IRRITATION AND JOINED THE SICK PARADE. AFTER THE DOC HAD EXAMINED ME, HE LEFT FOR THE NEXT BLOKE, A NURSE APPEARED HOLDING THE BIGGEST BLOODY NEEDLE YOU'VE EVER SEEN, READY AND LOADED FOR ACTION. "HI BILL," SHE SAID. "DROP YOUR DAX AND BRACE YOURSELF FOR THE INCOMING INVASION." I COMPLIED, BUT ASKED WHY IS THIS INJECTION SO FAR REMOVED FROM THE AFFECTED AREA??" "BILL," SAID THE NURSE "LIKE THE COST OF LIVING, IT WILL RISE LIKE CRAZY AND GET TO YOU WHERE IT HURTS."

JUST A THOUGHT: IF YOU THINK YOUR BOSS IS STUPID, REMEMBER; YOU MAY NOT HAVE A JOB IF HE/SHE WAS ANY SMARTER.

I WAS AT MY OLD MATE RON'S PLACE ONE AFTERNOON WHEN HIS NO 3 WIFE CAME IN AND SHASHAIED AROUND THE LOUNGE ROOM. RON LOOKED A BIT CONCERNED AND ASKED "WHATS GOING ON, DEAR?" "I'VE SPENT MOST OF THE AFTERNOON AT THE NEW BEAUTY PARLOR UP ROAD, THEY GAVE ME THE TREATMENT, HAIR, MAKE UP, WAILS, ETC. AND SAY I'LL LOOK YEARS YOUNGER. BE HONEST RON, WHAT AGE WOULD YOU THINK I WAS IF WE FIRST MET?" LOOKING HER OVER CAREFULLY RON REPLIED, "LET ME SEE, JUDGING BY YOUR SKIN, 20, YOUR HAIR 18, AND YOUR FIGURE 25." "OH, YOU FLATTLERER." SHE GUSHED IN DELIGHT." HANG ON, WAIT A MINUTE," RON SAID." I HAVEN'T ADDED THEM UP YET."

JUST A THOUGHT: GOING TO UNI, THE DNLY HOLIDAY A BOY GETS BETWEEN HIS MOTHER AND HIS WIFE

DURING ONE OF MY LONG LEAVE PERIODS" I GOT A JOB AS A FERRY BOAT KIPPER DRIVER IN TASHANIA - COLD AS A FROGS FOOT IT WAS. ONE OF THE MAIN CONCERNS WAS THE WELFARE OF THE PASSENGERS. ONE DAY WAS REALLY COLD, WINDY, WITH SLEET, I NOTICED TWO OF DUR PASSENGERS WERE NOT HANDELING THE CLIMATE WELL AT ALL. SO I SHOUTED DOWN THE VOICE PIPE TO THE CREW'S QUARTERS BELOW." IS THERE A MACINTOSH DOWN THERE BIG ENOUGH TO KEEP TWO YOUNG LADIES WARM?" "NO"CAME THE REPLY." BUT THERE'S A MACPHERSON HERE WHO'S WILLING TO TRY!"

2019 AGM will be held on the 06 March at the RGH 7pm.

All committee positions are vacant and up for election.

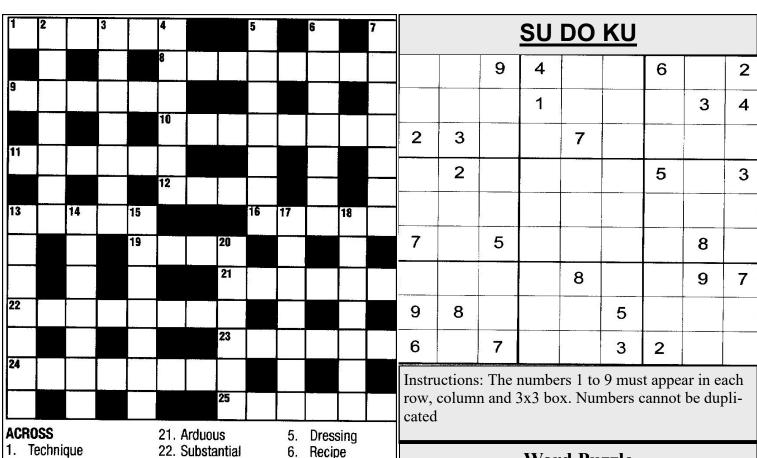
Membership fees are due, please pay no later than 28th February, call John Schweitzer on 0438 624 114 or Bill 49464486 (after lunch) to renew.

Volunteers are needed for ANZAC Day from raffles to 2 up. So please let Bill know ASAP if you can help.

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.



19. Mite 4. Waver A few old couples used to get together to talk about life and to have a good time.

23. North Pole

24. Enormous

25. Suspended

2. Enlighten

3. Break

DOWN

7.

Foolish

13. Luggage

14. Payback

17. Dictionary

15. Hears

18. Pliable

20. Fasten

One day one of the men, Harry, started talking about this fantastic restaurant he went to the other night with his wife.

"Really?", one of the men said, "what's it called?" After thinking for a few seconds Harry said, "What are those good smelling flowers called again?"

"Do you mean a rose?

Notorious

13. Female name

10. Factotum

9. Fish

11. Totter

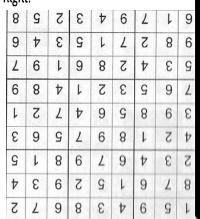
12. Circle

16. Gladden

"Yes that's it," Harry said and he called out to his wife in the kitchen,

"Rose, what's that restaurant we went to the other night?"

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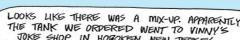


Word Puzzle

Find a four letter word that will fit in all these words to complete another one.

A
UR
TAN
EEL
RY
LE
DIEV

RE





Army News



NAVY clearance divers might have hogged the limelight for years, but they have never held a monopoly on underwater work. Numerous sappers around Australia have scuba gear ready to go diving for an engineer's two favourite jobs: demolitions and construction.

But, as keen as a sapper might be for some underwater welding or blowing up a submerged obstacle, they must first pass the Army work diver and demolitions courses at HMAS Penguin on Sydney Harbour.

The ADF Diving School's Army Dive Wing will first take sappers through the 10-week Army Work Divers' course teaching things like underwater navigation, searches, structural inspections, welding and concreting, along with zero-visibility dives. Cpl Josh Saye, a sergeant instructor and course manager, said aspiring divers must be fit

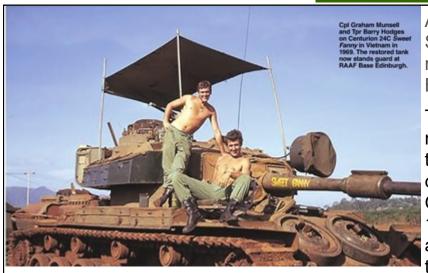
enough to survive the course's gruelling training and PT sessions. "The fitter you are, the less air you need to consume at depth and you can spend more time in the water," he said. "It used to be run by the commandos back in the day, a lot of the standards were guite high and we've done our best to maintain that." Spr Luke Adams, of 3CER, made it through earlier this year but divers at his unit withheld some details. "I wasn't expecting it to be really fast paced," he said. "You don't realise until you're in bed and have to start again in six hours, but the weekends are good." Before Spr Adams could return to Townsville as an Army work diver, his course was hit with a final exercise. "There's a bit of field, a lot of hard PT in the mornings, then you've got to be out on the dive site all day into the night. Then you do it all again the next day and the next few," he said. "The fittest sappers tend to become divers, so it's a bit of a challenge for yourself." Spr Adams returned to Sydney to expand his explosive skills on the Dive Wing's 3.5-week underwater demolitions course. "It's the same sort of principles, but your main focus is fixing and waterproofing the charges," he said. "With the smaller charges, the safety distance isn't pushed out as far, so you can see it initiate. It's really good. "With the big charges you have to be in the bunker, but you can hear and feel it detonate, it's really satisfying. "We're already qualified on dems, it's just that we're doing it underwater." The Dive Wing also runs supervisor courses alongside to the work diver and demolitions training.

Divers usually work in an engineer regiment's dive section, alongside about 50 work divers across Army who hold current qualifications. Cpl Saye wasn't aware the Army had divers for a long time before his training in 2009. "There weren't many divers around then, but I've loved it ever since," he said. "It's the freedom of being in the water, it's nice and quiet, you can do work without any conversation; I find the water quite relaxing. "I enjoy the work. What you're doing has a definite outcome, whether that's looking for equipment, destroying an obstacle or putting something up into the recon picture.

"It doesn't take away from engineering, it's just an extra skill set."



Army News



After decades of rusting away in the Singleton bush, this Centurion will be restored and stand guard at Lavarack Barracks.

T WO Centurion tanks have started a new life as gate guards that will see them preserved for generations to come.

One was used as a target in the 1950s Maralinga atomic bomb tests and later hit by an RPG in Vietnam, the other was left at Singleton Military

Area to become a target, but was never used.

Former national serviceman Tpr Barry Hodges takes up the story of the 'atomic tank'. "IsawaphotoinabookofaCent, ARN 169-041, on a low-loader in South Australia – it was the same one I drove in Vietnam in 1969-70," he said.

It arrived in Sydney from UK in 1952 and went by rail to 1 Armd Regt at Puckapunyal, later going by rail and road to Maralinga.

Mr Hodges said the tank was placed 500 yards from the detonation point during an atomic bomb test. "The explosion moved the tank back a bit, blew off the engine hatches and damaged the side plates and gunner's sight," he said.

"A year later, in mid-1954, it was recovered back to Puckapunyal, travelling by sea from Whyalla to Port Melbourne." Once back at 1 Armd Regt the turret was removed and the tank retested for contamination. The Centurion, then named 'Sweet Fanny', was already in Vietnam, with the call sign 24C, when Mr Hodges arrived in 1969, just a few days before the Battle of Binh Ba. "My crew commander Cpl Graham Munsell was in the Cent when it was hitbyanRPGonMay7,andhe,the loader and the gunner were all wounded," Mr Hodges said. Cpl Munsell continues the story and said they were required to recce an area around the Long Hai hills due to increased enemy movement.

"We noticed a bridge over a creek 200m ahead and our troop sergeant, Sgt Robert Browning, thinking the approach or the bridge itself might be mined, ordered me to find the easiest crossing," he said. "As I followed the creek an RPG-7 was fired at us from an ambush position in a clump of bamboo on the opposite bank. The round hit the hull between the track and the running board and the molten jet penetrated the compartment, travelling between the two ready round bins." The fragment of flame and molten severely wounded operator Tpr Carter (ARA), and slightly gunner Tpr Stuart Clements (NS) and Cpl Munsell. Mr Munsell said when the RPG it was the loudest explosion he had ever heard, followed by momentary silence as the main motor and the auxiliary, as well as the stabiliser gyros all shut down. "A massive amount of flame and smoke filled the turret and Tpr Cements was yelling that the tank was on fire," he said.

"I immediately trained my .30 calibre machine gun on the spot the RPG was fired from and got the driver, Tpr David Smith [NS], to jump in and manually operate the .50 calibre machine gun. The enemy activity stopped and Tpr Carter, who was slumped on the floor, was extracted from the turret and placed on the engine deck until he was dusted off to 1 Fd Hosp and later medevaced to Australia." Mr Munsell said 24C also took part in the Battle of Binh Ba on June 6, 1969.

"I was in hospital at the time, so 24C went into battle with another crew commander, but it wasn't hit at all," he said.



ruition when Australia's first two F-35A aircraft arrived at their new home - RAAF Base Williamtown – on December 10. A large crowd gathered at Williamtown to witness the historic arrival, which opens the next chapter in Air Force's fifthgeneration transformation.

Five pilots flew 15,977km to get A35-009 and A35-010 home from Arizona's Luke Air Force Base. They were supported by KC-30A tankers, maintainers, logisticians, administration, life support and security staff. CAF AIRMSHL Leo Davies praised the

work of everyone involved in the largest acquisition in Air Force's history.

"The F-35A is not just a fifth generation fighter, with speed, agility and advanced information systems; it is a catalyst to transforming us into a fifth-generation fighting force," AIRMSHL Davies said. "While it's a modest beginning – starting with just two jets, a dozen pilots and 40 maintainers – these two aircraft represent the transformation of our air combat force. "We are evolving our workforce, our organisational structure and the way we train and force generate; every Air Force member is part of this transformation." AIRMSHL Davies said the acquisition of the F-35A signified a catalyst for a change of

thinking as "an integrated ADF is greater than the sum of its parts".

"The F-35A is a communications node capable of sharing information between key areas of the ADF in real time," he said.

"As our previous CAF said, the JSF replaces nothing, but it changes everything.

"Everyone working on this jet is critical to operational success and that team will be at the leading edge of technology while flying and maintaining this aircraft.

"To the F-35As in RAAF colours, welcome."

Defence Minister Christopher Pyne said the aircraft would provide a major boost to Air Force's combat edge.

"This is the most advanced multirole stealth fighter in the world," Mr Pyne said.

"The JSF is the largest acquisition in the history of the RAAF, and is a key part of the government's \$200 billion build up in Defence capability.

"It will deliver next generation capability benefits and provide a major boost to our intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities."



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36SQN Aircraft Surface Finisher CPL Kelvin Green and SGT Andrew Whitelaw, of 16 Air Land Regiment, use a drone to inspect the upper surfaces of a C-17A Globemaster at RAAF Base Amberley.

Photo: CPL Kylie Gibson

ROUTINE servicing of the colossal C-17A Globemaster at RAAF Base Amberley's No. 36 Squadron is now receiving help from a "Phantom".

The squadron has introduced the DJI Phan-

tom 4 drone to inspect hard-to-reach areas of the C-17A, reducing height risks to personnel and helping to build a "history" of damage to an aircraft.

CDR Air Mobility Group AIRCDRE William Kourelakos said the idea came from within the unit.

"This is an excellent example bottom-led innovation from 36SQN in response to the Air Force Safety Always Program (ASAP)," he said.

"Introducing this drone and these procedures goes further to reducing workplace health and safety risks.

"AMG is investigating its applicability across the Air Mobility fleet."

36SQN Senior Engineering Officer SQNLDR Evan Smith said the drone was introduced with help from Royal Australian Artillery's 20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment.

"The Army has extensive experience using this model and managing the information downloaded from it. We manage the drone through stand-alone laptop, and have been able to adapt Army's practices to The drone's value is being demonstrated during the home station checks, a routine service conducted on each C-17A every 180 days.

Part of the check involves inspecting paint or other surface damage, including to the tail section, nearly 17 metres above ground.

Until now, the maintenance team has used platforms or climbed through a tunnel in the vertical stabiliser to check the tail section.

SQNLDR Smith said the drone could be used to conduct the surveys in as little as 30 minutes.

"This helps the aircraft surface finishers to identify and track paint degradation on the upper surface of the C-17A, triage paint defects and plan remediation work," he said. Imagery is shot in high-resolution stills and video and can be provided to agencies including the Heavy Airlift Systems Program Office, Boeing and Defence Science and Technology.

This imagery allows an airframe's history of paint degradation or surface damage to be charted and compared across the fleet.

SQNLDR Smith said the unit would "investigate expanding our use of the drone to include other upper-surface inspections".



AVAILABLE

The Sub Branch has shirts and caps available for RSL members and the general public.

The shirts will come in various sizes from small to XXL,

The caps are one size fits all.

The shirts are lightweight and very breathable, We decided on fabric that suits our environment here in the tropics to be comfortable and functional

130 gsm

- 100% polyester with sweat-wicking properties
- The cool-dry fabric wicks the sweat away from the skin to the surface which helps enhance evaporation keeps you cool, dry and comfortable

Shirts \$35.00 - Caps \$20.00

To place an order please email Rod.Davies@airliebeach.rslqld.net.au

SIZE	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	5XL
HALF CHEST	53	56	58	60	62	65	68	71

If we do not have your size available we can have them made up in a short amount of time.

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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Navy News



HMAS Gascoyne alongside JMSDF Bungo during Exercise Hyuga Nada off the coast of Southern Japan.notched up a number of achievements during the ships' north-east Asian deployment. Gascoyne was the first RAN minehunter to visit Kure Naval Base in Japan and, along with sister ship Huon, the first RAN mine warfare vessels to sail more than 4000nm north of Australia. During the trilateral Mine Warfare Exercise with the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) and the United States Navy, Gascoyne and Huon achieved another milestone while secured alongside JMSDF Ship Bungo in the waters off the south coast of Japan. During the 'rafting up' evolution, Gascoyne conducted replenishment by taking on board fresh water from the Japanese vessel, becoming the first RAN vessel and Australian minehunter to do so. Commander Task Group and CO

Gascoyne LCDR Richard Brickacek said he was proud of both crews who completed the task at short notice with excellent seamanship. "I am appreciative of the JMSDF for the opportunity to exercise our maritime skills," LCDR Brickacek said. "The ability for a RAN ship to practise this activity during a major exercise is quite significant. "Combining this with the opportunity to share the knowledge with a regional partner contributes greatly to the unit's operations and endurance. "We have successfully proven this capability for any future interaction with the JMSDF for the RAN minehunters." – LEUT Anthony Martin

FOR WO-N Gary Wight, there's no such thing as a typical day. This becomes obvious as Navy's eighth WO-N takes time out of his hectic schedule to talk about what the role entails. "Last week I was with a group of international command senior enlisted leaders from across the Pacific in Hawaii," WO-N Wight says. "Today I spoke with the CO/ XO Desig course in Canberra. On ing a DCN-hosted LS forum; Thursday a Navy leadership development workshop in Leeuwin; and Friday I will speak at a Command Warrant Officer course in Sydney. "As well as extensive travel and engagement with our people, I'm a member of most Navy strategic committees and boards, which requires extensive reading and preparation before attending the meetings. I'll take the opportunity to catch up on correspondence, which includes congratulatory letters to personnel on promotion, command appointments, and to those who achieve unique and exceptional things, like being recognised in the Australia Day or Queen's Birthday honours lists, or significant sporting or charitable endeavours." But, despite the long hours, he enjoys the role, "especially engaging ticularly our sailors, and giving them a voice". He also enjoys serving as a reviewing officer at recruit school graduations - "because that's where my career began" - and being involved with the strategic decision-making. Navy's first WO-N, Paul Whittaker, a Vietnam veteran, was appointed in December 1993, and served in that role until January 1997. WO-N Wight didn't know WO-N Whittaker, but he has often been told he was an empathetic and caring person who worked hard to improve the lives of sailors. "He was intelligent and engaging, and he was respected across all ranks, which was probably why he got the job," WO-N Wight says.





// Jubilee Central



Serving the local community 7 Days a week 6am-9pm

Navy News



LEUT Anthony Martin MINEHUNTERS HMA Ships

MINEHUNTERS HMA Ships Gascoyne and Huon have been commended by Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) CO Mine Warfare Division Three, CAPT Yasushi Noguchi, for successfully finding all underwater mines in a designated exercise area in minimal time.

"The Australian units acted swiftly and set a high benchmark for the

JMSDF," CAPT Noguchi said. LCDR Ryan Kelly – Chief of Staff to the Australian Mine Warfare Squadron and embarked Liaison Officer on JMSDF Ship Bungo – said it was a fine performance by the RAN units.

"For the JMSDF, Australia's involvement in Exercise Hyuga Nada was hugely successful," LCDR Kelly said.

"Our participation here has set the in the region." During the week-long exercise, which began on November 23, both RAN units operated ship sonar and remote mine disposal vehicles in the detection and identification of six underwater mines. The search-and-discovery phase was assisted by excellent conditions.

The RAN units also deployed clearance divers in explosive ordnance demolition diving training. Both dive teams conducted multiple dives, achieving good results.

For Gascoyne's Diving Officer, LEUT Jason Dawson, the diving exercise was the culmination of high-quality training conducted before arriving in the region.

"Despite reduced underwater visibility, the team excelled thanks to good preparation," LEUT Dawson said.

THE first of four new Guardian-class patrol boats to go to PNG was handed over on November 30 at a ceremony at Austal Ships, Henderson, Western Australia. The four patrol boats destined for PNG are part of a program in which 21 boats will eventually be given to 13 Pacific island nations to enhance maritime security across the region. Part of the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project, the new boat has a maximum speed of 20 knots and is designed for a crew of 23 sailors and officers. Defence Industry Minister Steven Ciobo said the project highlighted the close relationship between Australia and its Pacific neighbours. "These Guardian-class patrol boats are being gifted to 12 Pacific nations and Timor-Leste as part of Australia's Pacific Maritime Security Program," Mr Ciobo said. "It really speaks to the nature of the relationship, not only between Australia and PNG, but also between Australia and all Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste. "Being able to deliver on this relationship through initiatives such as this is seen by the Australian Government as a fundamental part of the vital friendship between all of our nations." The vessels will cost more than \$350 million to build. Tuvalu is next in line for a boat, due in April 2019.



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WELFARE

Our area contact for Welfare, DVA, etc, By state and District representatives'

Tracy Victor (Mackay) 31283275

Frank Radford (Townsville) 4759 9517

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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.

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list,

Useful web Links.

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http://www.dva.gov.au/health-andwellbeing/home-and-care/householdassistance

Government Portal

www.my.gov.au

Vietnam Veterans

www.vvaa.org.au

Defence Force

www.defence.gov.au

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https://csc.gov.au/

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

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https://braverytrust.org.au

Defence Care

http://www.defencecare.org.au

https://www.rslqld.org/

https://www.rslqld.org/Help-us-Help-Them/Services-Overview

https://www.rslqld.org/ADF-Community/ADF-Community

Mental health support

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

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

Short term crisis accommodahttps://www.rslqld.org/ADFtion Community/Mental-Health-Support Subsidised longer term housing solutions