

10th Australian Field Ambulance (A.F.A.) Association



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1 Dalston Road
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16 Kurrajong Way
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COMMITTEE

Jack Bacon	9763 6737
Vern Laidlaw	9859 2995
Ron Woff	9583 0464
Wattie Tully	9848 1891
Noel Norton	9889 4612
Les Williams	9379 3285
David James	9899 1204

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs Glad White
Dr. Mick Dunn
Alan Sharp
Mrs Marj King

Vern Laidlaw
Jack Bacon
Ted Young

Ron Woff
Les Williams
Dick Holmes

GREETINGS TO ALL

The photo on the front was taken at last year's Nagambie Road Plaques dedication (all from left to right); Len Allan – Doc Holliday – Ted Young - Wattie Tully – Ken Stanley – Bob Crawford - Vern Laidlaw – Dick Holmes – David James - Les Williams – Ron Moyle – Len Martin - Lloyd Champion – Mayor CR Sue Marstaeller. Front Row: Jack Bacon – Chaplain Lt. Col. Peter Hayes – Ken Trafford. Later in Tit Bits there is a report of this event.

ANZAC DAY - Monday 25/04/05 Our ***60th*** Reunion Luncheon

This will once again be held at Somerset Botanic Gardens – 348 St. Kilda Rd which has been booked from 11am to 3:30pm. The charge is \$35, but the cost to members will be \$30.

THE MARCH

Our starting point this year is much the same as last year i.e. in Swanston St between Collins St and Lt. Collins St – we form up on the west side of Swanston St between the 2/7 A.G.H. and 1 Aust. Ordinance Park and our March order number is 94. Suggested arrival time is 9.30 for 9.45am start. We have ordered transport and David James is our transport coordinator.

Details of the activities of our association on ANZAC Day 2004 Are set out in the following minutes to be presented this year:

10th Australian Field Ambulance (AIF) Association Reunion Anzac Day 2004 Somerset Botanic Gardens, 348 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

The March Assembly Point

Swanston St between Bourke St and Lt Collins St at 9.51 am. The day was fine but overcast and the march took 33 minutes.

Participants

15 members (19 last year) were led by Vice President Ted Young.

Dr Mick Dunn and Dick Holmes travelled by car followed by, Ron Woff, Jack Bacon, Rod Boundy, John Grant, Dr Murray Verso, Wattie Tully, Doc Holiday, David James, Don Ludlam, Len Martin, Roy Martin and Ken Trafford.

The banner bearers were Justin and Brad Murphy assisted by Brendon Holmes and David Hall.

The Annual General Meeting and luncheon commenced at 11.45am.

The Loyal Toast

President Dr Mick Dunn in opening the meeting invited Len Martin to propose the Loyal Toast.

The Historic Lt. Col. Stan McKenzie Stick - Jack Bacon

Jack thanked the McKenzie family for re-acquainting members with the walking stick which identified with their father in the formative years of the unit. This ferruled stick was paraded by the Colonel with great theatre as a symbol of office and authority and when lecturing on such matters as hygiene, medical practice and army procedures. Jack drew on a host of memories and stories flowed from this for the rest of the day.

Social Committee

Wattie Tully reminded us of the affect of aging on our mobility and the associated difficulties in organizing appropriate social occasions.

Affiliate Memberships - Ted Young

This concept of gathering members and families together in reunion and remembrance has been enthusiastically embraced. As of this date there are 41 affiliates and 27 in attendance today.

PlaquesNagambie Road

Ted Young reported on an "on-site" dedication service.

Date: 12th May 2004
 Transport: Coach from 3 pick up points
 Lunch: Puckapunyal Armoured Corps Museum
 Cost: Coach & Meal \$20
 Unveiling By: Mayor of Mitchell Shire
 Dedication: Chaplain from Puckapunyal Camp

Atherton Tablelands - Dick Holmes

Proposed Inscription: -"Dedicated to members of the above unit who gave their lives in Papua New Guinea and Borneo, also to the members who cared for the wounded and sick with great distinction in the battles of Buna, Gona, Sanananda and later in the recapture of Salamaua, Lae and Finschhafen.

On return to Australia the unit trained at Wongabel on the Atherton Tablelands in preparation for their part in the assault on Balikpapan, Borneo and the occupation of Ambon.

Erected by the 10th Australian Field Ambulance (A.I.F.) Association on the 15th August 2004.

LEST WE FORGET"

Site:- Rocky Creek War Memorial Park, Tolga, Atherton Tablelands

Toast To The Unit - Dick Holmes

In the toast, Dick led our memories back to the cultural shock and rigours of Boys Town, Seymour, to Queensland and elements of the Papua New Guinea campaigns in which the unit served. In order not to lose the impact of Dick's descriptive word pictures the transcript of his toast is appended in full. The meeting acclaimed President Mick's expressions of appreciation.

In the early days we used enamel plates prior to the issue of army design mess tins. The mess huts had long trestle tables and the plates were passed along to the end where a person detailed for the jobs served the food. Occasionally we would have sago pudding, which was always so tacky that the plate could be passed along upside down! The sago refused to drop off!!

Our campsite in Nagambie Rd had three areas i.e. Headquarters, "A" company to the north and known as Toorak and "B" company to the south and known as Ferntree Gully.

The toilet block - known as latrines was located at Toorak and had multiple seats and was enclosed with vertical sheets of corrugated iron. One day Ted Monot had an urgent call to go to the latrines, but all seats were occupied. In desperation he picked up some rocks and belted them at the iron walls nearly causing a stampede! He got a seat!

My sister Meg who was in the A.W.A.S was stationed at Advanced Army H.Q in Brisbane. In October 42 she was a sergeant and was working with various senior officers. At this stage we were at Landsborough in readiness for our departure for P.N.G. Meg knew of our movements and asked Colonel Steele if he could arrange for me to go to Brisbane. A signal was received by Major Gavin Johnson instructing him to give me leave, which I had on the 8th of October. I went by train and arrived at A.A.H.Q where I met generals and colonels. Col. Steele gave me advice about the tropics and to "take a tin of powder".

A few days later we were instructed to hand in our surplus blankets. Captain Les Wilton was supervising. When my turn came to throw my blanket into the truck he said "how did you get leave to go to Brisbane?" When I said my sister Meg organised it, he said "did she go to Canterbury State School?" When I said "Yes" he said "would you like to see her again?" He told me to get into the truck and I was soon covered with blankets and so he smuggled me out of camp! When out of sight he asked the driver to stop and I got in front. We unloaded the blankets at an army stores depot, then turned up at A.A.H.Q for a second reunion with Meg!

I have mentioned my little hammer before, but for those who haven't heard about it, briefly, I purchased it in Maryborough, QLD, shortly before we embarked for P.N.G. Amazingly that hammer completely changed my role in the army. After hacking our way through dense jungle at Buna we made a clearing, perfectly concealed from the Japanese and erected various tents one of which was for the theatre. Somehow Major Jim Yates found out that I had a hammer and nails and asked if I could make some tables for instruments etc. for the operating theatre. He left the site for about two hours and came back to find we were ready to commence operating. I had acquired some wooden boxes from the cook and converted them into tables, covered them with white towels and had sterilizing in progress. He was so pleased that he asked me if I would like to join the surgical team. With very little nursing experience, I was very soon involved in giving anaesthetics - i.e. ethyl chloride plastering broken or fractured limbs, and general assistance to the surgical team and within half to one mile from the fighting. As the Australian and American forces progressed it became necessary to establish an advanced surgical post. Here at night, the Japanese penetrated our site. Harold Hay on sentry duty hit Pop Cook on the head with his rifle butt, because Pop didn't state the pass word. After 21 days our team had

country and life. As a new affiliate member I promise to provide my support so that 10th Field Ambulance continues for generations to come.

Words cannot express how grateful we are. Thank you once again. I hope to see you all at the March again this year. Love Sarah Goode.

Affiliated Memberships

Here is a list of affiliate members as at this date 1-Dec-04.

Mrs.	L. Blackwood	35 Glen Ebor Ave.	BLACKBURN VIC 3130
	Daughter of Lt. Col Stan Mc Kenzie		Phone: 9878 0118
Mrs.	J. Cherry	25 Thwaites Rd.	PAKENHAM VIC 3810
	Daughter of Keith Davey		Phone: 5941 2088
Mrs.	W. Cope	4 Henry St.	KOO WEE RUP VIC 3981
	Grandaughter of Keith Davey		Phone: 0408 396 225
Miss.	D. Pulham	4/4 Barkly St.	RINGWOOD VIC 3134
	Grandaughter of Bob Crawford		Phone: 9876 8332
Mrs.	W. Ward	"Rosenhaven" 2/8 Baldwin	BLACKBURN VIC 3130
	Daughter of Merv Featonby		Phone: 9877 8027
Mrs.	M. Patrick	10 Arundel Cres	SURREY HILLS VIC 3127
	Widow of Alan Patrick		Phone: 9836 2498
Mrs.	M. James	1/111 Strabane Ave	BALWYN VIC 3103
	Spouse of David James		Phone: 9899 1204
Mrs.	H. Mc Kenzie	411 Waverly Rd.	EAST MALVERN VIC 3148
	Daughter in law of Lt. Col Stan Mc Kenzie		Phone: 9568 8333
Mrs.	J. Haddow	P.O. BOX 86	ROCHESTER VIC 3561
	Sister of John Osborne		Phone: 5484 1314
Mrs.	King & Family	30 Princess St.	FAWKNER VIC 3060
	Family of Bob King		
Mrs.	C. Macleod	40 Lake Rd.	BLACKBURN VIC 3130
	Daughter of Alan Sharp		Phone: 9878 9264
Mr.	J. Shepherd	52 The Parkway Balgownie	WOOLONGONG NSW 2519
	Son of Bill Shepherd		Phone: (02) 4285 3405
Mr.	M.D. Rea	198 Borniston St.	SCARBOROUGH 6019
	Son of Des		Phone: (08) 9341 1875
Ms.	P. Carter	27/11 Springfield Ave.	POTTS POINT NSW 2011
	Daughter of Murdoch McMillan		Phone: (02) 9356 2812
Mrs.	A. Cooper	66 Sutherland Rd.	ARMADALE VIC 3143
	Daughter of Alan Sharp		Phone: 9509 7370
Ms.	J.M. Mayberry	P.O. BOX 346	VERMONT VIC 3133
	Daughter of John Allen		Phone: 0412 250 521
Mrs.	M.A. Allen	61 Reid St.	MURRUMBEENA VIC 3163
	Spouse of Alf		Phone: 9569 7087
Mr.	B. Murphy	35 Ashbourne Rd.	WOODEND VIC 3442
	Grandson of Bob King		Phone: 5427 2321
Miss	A. Murphy	164 Evans St.	PORT MELBOURNE 3207
	Grandaughter of Bob King		Phone: 0409 011584

Bits & Pieces

Ted Young's Speech at Seymour.

I'd like to welcome you all to this historic occasion and in particular thank the following people - Councilor Sue Marstaeller Mayor of Mitchell shire, Lt. Col. the Rev Peter Hayes, W.O. Joe Linford who organized and placed these rocks and plaques on site, our own secretary Dick Holmes and Vern Laidlaw who did all the slogging work to get this project going, Annie Bright for her support from Mitchell Shire and Jim and Trish Nillson custodians of plaques.

This campsite was established in January 1941 but I want to focus on December 7th 1941 when the Japs bombed Pearl Harbour. This led to 18 year olds being called up. Some 5000 trained here, the training camp was known as "Boystown" After 6 weeks basic training the 10th FLD AMB was brought up to full strength from some of those 18 year olds. This site was known as campsite no2 - We arrived from Boystown to tents with floor boards and slit trenches dug beside them - 6 men to a tent instead of 8 on bare ground. Col. Stan McKenzie was in charge he reminded us quite often while waving his walking stick around that the Japs were just beyond the gravel pits and as we were going to 'X marks the spot' we had better get used to blood and guts - our unit distinguished itself in a number of campaigns in the NewGuinea namely Buna, Gona and Sanananda at the foothill of the Kakoda track.

In the swamp and jungle - we served at Lae - Finschafen took part in the first sea ambulance evacuation of wounded along the coast between Finschafen and Lae. - in a later campaign some of our unit landed on the beach the first day of the last landing of the war at Balikpapan Borneo. The rest of the unit landed 2nd day. In 6 weeks the war ended. We then helped evacuate our Australian prisoners of the war from the Japanese 'hell hole' in Ambon. This is a thumbnail sketch of our war activities and it all started from this campsite which is why we are here today - It is my pleasure now to introduce the Mayor of Mitchell Shire Cr Sue Marstaeller.

Cr Sue Marstaeller, Mayor - extract from local paper-

"It was a beautiful autumn morning on Wednesday 12th May when I had the honour of unveiling a plaque dedicated to the 10th Australian Field Ambulance (2nd AIF). The old campsite on the Seymour-Nagambie Road was the destination of a busload of WW2 'diggers' who came up from Melbourne to relive old memories of their training days. They witnessed the formal dedication of the plaques commemorating the unit and the memory of those members who died whilst on active service in Papua New Guinea, Borneo and the Hospital Ship "Centaur". A barbrque lunch was provided by the Puckapunyal Army Base, tank museum staff, which capped off a wonderful but emotional day for a wonderful group of veterans".

Future of our Assosiation

We seem to be rather rapidly reaching a milestone in the way our assosiation can be run. The present office bearers are, from time to time, finding it difficult to carry on effectively and it seems sensible to have a "back-up" team in existance to take over. This team should come mainly from our affiliated members.

The matter will be subject of discussion at the annual meeting.

Least We Forget

1	Bruce Pascoe	08/03/1943	55	Cyril Evans	25/07/1975
2	Jack Pigram	04/07/1945	56	Jim (Bluey) Davis	04/11/1975
3	Ted Dunnel	-/07/1945	57	Frank Dobbie	20/03/1976
4	Don Hiddleston	-	58	Sam Chaffey	1976
5	Jack Kelleher	-	59	Cliff Drury	02/01/1978
6	Peter Todd	-	60	Bob Adeney	20/03/1978
7	John Bagshaw	-	61	Claude Capstick	09/04/1978
8	Harry Cowen	-	62	Jim Drysdale	24/05/1978
9	Dr. DouglasMcFarland	-	63	John Stretton	24/06/1978
10	Albert De Lantye	-	64	Dick Rhodes	10/11/1978
11	Dr. Stan McKenzie	30/11/1956	65	Dr. John Sands	23/01/1980
12	Noel Smith	-	66	Jack Bateman	17/08/1980
13	George Morley	-	67	Jack Wenke	03/09/1980
14	Jack Thompson	-	68	Roy Rasmussen	10/09/1980
15	Bernie Cousins	-	69	Tom Heaney	-
16	Angus McKenzie	02/07/1957	70	Lindsay Sampson	21/11/1981
17	Russel Behrens	1958	71	Norm Douglas	09/01/1982
18	George Jenkins	1960	72	Jack Best	19/02/1982
19	Harold Hay	1960	73	Wal (Jock) Lovett	17/04/1982
20	Jack Spokes	1961	74	Col. Ted Palmer	05/08/1982
21	Bill Reid	03/03/1961	75	Ted Nicholas	10/01/1983
22	Jim Lyall	07/03/1961	76	Earn Milton	-
23	Norm Hart	27/08/1961	77	P. Hill	-
24	Bill Lynskey	16/11/1961	78	Ron Sincock	05/03/1983
25	Dr. Harry Francis	20/11/1961	79	Bill Jones	14/12/1983
26	Alan Fox	-/02/1962	80	Charlie Worboys	23/12/1983
27	Ken Phillips	11/05/1962	81	George Williamson	-
28	David Felstead	25/07/1964	82	Dr. Joe Manton	30/05/1984
29	Eric Veith	-/01/1967	83	Les (Bull) Martin	12/07/1984
30	Bob Smith	21/02/1967	84	Neil (Bunny) King	31/07/1984
31	Dr. Alan Hewitt	1967	85	Bill Sturge	30/03/1984
32	Clarrie Sanders	24/03/1968	86	John (Dooley) Garlep	11/10/1984
33	Martin Smith	20/03/1968	87	Tom Eadie	-
34	Alf Saunders	-/02/1968	88	Dr. Adrian Paul	10/02/1985
35	Les Wilton	23/07/1968	89	Bill Chapman	02/03/85
36	Henry Uebergang	-/04/1969	90	Ron Vernon	May 1985
37	Clive Mathews	-/04/1969	91	Bill Allen	1985
38	Les Paul	1970	92	Bill Shepherd	26/10/85
39	Stan Murphy	-/04/1971	93	Roy McKim	24/11/1985
40	Gerald Black	-/02/1972	94	Harold Mollison	03/01/1986
41	Jack Stiglich	07/09/1972	95	Harry Tozer	1985
42	Jack McGill	26/10/1972	96	Allan Kilpatrick	24/04/1986
43	Allan Tate	14/03/1973	97	Ted (Bluey) Stroud	09/06/1986
44	Arthur Hunt	03/05/1973	98	Norm Irvine	-/06/1986
45	Arnold Lovell	12/05/1973	99	Ray Frith	13/07/1986
46	Harold Gaudion	18/07/1973	100	Ted Tyrell	15/07/1986
47	Ted Monot	01/01/1974	101	Leo (Mick) Rea	14/11/1986
48	Keith Goslett	23/01/1974	102	Jeff McGill	20/11/1986
49	Kel White	15/04/1974	103	Fr. Jim English	08/12/1986
50	Charles Craigie	12/09/1974	104	A.G. (Mick) Arnott	01/01/1987
51	John Osborne	29/10/1974	105	Dea Rea	09/04/1987
52	Dr. Frank McArdle	12/12/1974	106	Ray Meadows	01/07/1987
53	Alf Swales	26/01/1975	107	Eric Cornell	11/10/1987
54	Ralph Hallam	20/05/1975	108	Ron Crawford	04/11/1987

**10th AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE (A.I.F)
ASSOCIATION**

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Annual Subscription	\$10.00
Member/Affiliate member luncheon	\$30.00
Guest's Luncheon	\$30.00
Herewith Total Cheque	\$_____.

To ensure that overbooking does not occur, applications must reach the Treasurer by April 16th 2005.

Treasurer: Ken Stanley
16 Kurrajong Way
Blackburn North, VIC 3130

Members Name/s
Phone Number

COMMENTS - NEWS - MESSAGES