

## 10<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE (A.I.F.) ASSOCIATION

### Alan Maxwell Sharp

14/2/1923 - 31/5/2010

*Alan had been Assistant Secretary of our Association for three years when Kel White died and then took over as Secretary for the next seven years. He did a great job and on his retirement as Secretary he was made a Life member of our Association following the fine tributes paid to him by President Mick Dunn and several others. Alan continued on as a committee member and his commercial experience was a great help.*



#### **PRESIDENT**

Ted Young  
1 Dalston Road  
Oakleigh Vic 3166  
Phone: 9569 8393

#### **SECRETARY**

Brendon Holmes  
12 Clematis Court  
Warrandyte  
Vic, 3113  
Phone: 0419896477

#### **ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

Vicky King  
30 Princess Street  
Fawkner, Vic 3060  
Phone: 0438933390  
Home: 93596612 (mum)

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Wendy Ward  
'Rosehaven'  
2/8 Baldwin Rd  
Blackburn Vic, 3130  
Phone: 9877 8027

#### **TREASURER**

Trevor Ward  
'Rosehaven'  
2/8 Baldwin Rd  
Blackburn Vic, 3130  
Phone: 9877 8027

#### **COMMITTEE**

Jack Bacon 8805 2120  
David James 9857 9074  
Ron Woff 9583 0464  
Les Williams 9379 3285  
Julie Mayberry 0412250521  
David Hall 0412714840

#### **LIFE MEMBERS**

Mrs Glad White  
Mrs Margaret Holmes  
Ken Stanley

Mrs Marj King  
Jack Bacon  
Ted Young

Ron Woff  
Les. Williams  
David James

**GREETINGS** – for the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual general meeting and luncheon.

**ANZAC DAY 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2011 ACTIVITIES**

**THE MARCH**

Our assembly point is the same as last year i.e. on the east side of Swanston St. Near the junction of Collins St., and we are supposed to move off at 9.40am. There is some controversy as to the form of the "March" as the RSL have requested that veterans ride in cars provided, and families etc. March/walk behind. Unit banners are to be grouped together at the head of each section. In our case the 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Corps. Our banner can still be used as an assembly point provided it moves to the front 10 minutes before 9.40am. we have requested one car only for those who need it!!!

**OUR REUNION LUNCHEON**

It is great to say once again – same place same time same price (\$40). It is still Seasons Botanic Gardens 348 St. Kilda Rd. from 11am to 4pm.

**MINUTES OF THE 2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AS NOTED**

**10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance (A.I.F) Association – Reunion ANZAC Day 2010**

**VENUE** – Seasons Botanic Gardens, 348 St Kilda Road, Melbourne. A convenient location for members to meet following the ANZAC Day March – to celebrate and reminisce socially over lunch and to conduct the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

**MEETING-** Chairman and President Ted Young opened the meeting and welcomed the assembly of Members, Affiliates and Guests. Ted enthusiastically welcomed new member Rod James, son of David James. A rousing rendition of Happy Birthday was sung for John Grant (96), Doc Holliday (90) and Allan Williams (92).

**APOLOGIES-** Trevor Ward presented the Apologies: **MEMBERS-** Jack Bacon, Ivan Goldsmith, David James, Alan Sharp, Stuart Smith, Dr Ted Spring, Don Thurlow, Cliff Watkins, Les Williams. **AFFILIATES-** David Bachelor, Lynette Blackwood, Norma Bachelor, Lily Bacon, Margaret Biffen, Elizabeth Brand, Pamela Carter, Errol Carter, Joyce Chapman, Joan Davey, Janice Cherry, Graham Davey, Ron Davey, Suzanne Lace, Wendy Cope, Peter DeJarlais, Mary James, Olive Gordon, Jack Hardy, Heather McKenzie, Gloria Marrow, Justin Murphy, Meryl Patrick, Debbie Pulham, June Rea, Michael Rea, Carolyn Macleod, Rob Stanley, Anne Cooper, Elizabeth Ray, Raelene Stojan, Jim Nilsson & Trish Nilsson.

**GUESTS-** Brendon Holmes welcomed Guests to the 2010 Annual General Meeting: Patricia Bailey & John Stanley. Ron Woff's Family: Jenny Macfarlane, Ian Macfarlane, Lorraine Englefield, Michael Englefield, Megan McLean, Kate Waldron and Jessica Macfarlane. Beaumaris Campus of Sandringham Secondary College: Senior Students Lachlan Beattie Powell and Ehren Wyatt and School Principal, Chris Martin.

**LOYAL TOAST** Members stood in respect for the Queen and Australia which was proposed by Ted Young.

**A Poem entitled 'ANZAC Day' read by Ted Young**

I saw a kid marchin' with medals on his chest  
 He marched alongside diggers marchin' six abreast  
 He knew it was ANZAC Day – he walked along with pride  
 He did his best to keep in step with the diggers by his side.  
 And when the march was over the kids was rather tired  
 A digger said "Whose medals son"? to which the kid replied  
 "They belong to my Daddy but he did not come back  
 He died up in New Guinea on a lonely jungle track".  
 The kid looked rather sad then a tear came to his eye  
 The digger said "Don't cry my son and I will tell you why,  
 Your Daddy marched with us today – all the bloomin' way  
 We diggers know that he was here – its like that on Anzac Day".  
 The kid looked rather puzzled and didn't understand  
 But the digger went on talking and started to wave his hand

“For this great land we live in, there’s a price we have to pay  
 For we all love fun and merriment in this country where we live  
 The price was that some soldiers his precious life must give  
 For you to go to school my lad and worship God at will  
 Someone had to pay the price so the diggers paid the bill.  
 Your Daddy died for us my son – for all things good and true,  
 I wonder if you can understand the things I’ve said to you”  
 The kid looked up at the digger – just for a little while,  
 And with a changed expression, said, with a lovely smile  
 “I know my Daddy marched here today – this, our Anzac Day,  
 I know he did – I know he did – all the blooming way”  
**LEST WE FORGET**

**REMEMBRANCE ROLL OF HONOUR** Roll has been updated and was on view.

**REMEMBRANCE** A period of silent reflection was observed as Brendon Holmes, Wendy Ward, Vicki King and Julie Mayberry read the Honour Roll, containing the names of 235 past Members. The Last Post Reveille brought our thoughts together followed by the Tribute: They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old. **LEST WE FORGET.**

**THE MARCH** (Ron Woff) - Led by President Ted Young, 6 Members, Affiliates and Family Members assembled in Swanston Street for the march to the Shrine. The march started at 9:55am and finished at 10:25am. Last year there were 6 members marching. To the King Family go our thanks as custodians of the banner which this year was attended by Justin, Brad, Jackson and Devin Murphy.

**MINUTES OF AGM 2009** Brendon moved that the minutes, as published in the 2010 edition of the ‘10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits’, be taken as read. Seconded: John Grant. Carried.

**CHANGES TO OFFICE BEARERS & ASSISTANTS** Rhonda Holmes resigned as Assistant Secretary to the Committee. Vicki King will replace Rhonda as Assistant Secretary to the Committee. Moved Julie Mayberry. Carried. Ted Young thanked Rhonda for her excellent work & contribution to the Committee and the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association. Julie Mayberry has been elected to the Committee as Social Secretary. Moved: Ted Young. Seconded: Jack Allan. Carried

**WELFARE** In Jack Bacon’s absence due to illness, Julie Mayberry presented the report on welfare matters. Alan Sharp is living in a Nursing Home at Forest Hill. (Now Deceased – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2010) Wattie Tully is living in a Nursing Home at Doncaster. (Now deceased – 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2010). Julie proposed that a donation of \$150 be made by the unit to Legacy. Moved: Julie Mayberry. Seconded: Wendy Ward.

**CORRESPONDENCE** Trevor Ward presented a list of correspondents who have written to the Unit during the last year. Jim & Trish Nilsson sent apologies for being unable to attend the AGM Luncheon. Correspondence was also received by the following: David & John Batchelor, Margaret Mottram, Elizabeth Brand, Pam & Errol Carter (Pam MacMillan), Joyce Champion, Joan Davey, Peter DeJarlais, Ivan Goldsmith, Olive Gordon, Les Wilson, David & Mary James, Heather McKenzie, Cecil (Mick) Morrow & Mrs Morrow, Stuart Smith (NSW), Ted Spring, Raelene Stojan, Don Thurlow, Les Williams, Meryl Patrick. Please forward all correspondence letter to Ron Woff for publishing in Tenth Tit Bits.

**TOAST TO THE UNIT** A previously recorded tribute to the Unit by the late Lieutenant Merv Featonby, Father of Wendy Ward, was played as the Toast to the Unit.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** Trevor outlined the salient items of the financial statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2010. Trevor assured the meeting that our finances are healthy and moved acceptance of Financial Report. Seconded: Ken Stanley. Carried.

**REPORTS 10<sup>th</sup> TIT BITS** The most valuable medium for keeping Members in contact with each other and the Association, 10th Tit Bits has been prepared by Ron Woff and the Woff Family for many years. Ron recorded his appreciation for the assistance of his family in the preparation, collation and mailing of the newsletter. There were 127 mailed out this year. Ron stated that he would like to receive more comments & feedback from the readers.

**ADOPT AN EX SERVICE ORGANISATION PROGRAM** President Ted Young presented the Beaumaris Campus of the Sandringham Secondary College Library with two copies of 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance History Book “Care, Courage & Camaraderie”. The history books were accepted on behalf of the College by Chris Martin, the Principal. Chris agreed to make a contribution to the next Tenth Tit Bits!

**GENERAL BUISNESS** A slide show of old Army photographs belonging Roy DeJarlais was supplied to Rob Stanley by Roy’s son, Peter Dejarlais. Rob prepared a CD presentation which was played throughout the meeting, for general viewing. In his letter to Rob, Peter also suggested that details of obtaining a ‘War Service Certificate’

for Veterans, available through the Australian War Memorial, be included in the next edition of 10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits. Details to be provided to Ron Woff by Rob Stanley for the next edition of the newsletter. Don Thurlow suggested that a toast be proposed to the Vietnam Veterans Unit gathered at the Campsea RSL. President Ted Young proposed the toast to both Units. 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Battalion, DCO 16 Platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake, 1970. 102 Field Battery, 12<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, 8 Medium Regiment. Ted also introduced & welcomed to the meeting Ian Whitehead, nephew of Ray Zumpe.

### GROUP PHOTOGRAPH ANZAC DAY 2010

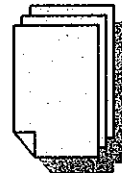


Back Row: Ken Stanley, John Grant, Doc. Holiday, Ken Trafford, Ted Young.  
Front Row: Jack Allen, Allen Williams, Ron Woff, Dr. Colin Copland.

**MEETING CLOSE** President Ted Young thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the day, as he brought the meeting formalities to a close. Meeting closed at 2:45pm.



### LETTERS & NEWS:



#### Peg Tully and Family,

17<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Ted, During the past twelve months Wattie has spent some time in hospital. As a result of his deterioration in health it has been necessary to place him in residential care. Sadly Wattie will be unable to attend any more Anzac Reunions. The friendship offered by his mates in the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Association has meant a great deal to Wattie over the years. Our family have also valued the friendship with other families including fond memories of picnic days, camping trips and reunion gatherings. If possible we would like to still receive a copy of "Tenth Tit Bits", it is a wonderful newsletter. Please find attached Watties Annual Members Subscription and a donation. Our family wishes you all the very best for this Anzac Day and the future. Wattie can be visited at Templestowe Grange, 1 Innisfallen Avenue, Templestowe 3106. Phone (03) 98466077. Warmest regards, Peg Tully & family  
*Sadly Wattie died on the 4/06/2010*

#### Rob de Jarlais

Dear everyone, I will be in the Flinders Ranges on Anzac Day. Our planned destination is Lake Eyre by motorcycle. I am sorry I can't be with you. I enjoyed the last two marches and luncheons. In that short time I felt very welcomed and discovered another family! Rob de Jarlais. P.S. I remember Roy (Dad) telling me (30 years ago) that up there (in New Guinea) the rats were as big as cats. I enquired as to why. Because they don't have cats! Donations include thanks Trevor Hope all goes well.

#### Elisabeth Brand

Dear Mr Ward, thank you for continuing to send the newsletters, the last one was particularly interesting with the inclusion of the funding of the high school project. I enclose a cheque to help with admin costs. Sincerely Elisabeth Brand (daughter of Dr N. (Bill) Brand)

Joyce Champion

To 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Members, I regret I will be unable to attend this years reunion lunch. I hope you have a good day. Best Wishes. Joyce Champion

John Grant6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011

Dear Ron, Just a little exercise I let myself into and thought it may be of interest to our members. A few days after the New Year I had a phone call from Stuart Smith in NSW as he was concerned about Don Ludlam. Every year they have sent cards to each other but this year Stuart did not receive a card from Don and was worried about his welfare. Why Stuart picked me out I will never know. However I said I would check it out and come back to him with some news of Don. Leave it to me said I. At this point things became complicated. I rang Dons phone and no answer but I kept getting a message from Telstra to check the phone book. My next point of contact was Jack Bacon at Pepper Tree Village but could not get any response. I turned to Ken Stanley who gave me a number which I rang only to be told curtly that there was no Don there. Who next to ring but our knowledgeable Ted Young who did not know anything of Don's whereabouts other than what address we had on file. Now I am getting nowhere and left holding the baby who's I don't know. I then rang Peppertree Village and explained my purpose of wanting to get in touch with Jack. I was told that Jack and his wife had moved from Peppertree Village. They then gave me Jack's phone and I was able to then contact Jack. He told me he and his wife went into respite for 2 weeks and were so taken with the place they decided to move in permanently. Now where do I go, I have established that two of our members have changed their accommodation and no one seemed to know. Now what was simple exercise to find out about Don became more complicated involving other members of our unit. So where to now? I now reverted to the phone book where there only two Ludlams. Am I onto something? I thus rang the other Ludlum phone no., yes they were related but were not in close Contact with Don but gave me another to ring which happened to be at Mt Martha. When I explained the purpose of my ringing we had a long chat and I was given the story of Don and his wife. They are both in Special Accommodation but did not say where as it is only temporary. They will both be going into a nursing home when they can arrange two adjoining rooms with a dividing door, this of course could take some time. His aunt will keep me informed when the change takes place so we will have it recorded on our records.

Now the changes of address of the members I have established: 1} Stuart Smith, 14/45 Cook St, Forestville 2087 NSW. 2} Jack Bacon, Room 120, Arcare KNOX, 478 Burwood Highway Wantirna South 3125. His phone no. Is 88052120. 3} Don Ludlam as explained above. And so what was a simple request was a journey around Victoria. And here endeth the Gospel of John to the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. I hope I have sorted this out Ron and everything is in order. Just before Xmas I developed discomfort behind my knee and as the pain became more intense I started to worry it may be a Blood clot my doctor was concerned and ordered a Ultrasound which showed there was no blood clot or muscle damage identified the problem as a ruptured bursa or now Bakers Cyst and the fluid seeped into the calf with the result the calf swelled up and very sore. However it is now much better and little discomfort. Why I do these silly things I don't know. No suggestions thank you. Regards John Grant.

Rita and Les Williams

Dear Trevor, I regret to advise that we will not be able to be at the re-union this year. We will be thinking of you all and I am sure you will have a very successful re-union, meeting and get together. Please pass on to Ron our appreciation of the 44<sup>th</sup> edition of Tenth Tit Bits. Sincerely yours Rita and Les William

David Bachelor

Dear Members, I am a son of Pte. Arthur Bachelor, VX104752. Enclosed is my membership renewal as an Affiliate member of the Association. I am unable to attend the Annual March and luncheon as i have permanent commitment in Kyneton and Woodend on Anzac Day each year. For the past 15 years I have been responsible for the traffic management in those towns to ensure veterans can march safely down the main streets. However, the 10<sup>th</sup> is always on my mind at this time as I proudly wear replicas of Dad's medals on my uniform. Despite it being a long time the legacy of Dad's service still lives on. When I was young Dad was a boys club leader and was always the first aider at camps, courtesy of his training in the 10<sup>th</sup>. He whetted my appetite for this and thirty years ago I underwent formal First aid training and still teach first aid to "Scouts". I expect my mother Norma, and my brother, John, to be at the luncheon and hope that this tradition can continue for many more years. All the best David J Bachelor JP

John Bachelor

Trevor, unfortunately mum does not feel up to coming this year but still wishes to remain on the mailing list. I'll see you on the day. Thanks John B.

Lynette Blackwood (nee McKenzie)

To all of you of the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance. I do thank you once again for your invitation to be present at the Anzac Day Luncheon for the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance members, and request that I 'am unable to attend this year. I read with admiration all the information that seems to be coming forward in tenth tit-bits after so many years, and so factual, as it was written at the time. It is stunning record to have it truly amazing. Wishing you all a good day together in remembrance of those who are no longer with you. Sincerely regards Lynette Blackwood (daughter of Colonel S.A. McKenzie)

Margaret Mottram

Every year our family looks forward to our issue of "Tit bits". We especially enjoy reading the accounts from the "coalface", telling how daily life was carried out in the field with all its traumas, hardship, mateship and sadness. Articles taken from diaries kept at the time are particularly poignant in their detail. Thankyou Margaret Mottram (daughter of Sid Biffen)

Olive Gordon

Dear Ted & Ron, Many thanks for the recent copy of 10<sup>th</sup> Tit-Bits which I really appreciated getting every year. All the best for a great reunion. Yours sincerely Olive Gordon.

Debbie Pullium

Dear Mr Ward, Apologies as I am unable to attend this years Anzac Day luncheon. Best wishes to you and fellow members for the day. Kind regards Debbie

Gloria Morrow6<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Ron, I'm writing this note on behalf of my husband Cecil (Mick) Morrow. For the past 18 months Mick has not been in the best of health, in and out of hospital for various reasons and recently had a pacemaker inserted. He then developed pneumonia but thankfully pulled through. Mick is now back home but the Doctors says it will take some time to fully recover, he is also a little forgetful since his illness. He is a member of North Dandenong RSL Club and regularly marched on ANZAC Day in Dandenong, which he is now unable to do. Please find Donation Cheque for the fund. Yours Sincerely, Gloria Morrow

Ivan Goldsmith

Dear Brendon – please find my Cheque for \$10 as payment for membership to 10<sup>th</sup> Field Amb. (A.I.F) I regret being unable to March on ANZAC Day in Melbourne but will be able to so locally in Warburton. Perusing the lest we forget list leaves one with nostalgia – there are not many of us left now. My congratulations to you and others who are serving the Association being children of those who have passed. Kindest regards Ivan Goldsmith

David James18<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Trevor, I feel most reluctant for my having to pen this note to you but medical advice from both my G.P. and the visiting district nursing service means I have to miss being with the unit at the Anzac Day reunion. I would be most grateful if you were to arrange for an apology to be recorded for the absence of both Mary and myself. I will very much miss not being with you all and sincerely hope a very interesting reunion occurs. Yours David James.

Heather McKenzie

Dear Trevor, thanks for number 44 tenth Tit-Bits it was sad to read of death of Vern Laidlaw after his many years of service to the Association. I am unable to attend the luncheon and send my apologies. You will all be in my thoughts on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Best Wishes Heather McKenzie

Dr E.E Spring (Ted)

Unable to attend but I send best wishes. Ted Spring

Stuart Smith

Dear Trevor, I think I failed to send you money last years, so here is a bit of catch up. I have changed my address: just a move to the unit below my old address. The climbing stairs was too much for me. Thank you for sending the news. Best Wishes to all. Stuart Smith.

Pamela McMillan

Dear Ted & Esme, Am enclosing a cheque for Tit-Bits & just letting you know we are off to Port Moresby for Anzac Day, leaving on 19<sup>th</sup> April via Brisbane & Sunshine Coast for a few days. Hope you & all the Tenth Field "boys" have an enjoyable day on the 25<sup>th</sup> & I'll let you know of our experience in PNG. Shall be thinking of you all. Best Wishes Pamela McMillan N.B we have moved to Merimbula.

Joan Davey

Sorry unable to come to March. I belong to RSL and will be saying the prayer at our service which starts at 5:30 and all my children & grandchildren & great grandchildren go. Its a bit hard to leave there by 7 o'clock go to Pakenham to catch the train I have not been well but much better now. Sorry to hear about Vern Laidlaw we knew him well. Love to Marg Ted & Esma and all the other lovely people of the unit. Love always Joan Davey & families I do see Esma & Ted they come up to our H. Society Tea. It wonderful to read all the things about the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Amb. Hope to catch up with Olive again.

Cliff Watkins

Dear Trevor, Many thanks to Ron Woff & family for copies of the 10<sup>th</sup> Tit-Bits for many years. My apologies as I'll not be able to attend the reunion this year. Greetings to all the men who will be at the reunion and to those unable to attend. Cliff Watkins

Alan Sharp

2/03/2010

Dear Brendan, Ron and all members and friends of 10<sup>th</sup> Australian (AIF) Field Ambulance Association, I am writing this letter on behalf of Dad (Alan Sharp) relay my apology for not attending the Anzac Day meeting this year. As you are aware, I have suffered a slight stroke and heart attack late last year and I am now in a nursing care at Strathdon, Forest Hill. I believe this will be the first Anzac Day reunion I will have missed and would dearly love to be there and catch up with old mates. Will be thinking of you and I'll be there in spirit. Kind Regards Alan Sharp (and daughters Carolyn Macleod and Anne Cooper).

Don Thurlow

Dear Trevor, please find attached my annual subs. unfortunately I am unable to attend the reunion this year. Have had several bouts in hospital, but I think things are stabilizing now. Would you pass on my apologies and give kind regards to President Ted, David James, Julie Mayberry. My thoughts will be with you and I hope the reunion is a very happy & successful one. Kind regards to all. Sincerely Don Thurlow

Ross Hayter

14/09/2010

Dear Ron, this letter to you was planned to be sent well before ANZAC day but, once again I mislaid your address. Your Tenth newsletter was in my mailbox when I returned from a few days away. So that I would have it in a secure place I placed it in a vacant pouch in my smaller suitcase. Alas, when I came to reply, I had forgotten just where that place was! I was saddened to read of Vern Laidlaw's death but I gathered that he had deteriorated greatly. He was a wonderful colleague he, Kel White and Geoff Flower and I shared tent at Dregerhaffen where Geoff shot the mission pig! As you know Jane and I had sold our home and large garden at Yackandandah and moved up here to Wingham to be near only surviving child and her family. The house we bought was old but well planned and its main rooms have extensive views over Manning River, well kept farm land and to mountains beyond. Also half the block is level and with walking distance of the rural town. The other half of the block is at the bottom of a fifty foot cliff, only accessible on a rope and I have been warned off this type of activity by my family. After considerable upgrading of the house we were planning our final 'round the world' tour, visiting extended family in U.K., U.S. and Canada. Alas, such was not to be, as, after a very happy Christmas, 2009 Jane developed septicaemia and she was gone under a week. Trying to adjust to an empty house is not easy as we lived for each other and often started in a light hearted way, that it would be better if we went together. We never got to the stage as to how that could be conveniently done. In May, a friend was leading a tourist group to Yunnan, China. It is an area where Jane and I had been to seven or eight times on seed collecting trips and I decided to fill in a month with them. Also I knew several others who were going. When I found that I would be sharing with a



stranger I suggested to my 12 year old granddaughter that she might like to come as my 'carer'. She did not need much encouraging as two other teenagers were also going. The province of Yunnan has changed quite dramatically since I first went there in 1980 and our accommodation much up market on those earlier trips when, at times, 'en suite' meant a bucket in the corner and a large thermos flask of warm water dish. On return, I have plenty to do with garden, housework, Probus club and Garden Club. RSL is very active here, mainly composed of Vietnam vets, ex permanent service personnel. Two or three WW2 vets manage the march of about ¼ mile with schools, scouts etc. etc. participating. A big bonus is the local pipe band, not like Melbourne where we always seem to be placed between two bands and not knowing with which to keep in time. The ANZAC Day address is given by one of the captains of the local high school. I am blessed with better than average health for my years, managed 20 minutes on the treadmill for an exercise tolerance test recently and coped 14,000 ft. Altitude in China, even planning a short trip back to the New Guinea highlands later this year. Enough of my ramblings, must go and try to cook up something fit to eat, but the birds do get a lot of failures. With sincere good wishes, Ross Hayter.

Wendy Ward

3/10/2008

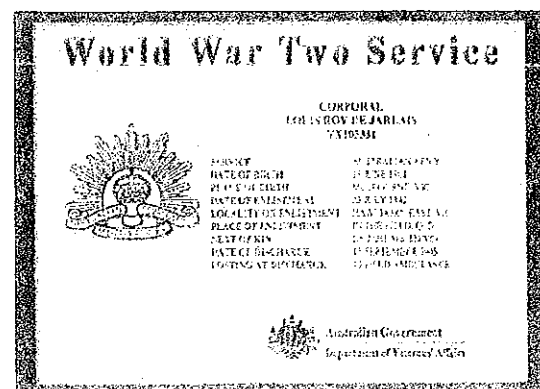
Dear Ron, whilst on holidays in Northern NSW we visited a coffee plantation and cottage run by two trained nurses. Being a trained nurse myself I asked them both what they had done in their nursing careers. One told us and she had worked for sometimes at the Lismore Hospital. I remembered Dad's friend Dr Bill Brand was associated with that very Hospital. I then asked Joy did she happen to know Dr Brand. She said she knew him very well and had the great experience of working with him whilst she was at the hospital. She told us he had given not only of his time but also of the money which he gave to the hospital. I then told her that my father was with him in the last World War and knew him well as members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association. This of course was quite a coincidence and Ted Young thought you may like to print this story (short as it is) in Tit Bits. Do hope you are keeping well Ron also your family. Shall look forward to seeing you in the New Year. With kindest regards, Wendy Ward.

Peter de Jarlais

30/03/2009

Dear Ted, Trevor, Ron and all, please find enclosed a cheque for my Affiliate Member Annual subscription. Apologies for inability to attend the Luncheon this year; my uncle has lost two more members in the past twelve months and I feel I should present myself in support at this time. Both members Bob and Greg unfortunately opted out of this life due to life pressures even after forty years – Greg's loss was especially significant for me as I also attended school with Greg at St Johns College Lakemba. I was under the impression these two Vietnam Veterans had life finally under control but taking to other members it is obvious things were still very delicate. For instance whilst at last years 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Luncheon I had a mobile telephone call from a member/mate who was at the time in Hay Street Sydney – part China Town – and he was asking for my assistance- "where are you DJ – I'm surrounded by Nogs (VietCong) and need your help right now" -obviously this chap was under the influence after a rather long ANZAC Day – I eventually settled Chris down but as you can see a lot of our Vietnam Veterans are still rather troubled. Many are still attending psychologists meetings. A suggestion for Tit Bits article – members might like to go to the Veterans Affairs Website to obtain free their World War Two Service Certificate and Service Record – details visit [www.ww2roll.gov.au](http://www.ww2roll.gov.au)

The Certificate is very well presented in colour and most suitable for framing or keeping with other family histories/photo albums etc. Copied Dad's Certificate so you can see the format and quality. We at our Luncheon/Afternoon Tea at Campsie RSL will toast all past and present members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance if Ted can reciprocate and Toast our Unit – 2 Training Battalion, D Company, 16<sup>th</sup> Platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake 1970: 102 Field Battery – 12 Field Regiment/8 Medium Regiment this would be terrific for the guys self esteem as you in 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance would obviously know from your past experiences. Thanking you again, apologies, wish I was there with you all but as you can realize I'm really needed here until the boys settle down again and are on their best behaviour once again. Yours sincerely, Peter de Jarlais





Alan Williams

30/12/2010

Dear Ron, here is the little list of strange things that happened to me while away in the Army days – (I don't write well now as I have arthritis in my fingers so am trying printing) if you have any queries give me a call. Best wishes from your old mate Alan.

### NARROW ESCAPES -1942 to 1945

1. **Buna – 1943. Jungle Funeral (see page 65 of book)** Sgt Harry Cowan and myself usually carried out the task of burying the dead at Buna. We would go out at daybreak and prepare a grave along the road to Semimi. One day as we both prepared the grave, Sgt Cowan yelled out “Down” As I fell to the ground a bullet passed over me, just missing by a few inches. This was fired by a Japanese in a nest made in a coconut tree just over the other side of the road from our camp. We knew it was there but did not think it would be occupied. Sgt Cowan had seen movement in the nest so he yelled out.
2. **Popondetta (see page 89 of book)** one night while in bed at the Popondetta staging camp I heard something under my pillow. We slept on stretches made from groundsheets stretched on two side poles and held from the ground on stakes. Mosquito nets were tucked in to prevent bites from mosquitoes. As I listened I realised something had got under the mosquito net so I got out of bed and as I did a rat dashed from my pillow and tried to grab me. When I got out I put my hand in the bed searching for it and luckily I grabbed it by the tail, got it out and threw it out of our sleeping hut. If I had not taken it by the tail I would have been bitten by it, resulting in scrub typhus and a possible trip by plane to Moresby – and most of those who made that journey died. The rat had bitten the top of my fountain pen providing it had strong teeth (we did not have ball pens in those days).
3. **Dobadura (see page 120 of book)** One night quite late, we were just finishing up and getting ready for bed about 2200 hours, when all of a sudden a naked and armed man entered the tent where we worked and slept. He ordered us all out and told us to do what he said or he would shoot us, I was already in bed so was prodded by the riffle and getting out of bed when he held the rifle to my head and preparing to fire, when Sgt Cowan came behind and grabbed the rifle and the shot went up through the roof. One of us was able to slip under the tent on the “troppo's” first arrival and go for help. We had difficulty getting him back to Moresby but eventually arranged for him to fly back with Jim Lyall holding a pistol to his head.
4. **Lae – an enemy plane** While Alan Sharp and myself were swimming in the Butibum River one afternoon, an enemy plane flew over and fired its guns on us. First I knew it was an enemy was when I heard and felt the bullets flying past my right ear. I immediately dived down and i was so long down that Alan thought I had been hit.
5. **Finschafen – A Huge Wave** One afternoon about 4pm I decided to have a little rest from the office and go for a walk along the beach. As I went along, a huge wave came in from the sea, picked me up and carried me up about 15 feet into the branches of a tree. I thought now I will have to hold on to a branch otherwise I would be carried by the wave back into the sea and dashed into the rocks which were all along there. So I immediately grabbed a strong branch with both hands and hung on tight. As the wave went back to the sea it pulled on me and I only just held on. I climbed down from the tree and a passer-by said “what were you doing up in that tree?” This was the only tree along the foreshore in that whole area.
6. **In Bougainville I Missed a Sniper** –while on duty around Buka in Bougainville, it was almost always that I was first up in the morning. I would walk from the tent across a small cleared area to the latrines for wash, shave etc. One day I was asked to go to a section of the unit further up, and the lad who took my place as “first up” was shot dead by a Japanese sniper.

Allan Williams 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance 2010

LEST WE FORGET:  
Noel Norton 5/05/10  
Alan Sharp 31/05/10  
Wattie Tully 4/06/10  
Dr Murray Verso 14/09/10

**JUST A COMMON SOLDIER**

(A Soldier died today).

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,  
 And he sat around the RSL telling stories of the past,  
 Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,  
 In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, everyone.  
 And tho' sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke,  
 All his old mates listened, for they knew whereof he spoke,  
 But we will hear his tales no longer, for old Bill has passed away  
 And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.  
 He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,  
 For he lived an ordinary and quite uneventful life,  
 Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way,  
 And the world won't note his passing, though a soldier died today.  
 When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,  
 While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great,  
 Papers tell their whole life stories, from the time that they were young,  
 But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.  
 Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,  
 A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?  
 Or the ordinary fellow, who in times of wear and strife,  
 Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?  
 A politician's stiped and the style in which he lives  
 Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives,  
 While the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all,  
 Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension small.  
 It is so easy to forget them for it was so long ago,  
 That the old Bills of our Country went to battle, but we know  
 It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,  
 Who won for us the freedom that our Country now enjoys.  
 Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,  
 Would you want a politician with his ever shifting stand?  
 Or would you prefer a soldier, who has sworn to defend  
 His home, his Kin and country and would fight until the end?  
 He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,  
 But his presence should remind us we may need his like again  
 For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldiers part  
 Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.  
 If we cannot do him honour while he's here to hear the praise,  
 Then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days  
 Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say,  
 Our Country is in mourning for a soldier died today.

From Jack Allen

**TOAST TO THE UNIT**

A previously recorded tribute to the Unit by the late Lieutenant Merv Featonby, Father of Wendy Ward, was played as the Toast to the Unit.

**BITS & PIECES****Sandringham College Beaumaris Remembers ANZAC DAY With The 10<sup>TH</sup> FIELD AMBULANCE**

On Anzac Day 2010, School Captain Lachlan Beattie-Powell and Year 9 SRC Representative Ehren Wyatt attended the reunion of the Australian 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance in Melbourne. The unit, through the Shrine of Remembrance's 'Adopt An Ex-service Organisation Program', is seeking to develop links with the campus to pass on some of its history and experiences. The veterans, all in their late eighties and early nineties, were touched by our students' interest and goodwill.

Thank you, boys, for giving of your time and for being excellent ambassadors for the College. Chris Martin



Photograph from ANZAC Day 2010 Luncheon.  
Includes our 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance members,  
Principal of Sandringham Secondary College  
(Beaumaris campus) Chris Martin and one of his  
students from our adopted a school program.



On Sunday the 25th of April, Ehren Wyatt, Lachlan Beattie Powell and Christopher Martin attended the Veterans lunch in Melbourne for Anzac day. The day started off with a visit to the Anzac parade to watch some of the Veterans and their families march. There were so many different battalions and ranks in the parade it was easy to get lost among it all. The lunch was held at a building just across the road from where the march was being held. The lunch started with the usual precedings with the reading of who had become a member, who had passed, who had made donations and so on. It was really interesting to see how many people were involved in the club and continue to support it. During the lunch, we were lucky enough to hear the stories of the Veterans on our table and the incredible lifes they have lived as well as viewing some of their photos dating back many years ago. The lunch was probably one of the bigger highlights (as I was starving) with a choice of chicken or ribbs with a side of a variety of veggies and other goodies. Unfortunately my time with the veterans was short as I had a game of football that afternoon but I found the day to be a very good and interesting experience and I know we all enjoyed our day at the lunch. Thanks' Lachlan Beattie-Powell

#### EDITORS RANT (Ron Woff):

The catering at last years luncheon was augmented by ANZAC biscuits cooked and donated by Julie Mayberry – YUMMEEE! Thanks Julie – on behalf of all we look forward to a repeat performance. Once again the paper and envelopes for Tit Bits was supplied by the James family. Thankyou David and son Robert.

If you have a name tag it would be a good idea to wear it. The paper ones do not stick very well – we know who you are but!!

Thanks to Jack Bacon for the many years he has looked after the welfare duties of our association. Age is catching up and he has asked to be relieved of these duties. Julie Mayberry has agreed to take on this very important job.

Hoping you all enjoy a year of good health and happiness,

Ron Woff and Sarah Goode.

**LEST WE FORGET**  
They shall grow not old  
As we that are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them  
Nor the years condemn  
At the going down of the Sun  
And in the morning  
We will remember them

## LEST WE FORGET

1	Bruce Pascoe	08/03/1943	64	Dick Rhodes	10/11/1978
2	Jack Pigran	04/07/1945	65	Dr. John Sands	23/01/1980
3	Ted Dunnel	-/07/1945	66	Jack Bateman	17/08/1980
4	Don Hiddleston	-	67	Jack Wenke	03/09/1980
5	Jack Kelleher	-	68	Roy Rasmussen	10/09/1980
6	Peter Todd	-	69	Tom Heaney	-
7	John Bagshaw	-	70	Lindsay Sampson	21/11/1981
8	Harry Cowen	-	71	Norm Douglas	09/01/1982
9	Dr. DouglasMcFarland	-	72	Jack Best	19/02/1982
10	Albert De Lantye	-	73	Wal (Jock) Lovett	17/04/1982
11	Dr. Stan McKenzie	30/11/1956	74	Col. Ted Palmer	05/08/1982
12	Noel Smith	-	75	Ted Nicholas	10/01/1983
13	George Morley	-	76	Earn Milton	-
14	Jack Thompson	-	77	P. Hill	-
15	Bernie Cousins	-	78	Ron Sincock	05/03/1983
16	Angus McKenzie	02/07/1957	79	Bill Jones	14/12/1983
17	Russel Behrens	1958	80	Charlie Worboys	23/12/1983
18	George Jenkins	1960	81	George Williamson	-
19	Harold Hay	1960	82	Dr. Joe Manton	30/05/1984
20	Jack Spokes	1961	83	Les (Bull) Martin	12/07/1984
21	Bill Reid	03/03/1961	84	Neil (Bunny) King	31/07/1984
22	Jim Lyall	07/03/1961	85	Bill Sturge	30/03/1984
23	Norm Hart	27/08/1961	86	John (Dooley) Garlep	11/10/1984
24	Bill Lynskey	16/11/1961	87	Tom Eadie	-
25	Dr. Harry Francis	20/11/1961	88	Dr. Adrian Paul	10/02/1985
26	Alan Fox	-/02/1962	89	Bill Chapman	02/03/85
27	Ken Phillips	11/05/1962	90	Ron Vernon	May 1985
28	David Felstead	25/07/1964	91	Bill Allen	1985
29	Eric Veith	-/01/1967	92	Bill Shepherd	26/10/85
30	Bob Smith	21/02/1967	93	Roy McKim	24/11/1985
31	Dr. Alan Hewitt	1967	94	Harold Mollison	03/01/1986
32	Clarrie Sanders	24/03/1968	95	Harry Tozer	1985
33	Martin Smith	20/03/1968	96	Allen Kilpatrick	24/04/1986
34	Alf Saunders	-/02/1968	97	Ted (Bluey) Stroud	09/06/1986
35	Les Wilton	23/07/1968	98	Norm Irvine	-/06/1986
36	Henry Uebergang	-/04/1969	99	Ray Frith	13/07/1986
37	Clive Mathews	-/04/1969	100	Ted Tyrell	15/07/1986
38	Les Paul	1970	101	Leo (Mick) Rea	14/11/1986
39	Stan Murphy	-/04/1971	102	Jeff McGill	20/11/1986
40	Gerald Black	-/02/1972	103	Fr. Jim English	08/12/1986
41	Jack Stiglich	07/09/1972	104	A.G. (Mick) Arnott	01/01/1987
42	Jack McGill	26/10/1972	105	Dea Rea	09/04/1987
43	Allan Tate	14/03/1973	106	Ray Meadows	01/07/1987
44	Arthur Hunt	03/05/1973	107	Eric Cornell	11/10/1987
45	Arnold Lovell	12/05/1973	108	Ron Crawford	04/11/1987
46	Harold Gaudion	18/07/1973	109	Bob Mitchell	09/01/1988
47	Ted Monot	01/01/1974	110	Dave Johnston	14/03/1988
48	Keith Goslett	23/01/1974	111	Ray Zumpe	09/12/1988
49	Kel White	15/04/1974	112	Stan Herbert	08/01/1989
50	Charles Craigie	12/09/1974	113	Alan Furnston	25/09/1989
51	John Osborne	29/10/1974	114	Jock Roe	07/11/1989
52	Dr. Frank McArdle	12/12/1974	115	Ron Roberts	08/11/1989
53	Alf Swales	26/01/1975	116	Jack MacKie	-
54	Ralph Hallan	20/05/1975	117	Mick Vann	-
55	Cyril Evans	25/07/1975	118	Dr J.P. Lyttle	02/02/1990
56	Jim (Bluey) Davis	04/11/1975	119	George Bruce	-/04/1990
57	Frank Dobbie	20/03/1976	120	Alec Murphy	17/08/1990
58	Sam Chaffey	1976	121	Bill Schlenker	21/08/1990
59	Cliff Drury	02/01/1978	122	Doug Clenens	28/09/1990
60	Bob Adeney	20/03/1978	123	Joe Strudwick	31/10/1990
61	Claude Capstick	09/04/1978	124	Clem Winchester	03/12/1990
62	Jim Drysdale	24/05/1978	125	George Johnston	15/03/1991
63	John Stretton	24/06/1978	126	Dr Gavin Johnson	29/08/1991

## LEST WE FORGET

127	Aub. Vimpani	19/09/1991	190	Neil Gerrand	09/12/2001
128	Jim Loveridge	01/12/1991	191	Jack Laffan	-/01/2002
129	Sid Biffen	20/04/1992	192	Eric (SERGIE) Williams	22/03/2002
130	Harold (TAC) Grundy	03/05/1992	193	Stan Lucas	01/04/2002
131	Harry Williams	09/11/1992	194	Allen Hocking	14/04/2002
132	Eddie Mott	16/06/1993	195	Merv Featonby	05/06/2002
133	Murdock McMillian	25/07/1993	196	Arthur Rockett	10/06/2002
134	Eddie Sullivan	06/09/1993	197	Gordon Lee	-
135	Dr George Marks	04/11/1993	198	John (JACK) Walsh	25/02/2003
136	Harold Lawrence	18/01/1994	199	Dr John Lawrence	25/04/2003
137	Dr Emmet Spring	21/01/1994	200	Allen Gadsden	05/10/2003
138	Horrie Vimpani	22/02/1994	201	Neil Douglas	25/10/2003
139	Ken Clinch	13/03/1994	202	Roy Dickson	02/11/2003
140	John Hall	18/08/1994	203	Lloyd Stewart	01/12/2003
141	Cec. MA Kelly	20/05/1994	204	Ken Gordon	21/12/2003
142	Bill (NANA) Dickson	14/09/1994	205	Dr. Alex Reith	29/02/2004
143	Ken Sutherland	23/05/1995	206	Doug Johns	09/07/2004
144	Dr N. (BILL) Brand	24/06/1995	207	Merv Blow	05/08/2004
145	Ern Strevens	30/08/1995	208	Norm Wall	06/12/2004
146	Frank Reid	14/12/1995	209	Dr. Paul Matthews	09/01/2005
147	Steve Langton	19/01/1996	210	Laurie Malkin	27/01/2005
148	Dr Ian Wilson	09/06/1996	211	Arthur Bachelor	16/07/2005
149	Bob James	20/07/1996	212	Jack Chenhalls	09/09/2005
150	Ernie (PLUGGER) Utting	08/10/1996	213	Ron Handley	09/09/2005
151	Les Best	26/12/1996	214	Len Allen	06/01/2006
152	Bert Webster	27/01/1997	215	Noel Blake	2003
153	Neville Stephens	16/02/1997	216	Geoff Dermer	14/01/2004
154	Keith Davey	27/03/1997	217	Dick Holmes	09/05/2006
155	Bob Roughan	1997	218	Len Martin	06/10/2006
156	Darcy Eccles	-	219	Lloyd Champion	31/12/2006
157	John Cox	09/05/1997	220	Geoff Laidlaw	27/01/2007
158	George Drysdale	04/06/1997	221	Doug Potter	01/02/2007
159	Roy DeJarlais	13/06/1997	222	Maurie Edwards	26/02/2007
160	Ted Donovan	20/07/1997	223	Jock Drysdale	25/06/2007
161	Pop Cook	17/10/1997	224	Bert Capes	05/10/2007
162	L (CURLEY) Blyth	01/04/1998	225	Dr. Mick Dunn	17/06/2007
163	Dick Jones	18/04/1998	226	Ron Moyle	02/10/2007
164	Gerald Frogley	27/04/1998	227	Bob Crawford	04/01/2008
165	Keith Flintoff	01/05/1998	228	Bill Clinch	19/08/2008
166	Bruce Young	16/07/1998	229	Stan Brogden	14/09/2008
167	John Yule	31/07/1998	230	Bert (Ack-ack) Kenny	-
168	Wally Bryan	03/11/1998	231	Jules Collard	03/06/2009
169	Alf Phillips	29/11/1998	232	Vern Laidlaw	02/09/2009
170	Bill Mullin	18/12/1998	233	Jack Standerwick	03/01/2010
171	Jack Caldwell	24/12/1998	234	Rod Boundy	14/01/2010
172	Cecil (NED) Matthews	28/12/1998	235	Danny Bishop	16/03/2010
173	George Brown	31/01/1999	236	Noel Norton	05/05/2010
174	Bill Potter	-	237	Alan Sharp	31/05/2010
175	Earl Matthews	15/05/1999	238	Wattie Tully	04/06/2010
176	Dr Marshall Gratton	18/05/1999	239	Dr Murray Verso	14/09/2010
177	Phil Alwyn	01/09/1999			
178	Geoff Flower	16/09/1999			
179	Andy McHattie	05/10/1999			
180	Laurie Peverill	06/11/1999			
181	Phil Scanlon	24/01/2000			
182	Charlie Chitts	05/06/2000			
183	Bill Sheffield	15/06/2000			
184	Arthur Breadon	05/12/2000			
185	Alan Patrick	28/01/2001			
186	Bob (KRUGER) King	04/05/2001			
187	Roy Simpson	29/05/2001			
188	Wally Page	09/08/2001			
189	Don Braine	22/11/2001			



10<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE (A.I.F) ASSOCIATION

Annual Subscription & Luncheon Fees – 2011

Table with 4 columns: Type of Fee, Code, Amount, Total. Rows include Member Annual Subscription, Member Luncheon, Affiliate Member Annual Subscription, Affiliate Member Luncheon, Guest's Luncheon, and Donation.

Herewith total cheque \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

To satisfy hotel luncheon arrangements, your application form must reach the treasurer by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Please advise any special diet needs e.g. vegetarian.

Please post annual Subscriptions to Treasurer: Mr Trevor Ward, 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn, Vic. 3130. Phone number: (03) 98778027

Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Affiliate Members Name..... Phone Number.....

Please insert current mailing address for our database if address has changed:

.....

Your Email address if you would like Tit-Bits emailed:

Tit-Bits Editor Ron Woff email address: sarahgoode@westnet.com.au  
Postal address: Ronald Woff, 2/28 Alfred Street Beaumaris, Vic 3193.  
Phone number: (03) 9583 0464

**COMMENTS – NEWS – MESSAGES for Tit-Bits 2011:**