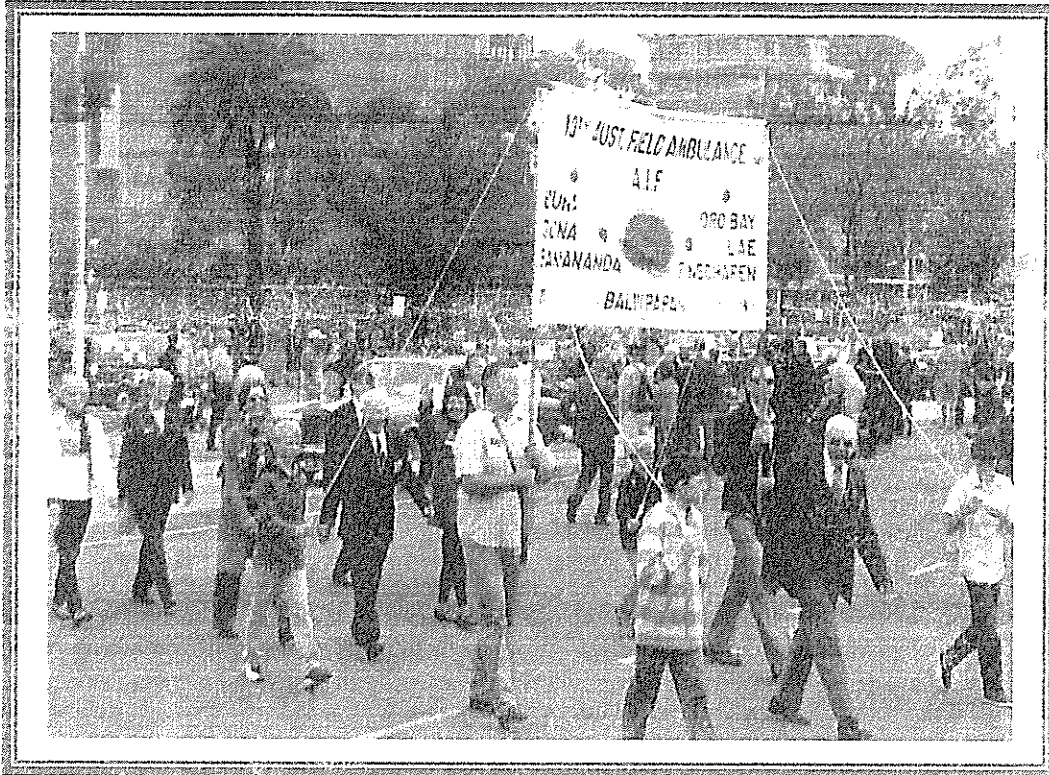


## 10<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE (A.F.) ASSOCIATION

**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**

TBA  
Help needed

**VICE PRESIDENT**

TBA  
Help needed

**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



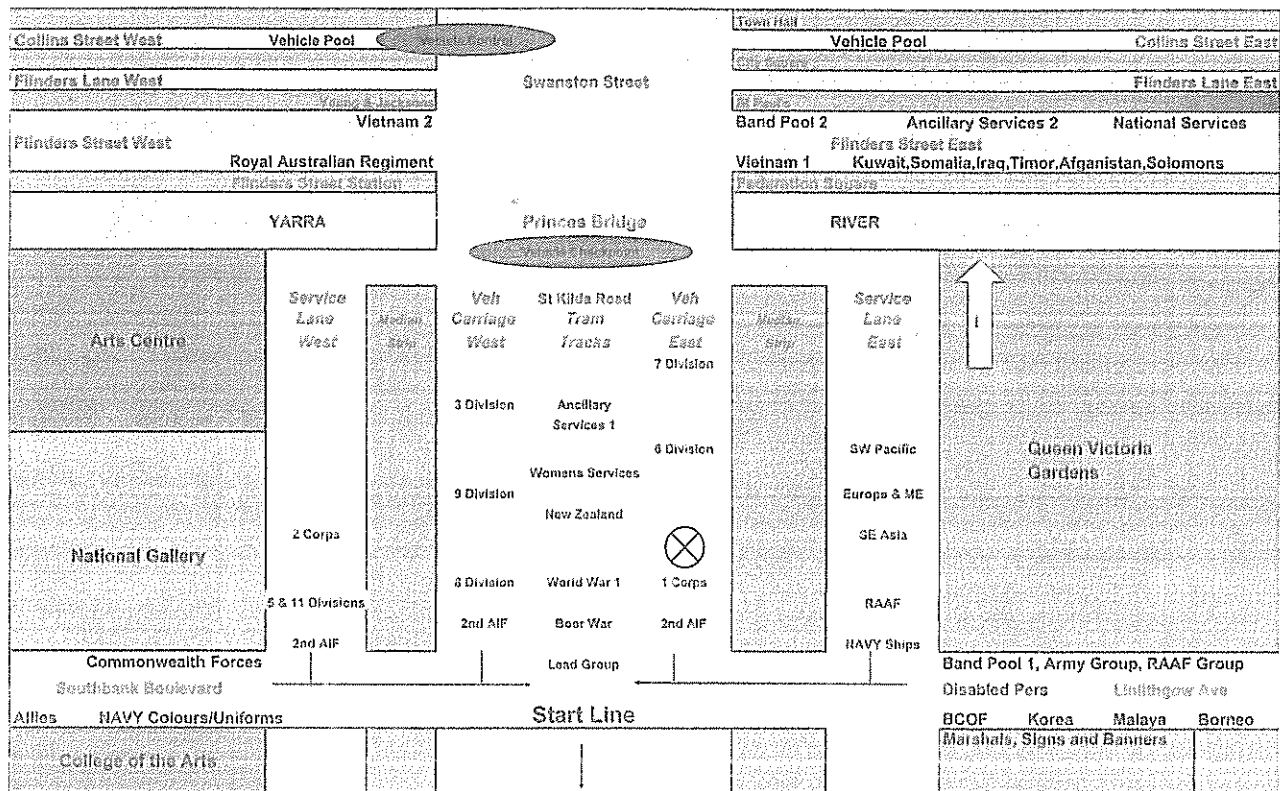
**GREETINGS** – for the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual general meeting and luncheon.

**ANZAC DAY 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2012 ACTIVITIES**

**THE MARCH**

Our assembly point has changed to the intersection between Swanson Street and Linlithgow Avenue. Situated in the Carriage East - In between the National Gallery and Queen Victoria Gardens. \*\*\***(Look for the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Banner)**\*\*\* We are to assemble at 9:15am. 2<sup>nd</sup> A.I.F - refer to map below marked ⊕

**ANZAC Day Commemoration March Assembly Plan 2012**



**OUR REUNION LUNCHEON**

It is great to say once again – same place same time but unfortunately there has had to be a \$5- price increase to (\$45) per person. It is still Seasons Botanic Gardens 348 St. Kilda Rd. from 11am to 3pm.

**MINUTES OF THE 2011 66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and Luncheon AS NOTED**

**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 2011 Annual General Meeting.

**MEETING** - Chairman and President Ted Young opened the meeting and welcomed the assembly of Members, Affiliates and Guests.

Brendon Holmes welcomed the following Guests to the 2011 Annual General Meeting: Jack Bacon's Daughters - Sue Fitch & Lyn Phillips, David James' Grandchildren - Molly James, Tom James, Ron Woff's Son - Noel Woff, Ron Woff's Grandchildren - Amy Macfarlane, Jess Macfarlane, Kate Waldron, Victoria Woff & Partner, Pat Fitton. Ted Young's daughter - Lynn Young. School Captains of Sandringham Secondary College, Beaumaris Campus - Brook Stefanou & Johnny Wood.

Chris Martin, School Principal, Sandringham Secondary College, Beaumaris Campus. Chris Martin's niece, Rachel Regan.

NEW AFFILIATES ATTENDING MEETING - Michael, Lorraine & Mark Englefield, Megan McLean, Robert James, Ian & Jenny Macfarlane, Chris Goode and Heather Wilkinson.

APOLOGIES - Trevor Ward presented the following apologies received:

MEMBERS - Les Atkins, Ivan Goldsmith, John Grant, Dr Ross Hayter, Mick Morrow, Stuart Smith, Dr (E.E.) Ted Spring, Don Thurlow, Cliff Watkins, Russell Thompson.

AFFILIATES - Margaret Biffin, Lynette Blackwood, Janice Cherry, Wendy Cope, Graham Davey, Joan Davey, Ronald Davey, Olive Gordon, Eileen Handley, Dr Gerard Handley, Michael Handley, Peter De Jarlais, Rob De Jarlais, Suzanne Lace, Russell Laidlaw, Sue Martin, Heather McKenzie, Pamela McMillan, Meryl Patrick, Elizabeth Rae, June Rae, Geoff Williams, Lisa York, Custodians of the Plaque (Seymour) - Jim & Trish Neilson.

LOYAL TOAST- Members stood in respect for the Queen and Australia, proposed by David James.

Remembrance Poem: My Tree, Poem Titled "A Soldier Died Today" Read by: Ted Young

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 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, 3 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 & Mitchell and Lachlan Holmes.

MINUTES OF AGM 2010 - Brendon moved that the minutes, as published in the 2010 edition of "10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits", be taken as read. Seconded: Ken Stanley. Carried.

WELFARE - Julie Mayberry presented the report on welfare matters.

Julie advised the meeting that John Grant (10<sup>th</sup> oldest Member) is currently in hospital.

CORRESPONDENCE (Trevor Ward) - presented a list of correspondents who have written to the Unit during the last year. Carolyn McLeod re Alan Sharp, Les Atkins, Dr Ted Spring, Don Thurlow, Cliff Watkins, Lynette Blackwood (Col. McKenzie's daughter), Joan & Janice Davey.

Correspondence was also received from Peter De Jarlais re the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion of the Vietnam Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Battalion, DCO 16 Platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake, 1970. 10 Field Battery, 12<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, 8 Medium Regiment.

President Ted Young proposed a Toast to the Vietnam Veterans gathered at the Campsea RSL for ANZAC day.

TOAST TO THE UNIT - Proposed by Ron Woff, Ron outlined his Service career from the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Unit (1942) to being drafted to the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Unit for service in New Guinea.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Trevor outlined the salient items of the financial statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Trevor assured the meeting that our finances are healthy and moved acceptance of the Financial Report. Proposal for a donation of \$200 be made by the Unit to Legacy. Seconded: Ted Young.

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

ADOPT AN EX SERVICE ORGANISATION PROGRAM - Presentation by Chris Martin, Principal of Beaumaris Campus of the Sandringham Secondary College.

GENERAL BUSINESS (Brendon Holmes) - Don Ludlam celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Don's daughter Marilyn advises that Don is currently residing at: Blue Cross Silverwood - 105 Porter Street, TEMPLESTOWE. MOB: 0411958571

Brendon advised the meeting that Julie Mayberry will continue to arrange the 10<sup>th</sup> AIF Anzac day luncheon.



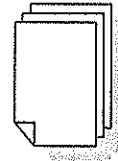
### Group Photograph ANZAC Day 2011-

*Ted Young  
David Jones  
Ron Smith  
Jack Bedford  
Ted Young  
Peter de Jarlais  
Viv Williams  
Viv Williams*

**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 2:35pm



### LETTERS & NEWS:



Peter de Jarlais 25 Bradman Rd, Menai 2234

22/03/2011

Dear Ted, Trevor, Ron and all, Please find enclosed a cheque for my Affiliate Member Annual Subscription. Regret I will be unable to attend the ANZAC Day March and Luncheon with you this year. I will be filling in/deputizing as warehouse manager at Fulham Imports while the manager Cosmos takes his family on a months holiday to Disneyland and the US – Fulham Imports is my wife Glenda's best girlfriend Kathryn Todd's glass and chinaware import business. Last October – 22 October 2010 in fact – my Army mates and I celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at the "11 Buco" Italian restaurant located at Enfield in Sydney. We were the Second Intake / April 1970 Nashos who all ended up in 16 Platoon D Company, 2RBT/Recruit Training Battalion, Puckapunyal, Victoria. One of our unit members John 'Truck' Bedford's dad Jack Bedford OAM was our special guest speaker – Jack like yourselves is a World War Two veteran, and at 92 years of age is still a Director of the Bankstown RSL. We presented our unit group photo to the Restaurant and the Restaurant provided us with a beautiful decorated cake. A great night was had by all – including our better halves! Enclosed some photos of the night for those interested to check out. We at our Luncheon/Afternoon Tea at Campise RSL on ANZAC Day will toast all past and present members of 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance if Ted can reciprocate and toast our Unit – 2 Training Battalion, D Company, 16 Platoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake 1970 : 102 Field Battery – 12 Field Regiment / 8 Medium Regiment this would be terrific. Thank you again, apologies, wish I was there with you all but circumstances are beyond my control this time round. Yours sincerely, Peter de Jarlais.

Ross Hayter

24/04/2011

Greetings Ron and all my old friends, I regret that I will not be with you tomorrow, please give my apologies. I intend to be marching with the local contingent but very few WW2 representatives manage the up hill part. Ross Hayter.

Trevor Ward 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn, Vic, 3130

23/11/2011

Dear Brendon, Following your phone call regarding the request you received from Noel Erbs for a copy of "Care, Courage and Camaraderie", Noel did ring us and Wendy had a delightful conversation with him. Wendy

explained that we could only make one copy available, that the price was \$25, and we duly posted a copy to him. I am enclosing a copy of Noel's letter on CGS Products letterhead in which he enclosed a cheque for \$50, and a CD containing photos relating to Albert Kenny. Also enclosed is the CD, and a copy of my reply. I shall send a copy of these two letters to Ted, and shall let him know that I have sent a copy of each letter to yourself together with the cd. February is fast approaching and we shall look forward to seeing you again in the New Year, Kind regards, Trevor.

Trevor Ward 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn, Vic, 3130 23/11/2011  
Dear Ted, Brendon had a call from a relative of Albert Kenny name Noel Erbs, requesting a copy of "Courage, Care and Camaraderie". I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Noel, Noel's reply, and copy of letter to Brendon accompanying the CD which Noel sent to us. We hope that Esma and yourself are keeping well, and look forward to seeing you again in the New Year, Kind regards, Trevor.

Trevor Ward 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn, Vic, 3130 7/10/2011  
Trevors response letter to Mr. Noel Erbs President, Trafalgar & District Historical Society.  
Dear Noel, we were delighted to receive your letter explaining the family relationship with Albert Kenny, and we are very grateful for your generous donation. The CD which you enclose will be a welcome addition to our memorabilia and archives which are being gathered by Brendon Holmes, to whom you have spoken, and Rob Stanley, the son of another of our members. I shall forward a copy of your letter to our President, Ted Young. And a copy of your letter and the CD Brendon Holmes. We are heading for Inverloch this weekend but we shall view the CD on our return before we pass it in to Brendon. We hope you enjoy reading "Care, Courage, and Camaraderie"- we are very fortunate to have such an excellent record of the history of the Unit, with kind regards from Wendy and myself, Trevor Ward, Treasurer.

Noel Erbs, President, Trafalgar & District Historical Society 29/09/2011  
Dear Wendy and Trevor, It was good to have the opportunity for a chat on the phone earlier this evening. This letter is to confirm my purchase of a copy of "Care, Courage & Camaraderie", thanks my cheque is enclosed (with a bit extra to support the valuable ongoing work of your Association). Just so as you have the connection clear, my wife, Ann Dinsdale, was the only daughter of Bill and Gladys Dinsdale now both deceased) and we will have been married 34 years next month. Gladys Dinsdale was originally Gladys Kenny and she has two sisters. Eileen and Kath, and two brothers, Thomas and Albert. Both Tom and Albie enlisted in WW2. As you know, Albert Arthur Kenny, VX137719, served overseas from 1943 to 1946 as a Private in the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance, 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF. Albie married Elsie and they had 4 sons together (you have had recent contact with Brian). As discussed, Ann & I spent some valuable time with Elsie, Brian and Peter the weekend before last. Brian has lent Ann a number of photographs and documents from Albie's personal effects. She has scanned them all and we have selected some of them and added a few others we already had to make a total of 14 which we reckon are suitable to add to the archives of your 10<sup>th</sup> FAB Assn. NOTES: \* there were no names associated with the 10<sup>th</sup> FAB footy team. \* we reckon Albie is at the back of the group of patients in Qld (again no names marked) \*there were no names associated with the SEC Stores group photo either. This lot of files has been burnt onto a CD (enclosed) for your records. I trusted the JPEG filename given to each of them is fairly self explanatory. Note that I have added the PDF on Major Albert James Arnott re Trafalgar RSL for your information. Finally, when the next T&DHS Gazette comes out in November, I will send you a courtesy copy. Best Regards to you both, Noel Erbs, President, Trafalgar & District Historical Society.

John Grant 15/06/2011  
To 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. Dear Wendy, I was thrilled to receive the get well card signed by all my mates at the 10<sup>th</sup> reunion and although I was not there in person I was in spirit. I am home after 6 weeks hospital and rehabilitation and I am now feeling much improved and hope after another month time be back to normal. Regards to all John Grant.

Terry and Ann Thornton 6920 Sunderland Circle Nashville, TN 37221. U.S.A. 19/10/2011  
Dear ones, I am very sad to write to let you know that our mother, Carolyn Gerrand, died on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> she had been living for the past five years in a nursing facility near our home. This summer her care level had to be increased as she was having difficulty with daily care tasks. In early September she started to refuse food and was spending most of the day in bed. After tests were done we found out her kidneys were failing. She stopped communicating with us but appeared to be comfortable, terry and I were with her when she passed away very

peacefully in the early morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. A lovely memorial service was held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. It was a testament to a life well lived. She requested that her pall be of red and pink roses for her two wonderful husbands. Luther and Neil. Carolyn and Neil moved back to Nashville in 1995. She was still talking about her days in Australia and all her dear friends there until the end. She loved all of you dearly. As I was going through Carolyn's things I found were she had been reading two specific passages in her bible..... therefore, I pray along with Carolyn, that we will practice the love of Christ in our daily lives. Thank you for your love and kindness for Carolyn. May the peace of God be with each of you. Terry and Ann Thornton - I enjoyed the A.I.F newsletters with Carolyn True Heroes. With love Ann

Lynnette Blackwood 35 Glen Eira Avenue Blackburn, Vic 3130 19/03/2011  
Dear Trevor, thank you all once again for the 45<sup>th</sup> Tenth Tit Bits and for your invitation, but must apologize as I am unable to be with you all at the Anzac Day Luncheon for the 10<sup>th</sup> field Ambulance! However you shall all be in my thoughts and especially those who will not be with you this time too. The memories keep unfolding and are very heart warming to read in your well presented pages. I think my father would be pleased you are still such a "close nit" after all these years! But then again possibly not. As he was so very proud of his well trained Unit and all you achieved. Good wishes to you all. I remain sincerely Lynnette Blackwood (nee McKenzie) (daughter of Colonel SA McKenzie).

Rob de Jarlais 2 Maidstone St Picton, 2571 8/04/2011  
Dear All, Thanks for T.T.B #45. (subs enclosed) I am poorly organised as usual and will get no closer to Melbourne than Omeo this month. A small group of us will be motorcycling through the high country including Benambra where my great grandfather (a de Jarlais) settled. I admired how luncheons I attended in 2008 and 2009 served commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Association role during the Second World War. Yours sincerely Rob de Jarlais

Joan Davey  
Love to all the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance (Keiths). Remember me to all if I don't get to lunch Esma, Ted, Glad, Marg, Ron Woff, Jack Bacon, Vicki King, Ken and all the unit take care- Joan & daughter Janice. Sorry to hear about Alan Sharp. We may get there but I go to RSL Koo-wee-rup dawn & I say the prayer for them. Have a great day love to all Joan Davey.

Don Thurlow  
Dear Trevor, please find attached my Annual subs. Unfortunately I am unable to be over for the re-union. Firstly I had a Pacemaker inserted, then 6 months later a Triple By Pass and now a heart valve. Ten weeks in hospital. Am progressing well and I fully expect to be with you next year. All the best for the reunion. Yours sincerely Don Thurlow.

Carrolyn Macleod 31/03/2011  
To dear Ron and members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Assoc. Thanking you all for Tit-bits 2011, even though it was sad for the Sharp family this year. Thank you for acknowledging Dad (Alan Sharp) on the front page with 'Poppy' -the lab (Now 1 year old & 35.6kg!) He really loved his unit and always said that it had a high calibre of men. Carrolyn Macleod.

Ivan Goldsmith 13 Clarke Ave Warburton, 3799 5/04/2011  
Dear Trevor, Please find my cheque for \$10 as payment for my annual Subscription for 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. I do appreciate the Tenth Tit bits and realise those who produce it do a great Job. I will not be marching in Melb. But will participate with the Local R.S.L here in Warburton. Congratulations to those few members still alive. Thank you and kind regards to your Wendy. Ivan Goldsmith.

Les Atkins  
Dear Ron & blokes of the 10<sup>th</sup>. Will be with you in thought have a great day. My vision is pretty bad these days I have Glaucoma and Macular degeneration. Don't go far not being able to drive is hard to Handle, got to use ½ fair taxies. Take care. Play on Les.

Cliff Watkins 31 Beach Rd. Rhyll Vic 3923

Dear Trevor, thanks again for 10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits. My apology for absence to attend the reunion this year. Greeting Cliff Watkins

Jo Lindley McCray 5 Hall St Brunswick, 3056

31/01/2012

Dear Mr Williams, I write to thank you for arranging to place a funeral notice from the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance for my father, Les Lindley. Who died at the end of July last year. It was in the Herald Sun and I believe you arranged it after I called and spoke to you and advised you of Dad's death. Thank you so very much. I'm also writing to enquire where I might be able to obtain a copy of "Care, Courage & Camaraderie – the history of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance" – which I believe you wrote. I've only recently become aware of it and would love to obtain a copy. If possible, I would also like a second copy for my son (Les's grandson) who is graduating as an Army recruit from Wagga Wagga on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. If you could advise me I would be most grateful. Yours Sincerely Jo Lindley McCray...

With many thanks for the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance History. Please add me to your mailing list. Kind regards Jo Lindley McCray (daughter of Sgt Les Lindley).

Trevor Ward 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn. Vic 3130

8/03/2011

Dear Jo, Thank you for your note enclosing cheque for "Care, Courage and Camaraderie". I shall arrange for you to receive a copy of the Association's annual newsletter called "Tit Bits" which will be issued a few weeks before Anzac Day. You may wish to become an Affiliate Member of the Association and I am enclosing an application form in case you are interested. The annual subscription is \$10 and the Affiliates are aiming at keeping the memory of the Unit alive. You would be very welcome to attend the Anzac Day Luncheon, details of which will be set out in "Tit Bits". We hope your son's Passing Out Parade went well – it would be a very proud occasion for you, Kind regards Trevor Ward Treasurer.

Vicki King 30 Princess Street FAWKNER, VIC 3060

21/12/2011

Dear Ted & Brendon, It is with regret that I advise you that I can no longer provide administrative assistance to the Secretary of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Association. 2011 has been a very difficult year with considerable changes in my working life & family responsibilities' and unfortunately it seems that 2012 will present even more challenges. I do not believe that I can adequately provide the level of administrative support required as I no longer have ready access to computing facilities & the local library services are limited and not always available at times of convenient to my family responsibilities. I thank you both for giving me the opportunity to assist the 10<sup>th</sup> FAA Committee and I would still like to help out on ANZAC Day if required. Yours Sincerely Vicki King,

Wendy Ward 2/8 Baldwin Rd, Blackburn Vic. 3130

12/02/2012

Dear Ted, It is with much regret that I relinquish my role as Vice President of the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Association. I would be happy to remain on the committee as Welfare Officer and to continue in my role assisting you where possible. My decision has been made necessary due to health reasons that have come about in the past six months. With Kindest Regards, Wendy Ward.

**LEST WE FORGET:**  
Arthur (Doc) Holiday  
Dr Colin Copland 13/04/2011  
Les Lindley 29/07/2011  
Keith Birchall 1/11/2011  
Dr Jack Trembath 17/03/2012

### **TOAST TO THE UNIT - 25<sup>th</sup> April 2011 ANZAC DAY**

Mr President, Ladies and gentlemen unfortunately there are so few unit members left that you now have to listen to replays. Just to refresh your memories my original training was with the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance to which I was drafted after completing 3 weeks infantry training at Bonegilla in January 1942. In March 42 we entrained for Queensland. Things were fairly grim by then, the Japs had gained control of



Singapore and were on their way South. The train trip was via the inland route for safety and the names of all the train stations along the way had been removed (to fool the Japs). This was the source of some amusement as although the station names were removed quite often the name of the town was still displayed on the front of local shops.

We moved to various Queensland towns as part of the 'Brisbane line' and on 7/8 May were on stand at Coloundra as the coral sea battle was in progress. Fortunately the Japs were defeated and the immediate threat of invasion was over. Training continued and in October 1942 we were camped in the show grounds at Nambour – at this stage the 10<sup>th</sup> were camped at Landsborough, both units then being part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division.

The Japs had landed in New Guinea and Australia was again threatened. The 10<sup>th</sup> became part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Australia Corps and needed reinforcements to make up full strength, 22 of us were drafted from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>. We were paraded with the rest of the unit, placed under embarkation orders and given our jungle green uniforms. Webbing had to be painted green also. Colonel McKenzie had been forced through ill health to leave the Unit. I had never met him but feel sure that the training for which he had been responsible was the reason the 10<sup>th</sup> was chosen for transfer to 1 Aust Corp. I had been asked to sing with the Third Division Concert Party and thought that having been transferred would get me out of this. However such was not to be and on that first night they caught up with me and arranged leave – (very probably the only one allowed out of Camp). The next morning we moved to Brisbane to start our Journey to New Guinea.

Censorship was tight everywhere even though not always effective as witnessed by the removal of Railway names. Advertisements such as "EVEN THE WALLS HAVE EARS" abounded. Our letters were censored by our officers from then on. I had made up my mind to mention in my letters as little

as possible about the war to try and avoid worrying my parents and girlfriend. But not long after arriving in New Guinea I got a letter from home saying they knew where we had gone as a local chap home on leave was at the concert and had seen me do my last number in Jungle greens and the Compaire had commented on the impending movement. On the way to New Guinea there was an outbreak of Dysentery on our ship (the Both) and it pulled into Townsville to clear this up. We were at a staging camp well out of Townsville for about five days and one day Noel Smith and I walked to a railway station about a mile away and found it unattended but a telephone box there was in working order. We decided to see if we could use it – we could but because it was so busy our calls would not come through until 3 o'clock the next morning. Nothing daunted we placed our calls. We managed to wake up in time by drinking copious cups of coffee and left the rest to nature! When my call came through Joyce said "you're in Townsville" I was astounded – and naturally said how do you know to which she replied "the operator said "Townsville calling" – censorship at its best.

On arriving at Port Moresby we were sent to help the 2/9<sup>th</sup> AGH who were literally swamped with casualties. Holding over 1000 patients at this time. I gained some valuable surgical experience working in their operating theatre for whole of December, others of our nursing orderlies assisted in the wards. During this period many of our men were sent forward to Buna area to assist other Field Ambulance units and did a first class job.



Leaving Moresby our group set out for Soputa going by ship to Oro Bay and then walking the rest of the way. At Oro Bay we walked to an American Hospital at a mission station a few miles on and helped them whilst there. Following an air raid at Oro Bay the American casualties came to this hospital where I was assisting in their operating theatre we worked for about 24 hours straight after this raid, the main cause of this was a young American who received a shrapnel wound which entered his abdomen on one side and exited on the other. This involved examining every inch of his intestines to close the many perforations.

They were the US 1<sup>st</sup> Portable Hospital – a more serious version of “MASH” and was so well equipped that they seemed hardly portable!! A week or so later at Soputo our working conditions were meagre in comparison - but did the job.

There were another couple of examples of how censorship failed, the first was when we set up hospital at Oro Bay. I had written home to say that I had gone to a picture show at an American camp just up the road and named the picture they showed (can't remember what it was) not long after I got a letter saying my folks now knew I was at Oro Bay because a cousin of mine was corresponding with an American soldier at Oro Bay and he had mentioned seeing the same show on the same night! Obviously they were allowed to mention their location. The worst breach from a worrying point of view was much later when they learned that we were about to be involved in the landing at Balikpapan (Borneo). We were preparing to leave Morotai for the landing and I met up with an Air force Pilot mate of mine who had a very important job of flying V.I.P.s wherever required. It so happened that shortly after I'd seen him he was directed to fly to Melbourne he called on Joyce and told her where we were headed. So despite my best endeavours to avoid worrying the folks at home news often got through.

The unit was involved in many events and places, we were not often all together but the camaraderie existed. Jack Caldwell and I joined the surgical team of Major Gatenby from the 2/2 unit C.C.S and proceeded from Oro Bay to our A.D.S at Morobe where an operating theatre was constructed. The trip was by small ship and proved to be very rough. The start was delayed because of a submarine alert and rain persisted. There was little cover on the boat and I was very sea sick – a dreadful feeling – at daylight we were proceeding up the coast and saw in the distance a ship being dive bombed I remember thinking that it would be a relief to be hit! However it proved to be our own planes practising their dive bombing on a wrecked ship. After a few weeks at Morobe I got Dengue fever and was evacuated back to Oro Bay in the care of our sea Ambulance orderlies.

Well I think we will leave it there, with me in hospital in agony with “breakbone” fever but being looked after by first class orderlies, being watched over by first class Doctors and fed on light meals prepared by our first class cooks.

**So now I ask you to be upstanding and drink this toast to our 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance.**

## **BITS & PIECES**

### **A Poem – Remembrance**

There is a tree I know, a lovely thing... I see it only when I close my eyes. No tight-lipped buds embroider it in Spring. No glowing russet mantle ever lies about its shapely shoulders in this fall, and in the chilling air of winters breath when short-lived days pass swiftly into night, it never tokens grief, or speaks of death. Nay, it is always summer in my tree... Splendid it stands in fullest leaf and flower. And to its peace-filled canopy I haste as would a lover to his lady's bower.

My tree is called “Remembrance”- gracious name, sweet to the ears of those who understand, who lean far out into the dark of time and feel the pressure of a dear, lost hand -. Here in the quiet of his holy day I vow mine is the everlasting tree, whose leaves are for the healing of all hearts, the ease of pain, the drying of all tears that flow from out the founts of memory. Come, sorrowing ones; come, close your eyes with me and together let us kneel beneath my tree.

### *Some facts about ANZAC day:*

**The ANZAC Tradition** – ANZAC Day marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during World War 1. War broke out in 1914, and in 1915 Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of the allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in order to

open the Dardanelles to the allied navies. The ultimate objective was to capture Constantinople (now Istanbul in Turkey), the capital of the Ottoman Empire – an ally of Germany. The Australian and New Zealand forces landed at Gallipoli on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders. The campaign quickly became a stalemate and proceeded to drag on for eight months. At the end of 1915 the allied forces were evaluated, after both sides had suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. Over 8,000 Australian soldiers were killed. Although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives, the Australian and New Zealand actions during the campaign left us all a powerful legacy.

**Rosemary** – Rosemary is an emblem of remembrance. A sprig of rosemary pinned to a coat lapel or to medals is traditional on ANZAC Day. Rosemary is of particular significance for Australians on ANZAC Day as it grows wild on the Gallipoli peninsula.

**Poppies**– During World War I, red poppies were among the first plants to spring up in the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium. In Soldiers' folklore, the vivid red of the poppy came up from the blood of their comrades soaking the ground. The poppy has become very popular in wreaths used on ANZAC Day.

Information sourced from – “the Australian War Memorial, the Department of Defence, and the Department of Veteran Affairs and from a newsletter from Andrew Robb AO MP 25/04/2010”.

**Some more memory's from Allan Williams 2012** 47 Riverside Avenue, North Balwyn 3104

*A Frightened Boy* – When our small group first moved from Moresby to Buna we were unable to take tents, so for a few days we had to arrange for sleeping with units already there. We borrowed five 2-man tents and were asked to divide ourselves into five groups of two. Bad luck, but I was in a tent with Ron.

We had to dress and undress outside the tent then crawl in and out. We slept on a ground sheet on the ground and put up a mosquito net. The first night Ron started crying and singing out “the japs are just over the creek” we were camped alongside a fallen tree beside a creek. I tried to stop him crying and singing out by saying “the Japs will hear you” but no avail. I had to hold his hand until he got to sleep. Next night was much the same but got a little better by the fifth night after which we moved camp. Ron was a French polisher and came in to the firm where I worked to polish desks, so I would have lunch with him and talk about the old days and the time he was frightened.

*A Meal with a Paw-Paw-* At Popondetta we were short of rations and only allowed a tin of bully-beef between two of us each day. A tin of bully-beef contained twelve mouthfuls so each day for eight days we only had six mouthfuls of food. I always shared my meal with Jack. He was a big over 6ft man and because I was only small he made sure he was in line with me. There were often only three or four mouthfuls left. The C.O. Col Palmer noticed this but did not say anything and I did not complain. On e 7<sup>th</sup> day the C.O. left early in the morning searching for food and came back in the afternoon with three paw-paws. I went behind a tree and ate everything – seed and skin. Today I still eat a lot of paw-paw, as I said that one actually saved my life.

*A strange Disease-* At Oro Bay I had a sore on the right side of my forehead above my right eye. It was sore so I went on sick parade and was admitted to the camp hospital. It was in the days before penicillin and the six doctors there all had a look but could not decide what was wrong. About a week later Major Francis was walking past the hospital ward on his way to work when he stopped, came in to me and said “I know what you have and the last man I saw with it died from it – Herpes Zoster (shingles) of the right ophthalmic nerve”. So I was sent back to my tent and to do nothing for two weeks. By the end of the two weeks I was cured and back on duty.

\*\*\*\*\*10<sup>th</sup> Field AUDITOR NEEDED \*\*\*\*\*

For many years the Association has been fortunate to have Alan Williams audit the books and accounts of the Association. Unfortunately Alan is not well at the moment and we are seeking someone else to audit our accounts. The Association is not an incorporated body so there are no regulatory implications for the audit. The position is probably best suited to somebody with an accounting, book keeping or banking background. Would you please contact our Treasurer, Trevor Ward on 98778027 if you would be able to help the Association in this way.

**Memories from Cliff Watkins:**

Having been asked to write this as a record of a 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance soldier in 1940, as is known WWII was declared on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> 1939. The PM Mr RG Menzies had a law passed in a matter of weeks, that there would be a call up to Compulsory Trainings, provision made for NON COMBATANT soldiers. The first men to be called up were to be the 21 years age group (whose birthdays fell between July 1<sup>st</sup> 1939 till June 30<sup>th</sup> 1940). The enrolment took place at Army Drill Halls throughout the country between January 6<sup>th</sup> – Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 1940. (I was enrolled on the 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 1940). As places for military training were scarce the 10<sup>th</sup> Fd amb unit of Militia (to which I was assigned)

there was no training ground for us at the end of January 1940. Finally the 10<sup>th</sup> were called up on Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> 1940 and after 70 days were discharged from camp on July 7<sup>th</sup> 1940 before going to camp we were called up in Feb-April a couple of times to the RAAMC drill hall in William Street, Melbourne. It was there we received our Military clothing and equipment for camp. Came April 29<sup>th</sup>, we entrained at Spencer St. Destination Seymour. There we were met with open trucks to take us to our camp site at the old 1914 training ground beside the Army camp hospital. This was on the Seymour – Trawool- Yea Rd about 3 miles east of Seymour. There were 44 of us to arrive there – 22 were designated to the 4<sup>th</sup> Fd Amb. 22 to the 10<sup>th</sup>. All or most came from the eastern suburbs. (The 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> men camped in tents about 40 yards from one another, but trained separately. An interesting item was the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Transport. Based on World War I we had horse drawn ambulances with old moustached horseman to care for and manage the horses- feeding etc. Lloyd Stuart was a private then, but soon rose in the ranks, being in charge (later) of motor transport, after many weeks of training we had a mock war. The scene of battle was the 1914 dug out trenches (dug out then). It was called the Drake. Brokeman line, named after the said, Major General. These deep trenches covered many acres. In training we learned to carry a stretcher down in the trenches. The Sgt would call out, keep your head down, else you'll have it shot off!! So we kept our heads down! A mile away was camp and the A DS (Advance dressing station) to receive the mock wounded. It would take the horse transport about 15 minutes or more to travel the mile. I can't remember much training in the hospital. We could get a leave pass to go to Seymour of an evening and have a good steak and eggs etc! We were given weekend leave every 4 weeks from Friday 4pm to Sunday midnight. (This only happened twice). We were taken by truck to Seymour station for the train to Spencer Street we were crammed in the carriages some slept on the seats. Some on the floor I slept in the luggage rack. It was narrow and I had to hold tight. (With the tracks sudden thrusts and stops) so one wasn't tossed out of the rack. Before the camp broke up we were transported back to Spencer Street we did a long route march – from our camp at Trawool to Trawool/Seymour and 3 miles back to our camp. Looked to be over 20 miles. We 1940 men were recalled to camp and we rejoined the 10<sup>th</sup> Field ambo boys already camped in Nagambie road 1941. Of the original 22 of us one could only see 3 of us that came to Nagambie road, mainly Frank Mcardle (Decd) who became RSM. Norm Wall (Decd) and this writer. Recently Rod Bounday (Decd) he was one of us. Forgot, at the Nagambie road camp in Feb 1941 there was no sign of horse drawn ambulances but motorized transport! During our stay in camp in Seymour (the 10<sup>th</sup> camp) one morning the wireless gave the news Dunkirk has fallen about June 1941.

#### **EDITORS RANT (Ron Woff):**

In most organisations there are a few people who give their time freely – ours is no different and we take this opportunity to thank them. Our two retiring committee ladies, Vicki King and Wendy Ward will be greatly missed and we look forward to volunteers to replace them. Wendy has been very ill but she has "Soldiered" on and now has our best wishes for her future health. We thank Trevor for carrying on under difficulties and Rhonda Holmes for stepping into the place of Vicki for the time being. Many thanks to Robert Stanley for his continued work on our Honour Roll Board – all at no cost to the unit. During the year Ted Young and I visited the Beaumaris Campus of the Sandringham Secondary College with which we are affiliated and spoke to the students about our role in World War 2. They seemed to enjoy it and asked many questions. The younger ones in particular liked the Japanese sword! This year's march is quite different – much shorter. And we hope you can find your way to the starting point where we assemble at 9.15AM.

Last minute news – both Alan and Les Williams are working hard on their recovery from heart problems. best wishes to both. The very best wishes to you all – near and far. 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 Llyall	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 Mathevs	-/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 Furmston	25/09/1989
51	John Osborne	29/10/1974	114	Jock Roe	07/11/1989
52	Dr. Frank McArdie	12/12/1974	115	Ron Roberts	08/11/1989
53	Alf Swales	26/01/1975	116	Jack MacKie	-
54	Ralph Hallam	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 Clemens	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 Stuart	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	Aif 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 Atwyn	01/09/1999	240	Dr Colin Copland	13/04/2011
178	Geoff Flower	16/09/1999	241	Les Lindley	29/07/2011
179	Andy McHattie	05/10/1999	242	Keith Birchall	01/11/2011
180	Laurie Peverill	06/11/1999	243	Arthur (Doc) Holiday	-
181	Phil Scanlon	24/01/2000	244	Dr Jack Trembath	17/03/2012
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			



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

**Annual Subscription & Luncheon Fees – 2012**

Type of Fee:	Code:	Amount:	Total:
Member Annual Subscription	M	\$10	\$
Member Luncheon	L	\$45	\$
Affiliate Member Annual Subscription	A	\$10	\$
Affiliate Member Luncheon	L	\$45	\$
Guest's Luncheon	GL	\$45	\$
Donation			\$

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

To satisfy hotel luncheon arrangements, your application form must reach the treasurer by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. 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

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**COMMENTS – NEWS – MESSAGES for Tit-Bits 2012:**