

# TENTH TIT BITS



## 10TH FIELD AMBULANCE (A.I.F) ASSOCIATION

**ISSUE NO. 51**

**1 APRIL 2017**

**PRESIDENT:** Ted Young Tel: 9569 8393

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Rob Stanley Tel: 0418 329 047

**SECRETARY:** Michael Englefield Tel: 0408 514 850  
Email : englefield@techinfo.com.au

**TREASURER:** Trevor Ward Tel: 9877 8027

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Ron Woff 9583 0464 / Julie Mayberry 0412 250 521 / Davis Hall 0412 714 840 /  
Wendy Ward 9877 8027 / Sarah Goode 0438 667 367

**LIFE MEMBERS:**

Mrs. Glad White / Mrs. Margaret Holmes / Mrs. Marg King / Mr. Jack Bacon / Mr. Ted Young /  
Mr. Ron Woff

---

### **Committee Resignation – John (“Jack”) Bacon**

After over 40 years as a committee member of the Association, Life Member ( awarded 1995) Jack has reluctantly tendered his resignation from the Committee via an email from his daughter – refer the Letters and News section.

By return email (refer Letters and News Section) the Association expressed its gratitude to Jack for his long and devoted contribution to the perpetuation of the Units camaraderie and history.

## 2017 ANZAC DAY MARCH AND LUNCHEON

“ The March ! ” - this year we step off much earlier than usual at 9.35am with 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF 1<sup>st</sup> Corps from Finders St West (Nth side) on the corner next to Young and Jacksons. Those intending to march need to be at the above location by 9-15am.

The luncheon is again at the Seasons Botanic Gardens, 348 St.Kilda Road, Melbourne. The cost is \$50 but the association has subsidised \$5 so the price for members and guests is \$45. Doors will open at 11am with the meeting will commencing at 12 noon..

Bookings for the Luncheon and Annual Subscriptions can be made on the enclosed form.

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED “ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION & LUNCHEON” FORM BY 15 APRIL 2017.**

## 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



L to R: Ted Young, Don Thurlow, Ron Woff

## PRESIDENT TED'S INTRODUCTORY POEM

### **A poem entitled “Anzac Day”**

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 diggers by his side.

And when the march was over the kid 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- it’s 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  
And for this thing called freedom, the diggers had 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



## **2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES & TOAST TO UNIT**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Australian (A.I.F) Field Ambulance Association**

**Minutes of the 2016 – 71<sup>TH</sup> Annual General Meeting and Luncheon**

**Date – April 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 – 12.00 noon**

**Held at – Seasons Botanic Gardens – 348 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne**

### **Meeting**

Welcome – Chairman & President Ted Young opened the meeting and :

- extended a warm welcome to Members, Affiliates and Guests, with special mention to Ron Woff and 14 family members and Don Thurlow, attending from Adelaide with 6 family members ;
- acknowledged the Principal of Vermont Secondary College (VSC), Mr Tony Jacobs and College Captains Ally Clarke and Jack Morrison. The VSC has adopted the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Unit under the Shrine's "Adopt a Service Unit program" ;
- welcomed Brigitte & Volkers Ankenbrand (friends of Liz Ray) and former Association Secretary Chris Martin ;
- offered a special welcome to all attending the luncheon for the first time.

President Ted then recited the poem "Anzac Day " (refer attachment).

### **Attending –**

The Meeting and Luncheon were attended by 56 Members, Affiliates and Guests.

### **Apologies –**

Life Member - John Bacon.

Life Members (Affiliates) - Margaret Holmes, Marg King, Glad White.

Affiliates – Lynette Blackwood, Anne Cooper, Peter De Jarlais, Robert De Jarlais, Brendon Holmes, Rhonda Holmes, Vikki King, Heather McKenzie, Carolyn Macleod, Trish Nilsson, Jim Nilsson, Meryl Patrick, Debbie Pulham, Lorraine Pulham, Joyce Shepherd, John Shepherd, Audrey Trafford, Chris Trafford, Marj Stanley, Esmá Young.

### **Loyal Toast**

Vice president Rob Stanley invited attendees to stand while he proposed a toast to the Queen , Australia and the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance.

## **Remembrance**

President Ted announced that the Roll of Honour would now be read.

A period of silent reflection was observed as , Wendy Ward, Kim Thurlow and Julie Mayberry read the Honour Roll containing the names of deceased past members.

The Last Post & Reveille was played as our thoughts were brought together, followed by the Ode –“ They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old – LEST WE FORGET “.

## **Report on the March – Don Thurlow**

Don reported that three members participated in today's march – President Ted Young, Ron Woff and Don himself – led by the King family members carrying the Unit banner.

Don also related in some detail and with obvious pride the contents of a recent television program he had recently watched which recognised and acknowledged the commitment , dedication and professionalism of AIF members ( including the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Unit) who served in Borneo.

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – 2015**

President Ted moved that the minutes of the AGM of April 25<sup>th</sup> 2015 – as published in the 10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits, be taken as read and approved, with one amendment viz. -

-changing the Secunder of the motion to accept the 2015 Financial statement from John Shepard to John Bachelor.

Moved by President Ted Young - Seconded by Trevor Ward – Motion Carried.

## **Correspondence – Trevor Ward**

Trevor Ward presented correspondence received from the following –

Lynette Blackwood, Rob de Jarlais, Carolyn Macleod, Julie Mayberry, Joyce Shepherd, Ali Waight and Sara Hammond.

Moved by Trevor Ward to receive the correspondence - Seconded Julie Mayberry – Motion Carried

## **Finance Report – Mr Trevor Ward**

The Treasurer Mr Trevor Ward tabled the Financial Statement for the period ended 31 January 2016.

Trevor moved that the report be accepted – Seconded by Ron Woff - Motion Carried

Trevor also expressed a vote of thanks to David Hall for his audit of the Unit books of account

## **General Reports**

### **-10<sup>th</sup> Tit Bits – Sarah Goode**

Sarah acknowledged the great work of Ron Woff preparing the Tit Bits and for the work of Victoria & Andrew Woff for their ongoing

All in attendance supported their great contribution with strong applause.

President Ted thanked Sarah for her work over the past 18 years in assisting Ron Woff in compiling TTB's and he expressed the wish that they would both continue this work which he sees as being essential to maintaining the connection between members, affiliates and friends of the Unit.

### **Welfare – Mrs Wendy Ward**

Wendy Ward advised that Members Cliff Watkins and Jack Allen and Affiliate Marcia Watts had passed away during the year and of the following :

- Jack Bacon in limited care;
- Glad White is still in independent living;
- Ivan Goldsmith had recently suffered a stroke but is living with his daughter / son-in-law at Orbost;
- Olive Goldsmith in aged care; and
- Esma Young in aged care.

Wendy moved the allocation of a donation to Legacy of \$ 400. This was seconded by Mike Englefield – Motion Carried.

### **Adopt an Ex-Service Organisation Program – President Ted Young.**

President Ted introduced Tony Jacobs, Principal of Vermont Secondary College .

Tony thanked all at the meeting for the opportunity for the College to be involved with the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Unit and talked about the 1400 College students who attended Anzac Assemblies (held on 22 April 2016) with the Unit being represented by Wendy & Trevor Ward. He also indicated that Vermont Secondary College is proud of its involvement with the Unit and is extremely happy to now have the opportunity this association provides for inclusion in the Colleges curriculum.

Tony also expressed appreciation to the Unit for agreeing to hold at the College its Honor Board and, courtesy of Rob Stanley, some Unit memorabilia now on display in the school entrance foyer. Tony is keen to receive more items of Unit memorabilia for inclusion in the display

He suggested that for the future, the Unit might look into arranging for the VSC Band to precede the Unit banner / group in the March to the Shrine. There was general agreement with this suggestion among the attendees.

## **Toast to the Unit**

Vice President Rob Stanley presented the following toast:

“ANZAC Day 2016

### **Sacrifice Mateship**

It is an honour for me today to propose the toast to the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance

The celebration and remembrance of ANZAC Day is about acknowledging

Sacrifice Mateship Courage Endurance

The ability to keep going

Persevere when everything seems lost

About working together.

I have been very fortunate to share this great day with my father over many years

To listen to the toasts of days gone by

To understand what our fathers had to endure

### **Sacrifice**

We hear of **sacrifice** – the cost of life

Of their experiences – both good and bad

Remember they went away as 18 / 19 year olds and spent the next 4 to 5 years away

We have never done that –

I cannot think of what it was like

The word sacrifice

Immediately we think of - the sacrifice of life

I look at my father and his mates within the unit

The sacrifice that I see

Is the sacrifice of their youth

We are all extremely grateful for the commitment of every serving member

To their country To their family

Their families shared in their sacrifice

Today we all map out our lives

To 18 we attend secondary college – determining what course - our direction in life

From 19 to 23 we go to university

And the life of a Uni student – we all remember

WOW – some things we can tell our parents –

And the other things - well !!!!! –

We all know the other things

I look at dad and all his mates - I see great guys all who all missed this stage of their lives  
They lost their youth  
But for these great guys it is what they had to do  
As a young boy  
And we are always young

I witnessed the sacrifices that every unit member endured  
For me – the stories of how good a cricketer dad was –  
But not able to play district cricket – his dream growing up  
He was provided with a cricket scholarship at the age of 17  
An opportunity to start his sporting career to play district cricket  
Those budding young cricketers –  
One also by the name of Alan Sharp

Dad met Alan thru cricket at the age of 18  
And when they met again  
It was on a different field  
For dad and Alan not to realise their dreams –  
Could they have played test cricket - they had hopes  
It was not to be  
Following that war they had to rebuild their lives  
Their lives started in their mid 20s  
Rebuilding personal relationships  
Study at Night school  
Work  
Family  
Bloody hell – I don't think I could have done that

### **Mateship**

What I have grown to understand thru listening to the stories – and the times  
There was a strong bond – a strong bond of **mateship**  
We see the real meaning of mateship – every day we see these guys together  
From the origins of ANZAC – in 1915  
Our soldiers embodied the commitment of freedom



In part a strange spirit of adventure  
From our knock about nature  
This bond of mateship  
We hold this dearly to this day  
They had reliance on each other  
It was them and them only  
There was something very special that came from this horrible mess – this war

We see lifelong friendships  
Since I can remember it was always a very special day when we shared family days  
There were the days with Alan Sharp and wife Pat  
A Queens Birthday yearly event with Clem Winchester and wife June  
Clem Alan Ken - They were real mates  
Just look at this picture of mum and dads wedding –  
All three mates side by side

At our family days we would sit and listen to the stories – all those memories  
They shared experiences that we would struggle to comprehend  
But their bond of mateship got them thru  
This unique bond - a bond that tied them together for life  
And it supported them all

They all supported each other – thru adversity to their return to normal life  
A few years back I presented the toast on behalf of dad –

That was his last reunion lunch

The last words of that toast I would like to share with you again

I feel they are very special and reflect why we are here

### Special words

It is inevitable, time and illness have taken their toll

We remember those very fine men who have now passed on

And we acknowledge the few that remain

We hold all these guys in genuine high regard

One another, past and present.

Will you please be upstanding and charge your glasses and drink a toast to the **10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance.** “

### **General Business**

Nil

### **Group Photograph**

A group photograph comprising President Ted, Ron Woff and Don Thurlow backed by the Unit Honour Board was then arranged with many proud “snappers” taking a “photo op”

### **Close**

At 2 -30pm President Ted thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions to the day and closed the meeting.

## **LETTERS AND NEWS**

- 11/4/16

I do thank you for the Tit Bits No.50 and am most admiring of the document again produced. I regret I cannot be with you at the luncheon this year.

I would like to say the toast to the unit ‘Past, Present and Future’ was outstanding and to so many now the very early days of the unit it would not really be known. Mr Thurlow spoke about my father LT.Col Mckenzie and all he wanted to achieve to make it the best unit and everyone trained to the highest level. So many of you have spoken to me over the years, and that was the way it was.

Thank you, I remain very sincerely,  
Lynette Blackwood.

- 18/4/16

Dear all,

Thanks for the TB 50. The toast to the Unit was an excellent read. I’ll be attending the Anzac Dawn service in my home town of Picton this year then heading off on yet another motorcycle ride through outback N.S.W this time!

Thanks everyone,  
Rob de Jarlais

- 18/4/16

To the committee of the 10<sup>th</sup> A.I.F Association,

Thanking you for all your work in keeping the Association going.

A big thank you also to Sarah Goode for producing a lengthy and informative 50<sup>th</sup> Tenth Tit Bits (especially as it has been a difficult time for her personally)

Thinking of you on Anzac Day and enjoy the luncheon.

All the best, love

Carolyn Macleod (nee Sharp)

- Dear Wendy,

I am enclosing a cheque to cover my subscription and also for my son as an affiliate member. Sorry I won't be at the luncheon. My best wishes to all that are able to be there.

Sincerely Joyce Shepherd

- 22/4/16

Dear Trevor,

It is with regret that I wish to inform we will not be able to attend the luncheon on Monday. However, my brothers, Brad and Justin and our sons will continue with flag duties this year.

With a heavy heart I also wish to advise of the passing of my mother Marcia. She passed away in January after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Anzac Day has always been one of the most special days of the year for our family. Each year Mum had marched in honor of Pa (Kruger King) and this year I will march in her place.

My grandmother Marg King is now in a nursing home in Anglesea. Although she suffers from Dementia, she is very comfortable and happy with a lifetime of memories she often revisits. She will be unable to attend the march this year but will no doubt be thinking of you all and all the happy memories of Anzac day celebrations in their home in Fawkner.

We wish you all a lovely day on Monday. With your blessing our family will continue to honor our Grandfather and his lifelong mates of the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance and each year that passes with our participation in the Anzac Day march.

See you at Flinders Street!

Kind regards,

Ali Waight

(Kruger Kings Granddaughter)

- To 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Association,

Thank you to everyone for your kind thoughts and condolences when my father passed away.

Dad loved his involvement with the 10<sup>th</sup> and up until he died he talked about the unit with a great deal of fondness.

Kind regards,

Julie Mayberry

- 22/5/16

Hi Sarah,

My name is Julie Hamilton and I received the Tenth Tit Bits No. 50 in the mail for my mother Beryl Langton (widow of Steve Langton).

Unfortunately, my mother passed away just prior to Anzac Day and I would appreciate it if you would take her off your listing to receive the newsletter.

Thank you and I hope all has gone well with both your son and your pregnancy.

Regards,

Julie.

- 13/2/17

Hi Mike,

Dad would like to put in his apologies for the meeting next Sunday. It has become too difficult for him to go out these days. Could you please pass on to all relevant people that Dad's email address has changed and his iiNet address will no longer be used as of the end of March.

Dad would also like to inform you that after much consideration he feels he unfortunately needs to retire from the committee and wishes you all well for the coming year.

Regards,

Sue Fitch on behalf of Jack Bacon.

Association Response (Mike Englefield)

Sue,

Thanks for your message. Sorry to hear that Jack can't make the meeting and that he is retiring from the committee. As well as his ongoing contribution to the committee, he has been a long term valued contributor to the fellowship and continuance of the memory of the unit. I will pass on his best wishes and we also wish him the best.

I have updated Jacks email address on the unit records.

Regards,

Mike.

- My Dad was (William) John Grant, he passed away in July 2012.

He left behind his collection of butterflies from his time with 10th Field Ambulance in PNG or Borneo, perhaps.

I also found a poem about the collection of butterflies by his unit in an old newsletter.

I would like to donate these to the War Memorial in Canberra. I guess I was wondering if any of your members remember about the butterfly collecting and where or when it took place.

I read in this year's Tit Bits the toast to the Unit that mentioned some of the localities.

Any other material which would build a clearer picture would be lovely.

Thanks,

Cheryl Grant

### **PREPARATION OF “TENTH TIT BITS”**

After 18 years of assisting Ron Woff with the preparation and issue of TTB's, Sarah Goode has taken a break this year to concentrate on family matters including a very recent move of house. In her stead, another of Ron's granddaughters and Affiliate Member, Megan Mclean, has stepped up to help Ron put together TTB's Issue No 51.

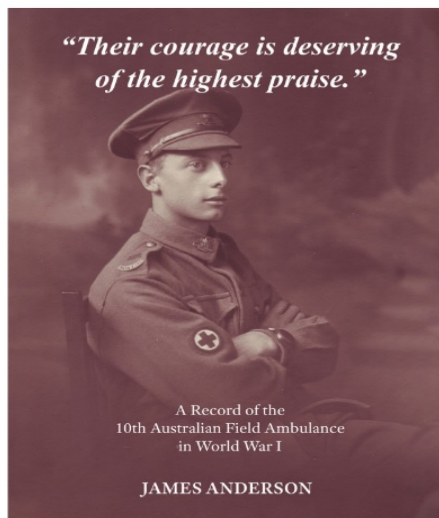
The Association wishes to express its thanks to Megan for her time and commitment in order to ensure the continuation of this vital aspect of the Associations communication with its Members and Affiliates. We look forward to welcoming Sarah back to the word processor in 2018.

### **UNIT MEMEORIAL PLAQUE**

A plaque commemorating the Units training time in the Seymour area was laid some years ago on a Seymour property of Jim and Trish Nilsson. Even though the Nilssons now share their time between Seymour and Melbourne they are still committed to looking after the plaques having over many years dutifully maintained the plaques and the surrounds in their original location.

Recent contact has been made with the Nilssons with a view to President Ted and other Association Committee members visiting the Seymour property to view the plaques.

### **WORLD WAR 1 - 10<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE**



Following the publication in recent years of the Units WW 11 history “Care,Courage and Camaraderie”, a war historian, James Anderson, has authored “A Record of the 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance in World War 1”.

The internet sourced summary of the book begins as follows :

“.....What did you do in the war grandpa ?”

This was not a question to which many people got a satisfactory answer, such answers were often too painful to give. For those that did ask, many did not have the life-experience to understand the answers.

This book takes another step to filling in their story. This is the history of a field ambulance unit in WWI. It is presented through the diaries of the two principle participants — the officers and the soldiers — each left their own stories.....”

Members /Affiliates will find the book adds to and enhances the Units history and story as expressed in ‘Care, Courage and Camaraderie”

In conducting his research for the book the author consulted with Ron Woff and his granddaughter Torey Fitton as Rons father Val (Valentine Woff) was a member of the WW1 Unit . There are several references to and pictures of Val in the book.

### **CORRESPONDENCE - EMAIL ADDRESSES**

In this modern technological age, the Associations preferred method of communication with Members/Affiliates is by email which is more efficient, timely and certainly less costly.

If you have an email account and have not already advised the Association Secretary Mike Englefield, ([englefield@techinfo.com.au](mailto:englefield@techinfo.com.au)) could you please advise him.

**However, if you are not email user, please rest assured that we will still be in touch with you by traditional post .**







