



## 10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance (AIF) Association

ISSUE NO.55.

APRIL 2021

**PRESIDENT** – Ted Young (9569 8393)

**LIFE MEMBERS**

**VICE PRESIDENT** – Rob Stanley (0418 329 047)

Mrs Glad White

**HON. SECRETARY** – Mike Englefield (0408 514 850)

Ted Young

Email – englefield@techinfo.com.au

**HON.TREASURER** – Trevor Ward (9877 8027)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** – Wendy Ward. Julie Mavberrv

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### ANZAC DAY 2021

- March

Eventhough the March will take place, continuing Covid 19 restrictions will prevent a return to normal Anzac Day activities. With involvement in the March limited to Veterans only (ie. no descendants/family) the 10<sup>th</sup> will be proudly represented by President Ted with the help of his trusty wheelchair “pusher”.

Banners will be part of the March but will appear en masse at the head of the March and carried by scouts/guides. Our usual Banner bearers, the King family, have generously offered to deliver the Banner to RSL House for inclusion in the March.

- Luncheon

Due to the inability of our usual luncheon venue to provide meals , the difficulty in locating a convenient replacement venue and the other complications /uncertainties surrounding the day, the Committee has reluctantly decided not to hold a luncheon this year.

- "Zoom" Meeting

**A virtual Zoom meeting will be held at 12-30 pm on Sunday 25 April 2021. All Affiliates for whom we have an email address recorded will be "invited" to the Zoom meeting. When received, please acknowledge receipt of Robs invite**

If you have not previously advised the Secretary of your email address, please do so before 25 April 2021 so that you can be included in this years commemorative Zoom meeting. Participation in the meeting will require you to have also "downloaded" the Zoom app beforehand.

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## REFLECTION

Who would have imagined that 12 months after having to deal with the impact of no 2020 Anzac Day march or reunion activities, we would still be marching to the drum beat of the dreaded Covid 19 restrictions in April 2021 Cancellation of the 2020 march was particularly disappointing for Veterans and families of past Veterans who were denied the opportunity to honour their service efforts and those of their absent mates and loved ones.

Whilst at the time of writing this years TTB's the 2021 Anzac Day march looks like proceeding, albeit under very limiting restrictions due to continuing Covid 19 rules,, let's hope that the recent roll-out of a Covid 19 preventive vaccine allows us to resume normal Anzac Day activities in 2022.

When asked his reaction to the cancellation of the 2020 Anzac Day march and reunions, President Ted commented:

*"Anzac Day 2020 was a day to remember, but in a different way to other years; Covid19 lockdown, no Anzac day march or lunch. It was a day of emptiness.*

*We were asked to be up at dawn, with a torch or a candle to walk down the driveway on Remembrance Day. I wonder who managed to do that? I am afraid that I am one of the lazy ones who slept in. The rest of the day was an empty day but with plenty of memories to think on.*

*My golfing mate, Frank Sims, and his Grandsons were up bright and early at dawn on Anzac Day, lit a candle and walked to the front of the house, where they were confronted by a reporter and photographer from the Herald/Sun and their picture appeared on the front page of the paper the next*

day.

Frank was a navigator in the Air Force and has many stories to tell  
Maybe 2021 will be a better year and hopefully back to normal. We all hope  
so."

May we all stay healthy and happy in this coming year "

(As we all now know, unfortunately, Teds wish has only partially come true.)

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### **"OUR FLAG"**

The following was recently read as part of a funeral service. Coincidentally, like the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance he also served in New Guinea during WW2 . The make-up of the Australian flag and its historic representations clearly meant a lot to the deceased Veteran. It seemed appropriate to include it for Anzac Day.

Our Flag wears the stars that blaze at night,	And you, who are shouting to change it,	It doesn't mean we owe allegiance,
In our Southern skies of blue	You don't seem to understand,	To a forgotten imperial dream,
And a little old flag in the corner	It's the flag of our laws and our language,	We've the stars to show where we're going,
That's part of our heritage too.	Not the flag of a faraway land	And the old flag to show where we've been.
It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish	Though there are plenty of people who'll tell you,	It's only an old piece of bunting,
Who were sent to the ends of the earth,	How when England was plunged into night,	It's only an old piece of rag,
The rogues and schemers, the does and dreamers	That little old flag in the corner,	But there are thousands who have died for its honour,
Who gave modern Australia its birth	Was their symbol of freedom and light.	And shed their blood for OUR FLAG

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## **Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting**

Date – April 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 11.00 am via “Zoom”

Whilst the Covid 19 pandemic conspired to prevent normal Anzac Day activities, the wonders of modern technology allowed us to gather remotely via the Zoom meeting app.



( Apologies to those who might have featured on a 2<sup>nd</sup> screen)

While the meeting might have lacked the usual warmth of a face to face get together and the enjoyment of listening to President Teds humour, it was good that as a group we were still able to remember and honour our Veterans.

### **Welcome –**

Chairman & President Ted Young opened the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Affiliates,

### **Loyal Toast**

Vice President Rob Stanley invited attendees to join with him while he proposed a toast to the Queen, Australia, the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance and the Anzacs.

### **Remembrance**

President Ted announced that the Roll of Honour would now be read. A period of silent reflection was observed as Brendon Holmes, Ali Waight & Wendy Ward read the Honour Roll ( see attached) containing the names of deceased Unit members.

As our thoughts were brought together President Ted recited the Ode followed by the playing of The Last Post & Reveille.

## **Annual General Meeting 2019**

The Minutes of the 2019 AGM were tabled by the Secretary

- Matters Arising from the Minutes

There being no business arising from the Minutes Mike Englefield proposed that they be accepted. Seconded Trevor Ward

## **Financials**

Trevor Ward presented and spoke to the Associations financial statement for the Year Ended 31 January 2020 (see Attachment 1)

## **Reports**

- **Adopt an Ex-Service Organisation Program**
- Unfortunately due to Covid 19 restrictions President Ted was unable to make his usual trip prior to Anzac Day 2020 to Vermont Secondary College and address, as he has for a number of years, the student assemblies. Nevertheless Vice President Rob has maintained dialogue with the College and has been advised that they plan to hold their 2021 Anzac Day Assemblies on 23 April 2021 and that Pres Ted is welcome to once again speak to the student body.

## **Toast to the Unit 2020**

□

Vice President Rob Stanley proposed the Toast to the Unit

## **Close**

President Ted thanked all “present” for attending and closed the meeting .“

Due to having to conduct a virtual meeting via Zoom we were robbed of the chance to take the traditional photo of attending Members (ie. Pres Ted) at the close of the meeting .However not everything was lost... Pres Ted can now lay claim to being the first and only member to have or be likely to have his image recorded for posterity in a virtual “screen shot” of attendees (see above pic, top row, 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right)

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## **General Matters 2021**

### **Financials**

Attached are the Associations financials for the Year Ended 31 January 2021 (see Attachment 2).

### **End of WW2 Remembrance**

3 September 2020 commemorated the 75 Anniversary of the end of WW2. The Australian Government honoured surviving WW2 Veterans by awarding them an Anniversary Medal. Present Ted was one of the proud recipients of this award and a Certificate on which the citation reads – “A grateful nation expresses its sincere thanks to Edward Young for your service and contribution to the war effort and to the freedom of nations”  
We are sure that Ted would have accepted the award on behalf of all of his 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance mates.  
Well done Ted!!



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### **Seymour Commemorative Plaque**

Members and Affiliates will be pleased to hear that at long last we have secured an upgrade to the Plaque surrounds and an undertaking from the Seymour RSL to maintain the area on an ongoing basis. We are very grateful to the Seymour RSL for their assistance.

On 6 February 2021 President Ted and Committee members visited the Seymour plaque location. Whilst we were disappointed that the Seymour RSL representatives were unable to join us, on arrival at the site, we were pleasantly surprised to see that they had already upgraded the site by surrounding it with contrasting coloured pebbles and a defining tidy edging.

Subsequently we have asked the Seymour RSL if they would be able to arrange for signage to be placed on the adjacent highway to indicate the location of the plaque.

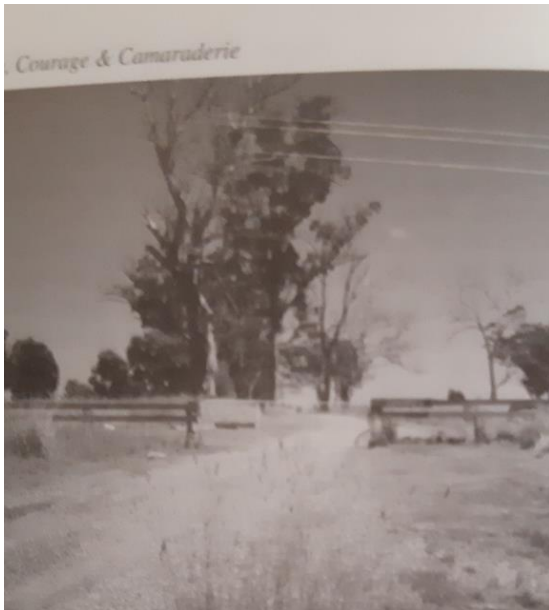


L to R - Wendy Ward ,Rob Stanley , Pres Ted Young, Mike Englefield & Trevor Ward



Commemorative Plaque  
6 February 2021

### “ Camp Entrance “



Circa 1941



2021

(Note the two dead gum trees appearing in both pics)

Time moves on but the images and memories remain - the actual site of the training camp (aka Nagambie Rd Entrance) is believed to have been located over this boundary fence and behind the dead gums.. Pres Ted recalls approximately 5000 young 18 year old lads being in the camp at the time of his training.



## Welfare News

Wendy Ward reports as follows:

- Unit member Ivan Goldsmith passed away on 3 .8.2020. Ivan initially served with the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance in New Guinea. When the 10<sup>th</sup> moved into Borneo and Ambon, he joined the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance until the end of WW2.  
(Editors Note : As recorded in "Care Courage & Camaraderie", Ivan was slightly wounded by shrapnel when a Japanese Zero attacked the docked vessel SS Van Heutz at Oro Bay as the 10<sup>th</sup> were unloading the vessel. Ivan attended his first Association reunion in 1955 which coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of WW2)
- Don Thurlow is not at all well.and is now in Aged Care and on a continuous oxygen supply. He had been hoping to return to his beloved Adelaide but unfortunately this is now not possible.
- Life Member Margaret Holmes (wife of Dick Holmes) passed away at Woodend on 24.9.2020 having been a great contributor to the organisation over many years.
- Life Member Glad White (wife of Kel White), with help, is still living in her own unit and keeps quite well.

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## Correspondence

- **Janice Cherry ( daughter of Keith Davey)**  
*"Thankyou for the Tenth Tit Bits Newsletter.  
Mum and I have loved reading them. So sorry we have not been to the last few years luncheons and Anzac parades.Mum wasn't quite up to it and has now permanent residency in Killara hostel in her home town of Kooweerup which we are very lucky to have her close by to all the family.  
We wish everyone a safe and healthy year especially in history making times this 2020.  
We have forwarded a direct deposit for our subscription fees and a small donation.  
Kind Regards,  
Joan Davey and Daughter Janice Cherry "*
- **Lynette Blackwood ( daughter of Lieut Col. S.A. McKenzie) 15 April 2020**  
*"Dear Trevor, thankyou for including me in your mailing again this year. I am so proud of all my Father did and he always cared so much for every one of the 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance and sad that he did*



get so ill just before depart from Australia. He never forgave himself for that.

We are in an amazing and unbelievable time at present and so many deaths with the whole world involved. I keep very well. Just near 89 years and still very active.

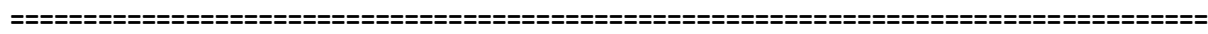
I watched the whole march last year and did see very clearly the Banner and all the very young ones. I started to cry. So it goes. Thank you again for contacting me.

God Bless

Lynette Blackwood

- Tom Welch – (see Attachments 3 & 4)  
BACKGROUND – Tom (then 14 yrs old) wrote to the Association in mid April 2020. Tom is the great grandson of deceased 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance member L/cpl Roy McKim. Tom and his grand-father Hedley ( son of Roy) were researching Roys service history.  
President Ted provided Tom with as much as he could recall about Roy.  
It's great to see someone so young taking an interest in the life of his great grand-father and he seems to have a very mature sense of the sacrifice made by his great grand-father and others.

(NB Apologies to those readers not on computer but the subsequent correspondence from/to Tom is too much to squeeze into an envelope along with the TTB's. However, it can be viewed on the Associations website.



### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Enclosed for your attention is the Associations Annual Subscription Fee form.

**Subscription Form** - Please return the completed form by email ([tandward@bigpond.com](mailto:tandward@bigpond.com)) or post to Trevor Ward, 2/8 Baldwin Road, Blackburn VIC 3130

**Payment** - can be made by :

- Cheque made payable to "10<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Assoc'n" and posted to Trevor; or
- Direct deposit to :  
Commonwealth Bank  
BSB :063 105 Account No. 00901765  
Account Name : 10<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Assoc'n  
(PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR SURNAME IS NOTED IN THE DEPOSIT DESCRIPTION)

