



WRAAC ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INC.

Unit 73 – 2 Gremel Road
RESERVOIR VIC 3073

Telephone: 0408 553 412 Website: www.wraacvic.com

NEWSLETTER

March 2014 – No 1/2014

Patron

CAPT Iris Petrass

Honorary Chaplain

Rev W.G. (Bill) Pugh
Telephone: 03 9598 5841

President /Treasurer

Heather (Rankin) Fry
Telephone: 03 9795 8472
Email: hfy44@bigpond.com

Vice President

Liz (Stone) Maclaine
Telephone: 03 9397 1043

Secretary/Membership Officer

Diane Sherry
Telephone: 0408 553 412
Email: dishe1946@yahoo.com.au

Assistant Secretary

Heather Hyatt
Telephone: 03 9717 1630
Email: hhy14359@gmail.com

Social/Events Sub-Committee

Liz (Stone) Maclaine
Telephone: 03 9397 1043
Brenda (Ruby) Walters
Telephone: 03 9846 2152

History Co-ordinator

Heather (Rankin) Fry
See under President for contact information

Fundraiser Co-ordinator

Margaret (Robinson) Jager
Telephone: 03 9743 8267

Newsletter Editor

Jude (Wood) Pinkerton-Treloar
Telephone: 03 9874 7915
Email: johnntreloar1@bigpond.com

Interstate and Country Representative

Carol (Hamilton) King
Telephone: 08 8370 7891



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members,

A warm welcome to our first newsletter for 2014 with memories of bushfires and oppressive heat that tested our Emergency services once again.

The WRAAC Association Victoria proudly acknowledges members who participate in the CFA and Emergency Services who unselfishly donate their time and energy to keep us safe. We thank you sincerely and wish you well. Bush fires this year touched a member of the WRAAC Association's extended family with the Grampians fire destroying the property of Brigadier Neale and Mrs Ruth Bavington. The family displaying exceptional spirit intend to rebuild the property for the next generation to enjoy.

The WRAAC Association joins with fellow Australians to welcome home our Service Personnel following service in Afghanistan. We remember with respect the forty personnel who did not return home to the welcome cheers of loved ones and our thoughts are with their families and friends. We wish our wounded personnel a speedy recovery for the journey ahead and thank our Medics for the excellent care of all our Diggers.

With great sadness we inform you of the passing of Mrs Irene Smith much loved partner of WO1 Ian (Wardy) Ward and our thoughts and prayers are with Ian, family and friends. Irene was a special lady and will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Yours in friendship,

Heather (Rankin) Fry

GOVERNOR GENERAL APPOINTMENT



General Peter Cosgrove, AC, MC
Named as Australia's 26th Governor General
Congratulations to General and Mrs
Cosgrove on the appointment and wish you
both well.

ANZAC Day 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Annual ANZAC Day Church Service Sunday 13th April 2014

The ANZAC Day Church Service will be held at
Scots Church on Sunday the 13th April 2014 at
1100 hrs.

Scots Church is situated at 156 Collins Street (Cnr
Russell Street) Melbourne. All invited to attend

ANZAC DAY Friday 25th April 2014



WRAAC Association members form up at Swanston
Street West (next to Station) at 0845 hrs with step
off time 0910 hrs. Therefore, if the weather is fine
we can assume more members will join us on this
special day. Medical Identification Card (Attachment
#1) to be carried by all participating in the march.

Order of dress

Green blazer/jacket with black slacks, scarf and
beret. Comfortable walking shoes and depending
on the weather suggest you pack an umbrella.
Medals to be worn.

WRAAC Fund Raising Sausage Sizzle

***We're back
And
We need you!***

Where? Bunnings Warehouse
259 Middleborough Road,
Box Hill

When? Sunday 25th May 2014

No experience required as on the job
training is provided.

If you can help please contact Heather
Fry on Email: hfray44@bigpond.com

RESERVE FORCES DAY

Sunday 6th July 2014

Reserve Forces Day 2014 will be held on Sunday
the 6th July 2014. The flyer is attachment #2

Please refer to the attached application form
regarding the ANZAC Centenary 1914-18
Commemorative Medallion.
Attachments #3, #4 and #5.

WRAAC ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Saturday 19th July 2014

At

The International of Brighton

A reminder that the Annual Luncheon will be held
on Saturday 19th July 2014 at the International of
Brighton. Booking form will be in the June 2014
Newsletter.

Due to lack of car parking space at the International
it may be an idea to car pool this year.

AWAS/WRAAC Commemorative Service



Due to extensive renovation work at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne our annual commemorative service has been cancelled for this year.

EX WRAAC SOCIAL GROUP

The Orrong Hotel
Saturday 15th February 2014

A great luncheon was held on Sat 15 Feb 14 at the Orrong Hotel. The day was filled with lots of laughter, remember when conversations and discussion on the DVD Lady Soldiers. 34 girls attended, 3 new girls joined us, and a few girls that that hadn't been for years were able to attend which was great as they were able to catch up with girls they had served with in the 1950's.

Liz Maclaine

Book Launch




A book called Lady Soldiers by Lyn Dale is to be launched at the Army Museum of South Australia in Adelaide in October and also in Perth early November. The book will cost \$30 plus \$5 for postage. To pre order the book, contact Lyn Dale

Program
Master of Ceremonies: David Balfour
Film introduction by Major Barry Willoughby,
Manager Army Museum of South Australia
Film launch by Sandra Wilson, Professor of
History, Murdoch University
Film screening
Interval
Film screening continues
Lyn Kane Dale & Samantha Bergerson speeches

The Lady Soldiers THANK YOU for sharing this evening with them

Sponsors
'Celebrating Their Service', Department of Veterans Affairs
School of Media Communication & Culture, Murdoch University
Murdoch Print, Murdoch University
WRAAC Association of WA
WRAAC Association of NSW
Felicity Newman, RealFood
Army Museum of South Australia

LADY SOLDIERS
Picture yourself in the
WRAAC
A documentary film
by
Lyn Kane Dale & Samantha Bergerson
Premiere screening
Granville Club
Campbell Barracks
Swanbourne
27 April 2012



by email lyn.dale99a@yahoo.com, or ring her on (08)4918 3002 or 040 331 8699 or write to her at 99a Doolette Street, Spearwood WA 6163 or

contact Liz Maclaine 03 9397 1043 and I will pass the message on.

Lyn Dale also produced the DVD Lady Soldiers
Liz Maclaine

CAPTAIN IRIS PETRESS INTERVIEW

Helen Meyer writes

I've now put the two podcasts of Iris's interview up on the net. They will be there for ever and ever now. Well, as long as the internet survives.

They'll sit on these two lists, but will move down as more podcasts are put on:

<https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/program-guide/podcasts/>

<https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/program/the-legacy-hour/>

Or individually here:

<https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/part-1-captain-iris-petrass-wraac-1961-1980/>

<https://radio.adelaide.edu.au/part-2-captain-iris-petrass-wraac-1961-1980/>

Kind regards,
Helen

WRANS BENDIGO RE-UNION

With two friends of the WRAAC Association Jude Pinkerton-Treloar and Cheryle Brown, I was privileged to attend this very happy occasion, held at the historic Shamrock Hotel on Saturday 15th February 2014. Many post war WRANS attended and a special war time WRAN, Margaret Hattersley was there too.

The spirit of friendship between the women of the Services was very evident. And the general chatter with pictures of babes, weddings and sad remembrances of old and departed dear friends gave importance to the gathering. Time passes but precious memory remains within us.

I thank the Navy girls for allowing me to join in with them and re-discovering that we are indeed sisters in the service of our beloved Country.

Lest We Forget.

JOAN JOHNSTONE VF387885 AWAS

Bendigo District RSL Club

The recently refurbished Bendigo District RSL Club is a perfect example of how a club can be designed for the comfort of members, guests and staff. As you enter the Club a welcoming meet and greet area has been thoughtfully planned to use space efficiently. Guests and members can enjoy a relaxing drink in comfort whilst waiting for friends to arrive. The Bistro area is spacious with a new Menu to compliment the surrounds. Congratulations to all concerned with the renovations to this great Club.

SWAN HILL REUNION

To all the girls going to Swan Hill in April have a wonderful time in beautiful Swan Hill.

Collector Tubes

For information regarding Collector Tubes contact Margaret (Robinson) Jager on 03 9743 8267.

WRAAC 65TH ANNIVERSARY 2016

If you wish to participate in the WRAAC 65th Anniversary celebrations suggest you contact: Denise Hudson

Program Director

WRAAC 65th Anniversary 2016 Organising Committee

Email: administrator@wraacreunited.org

Website: www.wraacreunited.org

QANTAS UNIFORM UNREST



This may be untimely but had to laugh at the article regarding the new Qantas uniform. Staff complained about the uniform being

too tight and not practical for their required physical tasks. The uniforms apparently looked great on Miranda Kerr but not so good on a fuller figure; staff suggests the Airline tweak the style slightly.



Remember our uniform in the late 70s when we all happened to look like a flight attendant or a Darrell Lea shop assistant?

AROUND THE WRAAC PACK

Australian Army Catering Corps

Memorial Service

Shrine of Remembrance

25th January 2014



Back

Front

Catering Corps Governor General's Banner

Margaret (Robinson) Jager writes,

Captain Alan Stebbings arranged the impromptu Service and it was wonderful to see old friends and get together once again. Luise (Nardella) Laudani, Jenny (Pinchen) Simpson and myself were asked to place flowers during the service. Captain Stebbings



paid respects to the late Lt Col Bev Blanksby AM RFD ED and the late Major Jessie Perkins MBE RFD ED saying these ladies were instrumental in getting girls into catering and were always there to support them. Captain Stebbings mentioned Cpl Jones who was killed in action in Afghanistan as we remembered fellow Catering Corps members who have since passed away. The service concluded following the poignant ray of light service. We left the Sanctuary area of the Shrine thinking how grateful we were to be able to remember old friends together. Following a welcome cup of tea we all agreed it was a special afternoon.

Thank you Margie for sharing your day with us.
Editor.



GOD BLESS THE COOKS!!!

It was not until Margaret (Robinson) Jager (Sgt Catering) mentioned she had attended a Remembrance Service at the Shrine of Remembrance in January to commemorate the AACC (Australian Army Catering Corps) I thought how often did we take it for granted there would be food on the table as we hesitantly lined up for mess each day. We are all aware of the jokes regarding Army food; all said behind the Cooks' back and anyway who said Army food had to be nutritious and tasty!

Ensuring that a soldier is fed is still a Unit Commanders responsibility and History tells us feeding the Unit sometimes meant foraging for food, sometimes in enemy territory. We can assume if sufficient food was not found all was not good in maintaining order or keeping troops with you.

In the early days (before and after WWI) cooks were untrained, unskilled and usually put to use as a cook as they seemingly had no other redeeming quality. Therefore, if you were troublesome it was deemed to be a punishment to be sent to the cookhouse. A soldier did not volunteer to be a cook as it was the worst trade of the lot. During World War I the catch cry was adopted "Who called the cook a B" and you know the rest. The troops fighting in the trenches were given when possible, one hot meal a day. The remaining meals were usually bully beef and biscuits. If they were really lucky they were provided with cheese, jam and bread. That would possibly depend on the success of the forager and Aussies had a reputation as being really good at that task.

The next question is, who cooked for the Army between wars?

Some would say a person with very little culinary skills or experience! However, we do know the feeding/cooking was conducted by civilians, many with training as shearers cooks' who could possibly make bread and butter pudding as standard fare.

In 1939 Sir Cedric Stanton Hicks, a Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology was appointed the District Catering Supervisor of the 4th Military District in Adelaide. This was an excellent piece of luck as we now had a scientific approach to feeding our troops. He improved the training of cooks established nutritional guidelines and upgraded the status of cooks.

In 1942 Lt Colonel Hicks put up a proposal to form the Australian Army Catering Corps and by 1943 the AACC was raised.

Today, the role of the AACC is to provide specialist catering support to the Australian Army. In fulfilling the role the AACC is responsible for providing technical advice to Commanders and staff on catering matters, the economical use of rations implementing and developing food safety measures, providing nutritional meals for the soldiers, field catering management of grey water and waste, bar and function service.

This has certainly turned the perception of an untrained cook to rest as today's soldiers are well fed and catered for.

On behalf of former members of the WRAAC we thank our catering girls for a job well done.

Did you know the Australian Army Catering Corps 1943 – 2014 celebrates their 71st Anniversary this year?

Motto is "We Sustain"

Colours are Slate Grey and Yellow

Corps Marches "The Roast Beef of Old England and Tavern in the Town"

SICK PARADE

To all our members who are not feeling well at this time our thoughts and prayers are with you. If you wish to have a chat please do not hesitate to contact a committee member (telephone numbers on front cover) or our Chaplain Rev. William (Bill) Pugh – Editor



VALE



**Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird VC MG
LEST WE FORGET**

MEMBERSHIP

We would like **YOU** to contact any ladies whom you may know who were in the Army (ARA, CMF/ARes) regarding joining the Association.

Please contact our Secretary/Membership Officer Diane Sherry on 0408 553 412 or email

dishe1946@yahoo.com.au and she will post out the appropriate form.

Could you let Diane Sherry know if you have an Email address and if you are able to access the Newsletter on the website?

Can You Help

Lost Contact with Life Members

We have lost contact with some of our life members. Can you help us to locate the following members:

CPL Dorothy Berry
Ms Shirley Brown
Ms Jeanette Coburn
Ms Marilyn Dell
Miss Joanne Doolan
Ms Robyn Gibson (nee Vincent)
Ms Pamela Hunt (nee Walsh)
Ms Angela Jones
Mrs Joyce Payne
Ms Debbie Umpleby
Ms. Sallyann Welt

Contact Diane Sherry on telephone 0408 553 412 or email: dishe1946@yahoo.com.au please.

*The President and Committee
wish all Members and their Families
a Happy and Safe Easter 2014*



LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ATTACHMENT #1: | ANZAC Day 2014 Medical Identification Card |
| ATTACHMENT #2: | Reserve Forces Day Flyer |
| ATTACHMENT #3: | ANZAC Day Centenary 1914 – 2014 Commemorative Medallions |
| ATTACHMENT #4: | ANZAC Day Centenary 1914 – 2014 Application for a Medallion |
| ATTACHMENT #5: | ANZAC Day Centenary 1914 – 2014 Order Form |



**ANZAC Day 2013
Medical Identification Card**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Brief Medical History: _____

Allegies:_____

Medications (name, dosage, frequency): _____

Next of Kin

1. **Name :**_____

Relationship:_____

Home Telephone:_____ **Mobile:**_____

2. **Name:**_____

Relationship_____

Home Telephone:_____ **Mobile:**_____

TO BE RETAINED BY MEMBER

RESERVE FORCES DAY PARADE

SUNDAY 6th JULY 2014

A message from the
Governor General and Commander in Chief

Quote:

“If you’re a Serving or Former Reservist, I encourage you to participate,
so that we can all say”

“Thank You”



Assemble at
Government
House Drive
No later than

1020hrs



ANZAC Centenary 1914-2014 COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLIONS

**THE RESERVE FORCES DAY COUNCIL HAS MINTED
THREE SEPARATE DESIGNS OF COMMEMORATIVE
MEDALLION FOR 2014 'ANZAC CENTENARY'
RECOGNITION OF —**

**DESCENDANTS OF MEMBERS OF THE
AUSTRALIAN NAVAL & MILITARY
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (AN & MEF)
DEPLOYED TO TAKE POSSESSION OF
GERMAN NEW GUINEA IN AUGUST 1914**



**DESCENDANTS OF ALL AUSTRALIAN
ARMED SERVICE VETERANS OF
WORLD WAR 1**



**PERSONS WHO HAVE NO DESCENDANT
VETERAN BUT MAY WISH TO HONOUR
THE BRAVERY AND PERSONAL SACRIFICE
OF ARMED SERVICE PERSONNEL WHO
SERVED IN WORLD WAR 1**



*To enquire or order Medallions please contact
Capt Peter Morgan – Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic) Inc.
by email at – tynewood@optusnet.com.au or
by telephone (03) 9808 2978*



Application for a Medallion

Please complete the Application and Order Forms

PROCEDURE:

- **Descendants Medallion:** Please complete the Order Form over page. Each Descendant is eligible to own a medallion. The Medallions have space on the reverse side to engrave personal details of your ancestor (at your own cost).
- **In Memory Medallion:** For those who do not have a member from the family who served in WWI, we have created the "In Memory" Medallion, which may be proudly worn to signify your support for the veterans who served in The Great War. Please complete the special section below.

DETAILS OF MY WW1 ANCESTOR: – please complete as much detail as you can, and in block letters. If you have more than one WWI Ancestor Please attach an additional list.

Last name & post nominals: Given Name/s:

Service number (if known) : State of Enlistment: Unit or sub-unit: (if known)

Highest rank attained in the War:

If you are unsure that you are a descendant and would like to check go to the Australian War Memorial site: www.awm.gov.au and search the digitised records of service.

DESCENDANT(S) OWN DETAILS: (Please complete in block letters)

Relationship to Veteran:

Last name: First name: Email:

Postal address: State: Postcode:

Phone-Home: Mobile:

Additional Descendant to same Veteran

Relationship to Veteran:

Last name: First name: Email:

Postal address: State: Postcode:

Phone-Home: Mobile:

Additional Descendant to same Veteran

Relationship to Veteran:

Last name: First name: Email:

Postal address: State: Postcode:

Phone-Home: Mobile:

APPLICATION FOR "IN MEMORY" MEDALLION

Last name: First name: Email:

Postal address: State: Postcode:

Phone-Home: Mobile:

PLEASE ENTER THE NUMBER OF THESE MEDALLIONS ON THE ORDER FORM IN THE SPACE PROVIDED

Please add a list with the information for any additional descendants. Keep a copy for yourself.

ANZAC
CENTENARY
2014-2018




ORDER FORM



Details of the Medallions

The face of the medallion shows Able Seaman W. Williams Royal Australian Naval Reserve from Melbourne and Captain Dr B. Pockley Australian Army Medical Corps from Sydney. On Friday 11 September 1914, they became first Australian casualties of WWI, having been wounded in action and succumbing to their injuries later that day. Both were members of the AUSTRALIAN NAVAL & MILITARY EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (ANMEF). The reverse side of the three medallions records their details and date of death, there is a space for the purchaser to engrave messages for posterity. More information on the ANMEF can be found on the Australian War Memorial website or by conducting a Google search. This campaign is often referred to as 'The Forgotten War'.

The medallions are presented in a clear plastic pouch with a neck ribbon so that the medallion can be worn appropriate occasions. The round medallions are 50mm diameter with similar dimensions with the In Memory medallion.

DESIGN OF MEDALLION	DESCRIPTION AND ELIGIBILITY	PRICE AT 10/01/2014 RFLD \$44.50 incl GST, postage, RFLD AND POSTAGE within Australia	RFLD QD X	TOTAL AMT
Front and reverse side 	THE ANMEF DESCENDANT'S MEDALLION In honour of the men who quickly volunteered to serve at the outbreak of WWI and to capture German New Guinea. They left Australia from Sydney on the 18 th of August 1914, 12 days after war was declared. Our first wounded and deaths occurred during this campaign. The Force was made up of volunteers from the Naval Reserve from SA, Victoria, NSW and QLD and soldiers from Sydney, many with Boer War experience (that war had only finished 12 years before in 1902). Militia and Senior Cadet experience. The force consisted of a Brigade HQs and a Battalion and the Naval Corps. The colours used for the medallion and the neck ribbon are based on the identification shoulder patches worn by members of the Army Battalion. Eligibility: To purchase this medallion the applicant must be a Descendant of a Member the ANMEF.	\$44.50		\$
	WWI DESCENDANT'S MEDALLION. This Medallion is to honour those who served during WWI. The neck ribbon colour is based on the official medal ribbon for the British War Medal. This medal was awarded to members who served in a theatre of war during the period from 1914 to 1920 covering mine clearance and service in Russia. Eligibility: All Descendants of members who served in a theatre of war in WWI	\$44.50		
	IN MEMORY MEDALLION This medallion was minted for those who did not have an ancestor who served in WWI however would like a medallion to recognise that contribution. Eligibility: Open to all who wish to show their respects	\$44.50		
TOTALS				\$

**The number of Descendants Medallions ordered may not be greater than the number of Descendants listed on the application*

I would like to donate to assist the Reserve Forces Day Council run their annual parades and celebrations recognising serving and former members of the Reserve Forces

\$

Total

\$

STEPS TO ORDER

OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT IS BY DIRECT CREDIT TO OUR BANK AC

1. Please complete the Application and Order on line see www.rfdvic.com or if you prefer print off and post to the address shown below.

2. If paying by direct credit please note the date of when you banked the money: .../.../20....

DETAILS FOR DIRECT CREDIT: Credit: rfdvic.com AT BENDIGO BANK BSB 633-108 A/C NO 1398 38858
PLEASE ENSURE YOU ENTER YOUR NAME WHEN YOU DO THE DEPOSIT.

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE: Make the cheque/money order payable to: RFD(VIC)INC and send to:
CAPT PETER MORGAN ED (RET'D) 7 IAN GROVE BURWOOD VIC 3125

IF POSTING THE ORDER FORM: SEND TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS telephone: 0398082878

Email: tynawood@optusnet.com.au Where possible the Descendant's medallions will be presented officially. More details will follow on this.

All Medallions ordered by the 4th of July 14 if they have not been presented will be posted out to you by FRIDAY 18 July 14.