



WRAAC ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INC.

Post Office Box 307
SAN REMO VIC 3925

Telephone : (03) 5678 5486 Website : www.wraacvic.com

NEWSLETTER

September 2010 – No 3/2010

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

This will be my last 'From the President' as my term of office ceases on the 23rd October 2010 as per our Rules of Incorporation. I thought we could look back and remember how a small committee of former WRAAC girls banded together as one and in the Spirit of the Corps put together a plan to ensure the survival of the Association for a few more years and on that journey some chose to leave and others were committed to the full term.

Our Late President LTCOL Beverley Blanksby AM RFD ED had set down the groundwork which would enable us in time to achieve our goal to expand and be as one, proudly WRAAC. It was time to take stock, grow up and discard the label that referred to our status (in a legal sense) to that of an afternoon tea party. Our journey has been supported by strong and dedicated women and amazingly our strength at times came from adversity.

I would like to thank the Committee for their outstanding contribution to the Association and from my observation sometimes at great cost to long standing friendships. Personalities aside we need to preserve our hard won heritage as we are truly part of Australia's Military History. How we are judged is not for us to ponder but we can leave our story for another generation of Australian women to study and learn from our achievements. As WRAAC we served our Country in Peace time, some as ARA some as CMF/ARES many were able to fulfil their two year commitment some could not. The common thread is we loved and honoured our Corps and our Country and we were blessed with leaders of integrity, strength and courage to guide us on our way.

The WRAAC Association (Vic) Inc is growing stronger due to your input over the past years; therefore in the spirit of friendship continue to support our Association. Enjoy the company of fellow servicewomen when you meet at the various functions and events, life is much too short to waste.

Yours in friendship

Jude (Wood) Pinkerton-Treloar

ARISING FROM OUR COMMITTEE MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1100hrs Saturday 23th October 2010

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 1100 hrs on Saturday 23th October 2010 at the Shrine of Remembrance Education Centre (Refer Attachment). All Committee positions are declared vacant.

Following the AGM tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available. For catering purposes please contact Cheryle Brown 03 5678 5486 or Email rayhyd@bigpond.com if you will be joining us.

EX-WRAAC SOCIAL GROUP (VIC) 1200 noon Saturday 9th October 2010

The Ex-WRAAC Social Group Pub Lunch will be held at the Orrong Hotel Bistro, corner Orrong and High Streets, Armadale (Melway Ref. Map 58 J:7) on Saturday 9th October 2010 from 12 noon onwards. This is always a great day and another opportunity to catch up with old friends.

The cost is governed by you with meals at bar or blackboard prices and drinks at bar prices. If you have not attended a Pub lunch before don't let that deter you just come along and join in the day.

We have many new Association members and this is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow ex-servicewomen in an informal environment. Just walk in and make yourself known.

If you wish to attend the Pub Lunch RSVP by Wednesday 6th October 2009 to Liz Maclaine 03 9397 1043 (my answering machine is always on), Bev Bond 03 5952 3096 or Lyn Board 03 5989 2553.

POLAR FLEECE JACKETS

To order a Ladies Polar Fleece Jacket contact:
www.gcapparel.com.au.

Order on line robyn@gcapparel.com.au
Biz Collection PF631-Colour Forrest
Telephone : 1300 663 890

Approximate Cost \$36.00 per garment (includes postage)



COUNCIL OF EX-SERVICEWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC. ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE AND LUNCHEON Saturday 20th November 2010

The memorial Cairn situated in the Pioneer Women's Garden at Kings Domain since the 16th November 1985 is to be moved to the consecrated garden area within the Shrine of Remembrance.

The move to the Shrine is a positive step in recognizing the role of allied and Australian service women's worthy contribution to our Nation.

There will be a visual connection with Birdwood Avenue, the main visitors entrance and visible from the Shrine steps as you walk onto the Shrine forecourt. The new site will have access to a pathway for safety and easier access to public transport.

A canopy of Jacaranda trees will be established around the Cairn with native violets and Kikuyu grass forming the lawn. It will be a site worthy of all Servicewomen.

The Cairn will be blessed at the Annual Pilgrimage on the 20th November 2010 during a wreath laying ceremony.

Annual Pilgrimage

The Annual Pilgrimage will be held on Saturday 20th November 2010 at 1100hrs at the Memorial Cairn at the new location within the Shrine of Remembrance garden.

Luncheon

The Luncheon will be held at ANZAC House, 4 Collins Street Melbourne at 12 noon for 12.30pm.

The cost for the two course luncheon will be \$35.00 with drinks at bar prices. Tea/coffee and chocolates included.

Please send cheque or money order payable to Council of Ex-Servicewomen's Associations (Vic) Inc to:

Mrs Cheryle Brown
Post Office Box 307
San Remo Victoria 3925

There is car parking available in the two car parks in Little Collins Street opposite the former Naval and Military Club so you will need to be aware of parking fees on a Saturday. Tram and train (Parliament Station) access is excellent with trams stopping close to the venue and would be a good option. If coming by car a drop off point is just around the corner in Spring Street.

RESERVE FORCES DAY

Rehearsal 27th June 2010

On a chilly Sunday morning at 0900 hrs a small group of WRAAC Association members attended a rehearsal in preparation for the 4th July 2010 RFD parade and the good humour that flowed freely that morning set the scene for a good time ahead.

Our girls included Banner Bearer Margaret Jager, Standard Bearer Margaret Brown and Vice President Brenda Ruby (ASM) were naturals and had not lost the spirit they had in abundance so many years ago.

We also thought how good it would be to have a nip of port on hand to thaw out our mature bones and promised to have one for medicinal purposes only the following week, the skill of problem solving on the run had not left our Senior NCOs wanting.

As they say you can take the Girl out of the WRAAC but never the WRAAC out of the Girl.

Jude was wandering around and looked shorter than ever because she wasn't able to wear her high heels and we kept losing her amongst the assembled Banners and Standards. A note is made to correct that for next week.

Cheryle Brown carrying a clip board attempted to keep us in line and was soon assigned to the VIP area where she was to assist with seating and other important tasks. The Parade RSM WO1 Danny Hill implored us to stay in step as he did so many years ago and be assured Danny has not lost vocal content or volume with age, perhaps just a little.

The rehearsal went surprisingly well and all appeared to have thawed out sufficiently to enjoy a welcome coffee and figure out our left from right and which was our other left foot.

Reserve Forces Day Launch 01 July 2010

Reserve Forces Day (RFD) 2010 began with a Reception at Government House where several of our Association members were present as guests of The Governor and Mrs de Kretser and their guide dog Ambassador Astra. The morning was a great success and afforded us the opportunity to explore our Historic Government House.



Governor de Kretser, MAJ Bob Tyler with Government House Guide Dog Ambassador Astra. Bob is the Husband of CAPT Christine (Fry) Tyler

RESERVE FORCES DAY 2010 Sunday 4th July 2010

THE DAY (ON PARADE)

Our beautiful city of Melbourne did not let us down and was bathed in winter sunlight as Marchers moved from the step off point at Government House Drive to await the command "Reserve Forces on Parade". The 4/19 Prince of Wales Light Horse Band and The City of Oakleigh Band began to play (at once) and the parade set off towards the forecourt of the Shrine of Remembrance where the command 'Eyes Right' was given and as we marched pass the VIP area and The Eternal Flame. The number of troops on parade was about 700 with approximately 400 spectators enjoying the Parade of Banners, Standard and Flags.

We were honoured to have Captain Gwenda Walker RFD ED (WRAAC) seated in the VIP area where she was joined by Major Maggie More RFD ED representing the Shrine of Remembrance. The announcer Mr Don Kinsey welcomed all in attendance and introduced the Victorian Chairman of the Reserve Forces Day Council Brigadier Neal Bavington RFD ED (Ret'd)

The theme for the Reserve celebrations this year was to honour and recognize Reservists who have served overseas and received an Australian Government Award for that service. The Reservists were presented with a Commemorative ribbon and a certificate from the Office of the Governor General. The ribbons were presented by Major General John Caligari DSM AM, WO1 Keith Payne VC OAM, Commodore Tony Wilson AM PSM RFD RANR and Group Captain Carl Schiller.

This year was an exceptional Parade and the Association was included in all aspects of the organizing of the day and our sincere thanks to the hard working Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic) Committee.

Following the Parade we gathered at the WRAAC Plaque where Captain Gwenda Walker placed a beautiful sheath of gold and green gerberas lovingly designed by Margie Jager. We observed a minutes silence and remembered those who are no longer with us but will always have a special place in our hearts.

As former Servicewoman you never forget the girls you served with and our Plaque at the Shrine of Remembrance enables us to reflect on a time when we were all together.



At WRAAC Plaque following Reserve Forces Day Parade.

WRAAC FOOTNOTE.

Our girls Gwenda and Cheryle were thrilled to meet the delightful Mrs Payne wife of WO1 Keith Payne VC OAM on Reserve Forces Day as she was a former member of the WRAAC and one of the first 150 to enlist in Queensland. Mrs Payne was reported to have been pleased to see us on Parade.

Our Association jackets with the WRAAC badge proudly displayed looked smart and certainly kept us warm on Reserve Forces Day.

WRAAC ANNUAL LUNCHEON Saturday 24th July 2010

On Saturday 24th July approximately 65 members, friends and carers joined together at the International Brighton to celebrate the 34th Annual Reunion

The day began with the WRAAC Banner and Standard paraded around the room proudly carried by Margaret Brown and Margaret Jager both former WRAAC (Snr NCOs) to the heart stopping Soldiers of the Queen. The girls were match fit as they were observed in the recent Reserve Forces Day Parade where they performed magnificently.



WRAAC Standard on display

We welcomed our Chaplain the Reverend Bill Pugh and Mrs Lesley Pugh, Lesley always takes great photos for us and look forward to the Luncheon snaps. It was so good to have Captain Ruth Durance and husband John with us as Ruth is still having health issues, a sterling effort.....

We were honoured to have our Late Patron Major Jessie Perkin's sister Norma Smith with us on the day, Norma is an Honorary Life member of the Association and we love her dearly.

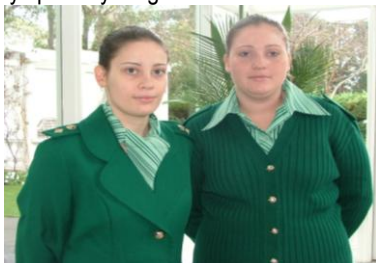
This year the Association acknowledged three Servicewomen who are currently serving our Nation, they are WO1 Elizabeth Salmon (Rouse) 40½ yrs, Major Val Jones 40 yrs and Sergeant Liz Maclaine 40yrs in 2012. Our Servicewomen were presented with a framed WRAAC badge expertly made and designed by VP Brenda Walters. Brenda served with the girls when they were members of 3 WRAAC Co, it was a fitting tribute.

The Association acknowledged another former Servicewoman WO1 Elizabeth Gibson who is our long standing Treasurer and remembered by many as our Recruit Instructor, it's scary, but we still love the lady. Elizabeth was our Guest Speaker and told us about her early days at 8/3 WRAAC Co having enlisted in 1956 and discharged in 1974 ultimately becoming a Training Officer for the Pay Corps. On behalf of the Association Elizabeth (wearing a tiara) was presented with flowers and a framed WRAAC badge, presented by Brenda and Jude.



WO1 Elizabeth Gibson

The Association acknowledged three young women we call friends of the Association, Mrs Ella (Brown) Burton (assistance with WRAAC web site) Mrs Emma Willey-Jager and Miss Amy Jager (help with catering at functions and willingly parade our WRAAC uniforms refer photo) the three girls are very special young women.



The service and hospitality displayed by the professional staff of the International of Brighton always ensures it's a great day.

The committee sincerely thanks Margaret Brown for her kind vote of thanks at the conclusion of the day, well done Margaret.

We will never forget Major Jessie Perkins, her presence will always be with us whenever we gather together in friendship and in the true spirit of fellowship.

Lest we forget dearest Jessie.

AWAS 69TH ANNUAL LUNCHEON/AGM 18th August 2010

The 69th Annual Luncheon and AGM held at ANZAC House on the 18th August 2010 was a celebration of former Servicewomen joining together in the true spirit of friendship. The day was always going to be difficult as it would be the first time that dear Jessie was not going to be there, but she would never far away from their thoughts.

The new venue proved to be a good move as the girls were able to utilize the Carlton Room to spread out and enjoy a welcome tea or coffee prior to adjourning to the Dining area.

AWAS ASSOCIATION (VIC) INC. REPORT

Following the Annual General Meeting held at ANZAC House on Wednesday 18th August 2010 the following positions have been filled:

President/Membership Officer	Gwenda Walker
Snr Vice President/Treasurer	Margaret More
Jnr Vice President/Editor	Jude Pinkerton-Treloar
Secretary	Cheryle Brown
Members	Norma Burns Betty Davies Joan Johnstone Eileen Norris
	Shirley Cornish Betty Holman Helen Littlejohn

Our best wishes to the committee from your friends at the WRAAC Association (Vic) Inc.

WRAAC 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 2011

**REUNION LUNCHEON AT THE ORRONG HOTEL
12 NOON for 12.30PM SATURDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2011**

The Orrong Hotel has been made available just to us for a few hours and we intend to spread out and enjoy the reunion get together. The Orrong Hotel has special significance to WRAAC girls and especially the WRAAC Social Group.

Do you know the background of the WRAAC Social Group? Where did it start and who initiated the idea of a group of former WRAAC members joining together and having fun.

All this and more will be revealed on the 19th. Bring your photos, happy faces and enjoy the day amongst friends.

Contact Liz Maclaine 03 9397 1043 (my answering machine is always on) for further information.

EXHIBITION SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE 20TH FEBRUARY 2011

All to assemble on the Forecourt of the Shrine of Remembrance at 1100hours where a March past and eyes right will be held at the eternal flame, Pipes and Drums will accompany us to the WRAAC Plaque.

WREATH LAYING AT WRAAC PLAQUE

We will gather at the WRAAC Plaque for a simple wreath laying ceremony where we will remember our fellow Servicewomen who are no longer with us.

EXHIBITION OPENING

Following the wreath laying ceremony the WRAAC Exhibition will be officially opened. We will then gather in the courtyard of the Shrine of Remembrance for refreshments.

The exhibition will be on display for several weeks.

Other states will be holding celebrations for the 60th Anniversary of WRAAC. Check: www.wraacmemories.com for more information.

SPIRIT OF ANZAC

Premier's 2010 ANZAC Prize

Colonel Jan McCarthy reports on having a wonderful trip to Thailand and France in May 2010 with the ten young finalists selected from Metropolitan and Country Victoria Schools.

The students, male and female aged between 15-17 years were selected by a panel and judged on an essay and their general knowledge of Australia's Military History with the trip as recognition of their understanding and input.

Each student was required to research a deceased Serviceman and conduct a service in his memory at the Australian war cemetery at Fromelles.

Jan said the students had a great understanding of Australia's role in the various conflicts and displayed respect and maturity.

The students kept in contact with their respective schools via the latest technology (eg: blogs, skype and e-mail) and kept their fellow students updated with their movements.

WHAT'S GOING ON JULES?

The disturbing news that the Labor Government has put on hold a project to design the next generation of body armour to protect our Diggers from roadside bombs is unforgivable.

The Labor Government in its budget pledged to spend \$1.1 Billion to upgrade the body armour for our at risk front line troops.

What a terrible situation for the families of our future young Servicemen and women about to embark on a Military Career and the Government of the day pulls the plug on providing them with the best equipment available. It is not negotiable. Our soldiers deserve the best.

The Coalition is on notice too.

AROUND THE WRAAC PACK

Looking happy and relaxed and in the process of building new homes, we caught up with Rhonda Moore and Heather Hyatt at the Conservatory Café following the Reserve Forces Day Parade. The girls were surprised to discover they would soon be neighbours having purchased property in the same area. Well done ladies congratulations and best wishes to you both.

CONDOLENCES

Sincere condolences to Association member Betty Holman and family on their recent bereavement, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

SICK PARADE

We are thinking of Margaret Roberts and greetings from all your mates.

Best wishes to Ruth Durance and Gnaire Foster.

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

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Vice President Brenda Walters and husband Rod on the arrival of their first Grandchild Matilda Ruby on the 22nd July 2010. Well done Nana and Pa Rod.

Congratulations once again to Brenda and Rod on the birth of their second Grandchild a beautiful baby boy Ashton born on the 26th August 2010. The Walters family are overjoyed with their little bundles of joy.

TRAVEL NEWS

Carol and Grant King enjoying a world trip, we are thinking of you.

Lorraine Onans has just come back from a trip to the UK, we missed our girl on Reserve Forces Day this year but she has promised to join us in 2011.

Glenys and David Williamson enjoyed a trip away from our shores recently; hope it was a good one.

Jude and John Treloar caught up with 3 WRAAC Co girl Sue Logan (Brown) and husband Malcolm at beautiful Bribie Island in August and report they look great.

Margaret and Ian Jager caught up with the Nardella twins in Brisbane recently. Margaret is still laughing about the great time they had. We would have loved to have been a fly on the wall to record that get together.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Heather (Coats) Morris ARA 1966-72 6, 4 & 9 Regt
Alexia (Miller) Golla ARA 1972-82 2 & 4 ARU, Dir.
 MP's AO
Elizabeth (Hall) Layt ARA 1963-66 30 WRAAC Bks
 ARes 1987-2000 2 Trg Gp

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 Membership Officer Diane Sherry on (03) 9478 1073 or email at 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? Her contact details are listed above.

Reminder: Annual Membership fee fell due 1st July 2010.

Can You Help

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

CPL Dorothy Berry
WO1 Jenny Brown
Ms Shirley Brown
Mrs Judith (Dunn) Bulleid
Ms Marilyn (Stephenson & Murray) Dell
Mrs Pat (Harvey) Franks
Ms (Christina) Robyn (Vincent) Gibson
Ms Pamela (Walsh) Hunt
Ms Angela Jones
Ms Cynthia Neal
Mrs Joan O'Brien
Mrs Joyce (Cory) Payne
Ms Marilyn (Bates, Wuchatsch) Ross
Ms Debbie Umpleby
Ms Winifred Webster
Ms Sallyann Welton

Please contact Diane Sherry on telephone (03) 9478 1073, mobile 0408 553 412 or email: dishe1946@yahoo.com.au.

SHRINE NEWS

EXHIBITIONS

A Camera on the Somme

Eastern Visitor Centre

15th October 2010 – February 2011

The photographs featured in this exhibition were taken with a Kodak Brownie camera during the First World War by two brothers, Jack and Bert Grinton, who fought with the 1st AIF.

Rising Spirit of ANZAC

Western Visitor Centre

19th November 2010 – January 2011

The exhibition records the personal stories of Australian Veterans in words and images.

Avenues of Honour

Visitors Centre

29th October 2010 – January 2011

Sarah Wood has focussed on photographing Victorian Avenues of Honour that are currently listed on the Heritage Register for Victoria.

SHRINE LEARNING PROGRAMS

The Shrine of Remembrance has an inspiring range of learning programs for students of all ages. All of the programs are provided free of charge and schools may be eligible for travel assistance kindly provided through Metlink. Bookings essential

Enquiries: education@shrine.org.au or Telephone (03) 9661 8113.

Storytelling for Children

First Sunday of the month, 2pm. These sessions are the ideal way to introduce young children to the Shrine for the first time. A discovery tour follows each storytelling session.

Bookings Essential: programs@shrine.org.au or Telephone (03) 9661 8100

Shrine Web Site:

For all information about Shrine programs visit the website at www.shrine.org.au. or Telephone (03) 9654 8415

FOR THE DIARY SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2010

9 th October 2010	Ex-WRAAC Social Group Pub Lunch	Orrong Hotel
23 rd October 2010 at 1100hrs	WRAAC Annual General Meeting	Education Centre Shrine of Remembrance
20 th November 2010	Council of Ex-servicewomen's Association (Vic) Inc. Annual Pilgrimage and Luncheon	Memorial Cairn and RSL House

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment No. 1 - AGM attendance and Nomination Form



**WOMEN'S ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY CORPS
ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 23rd October 2010
Starting at 1100 hrs
Education Centre
Shrine of Remembrance
Melbourne.

NOMINATION FORM

Position:

Nomination: (Name).....

Nominated by: (Name)

Seconded by: (Name)

I accept the nomination (Signature).....

To reach the Secretary by the 15th October 2010 (one week before AGM)

Secretary
Women's Royal Australia Army Corps Association (Vic) Inc.
Post Office Box 307
SAN REMO VIC 3925

I will be attending AGM on Saturday 23rd October 2010.

.....
Signature