



WRAAC ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INC.

Unit 73 – 2 Gremel Road
RESERVOIR VIC 3073

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

NEWSLETTER

September 2014 – No 3/2014

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: hfry44@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
Telephone: 03 9795 8472
Email: hfry44@bigpond.com

Fundraiser Co-ordinator

Margaret (Robinson) Jager
Telephone: 03 9743 8267

Newsletter Editor

Jude (Wood) Pinkerton-Treloar
Telephone: 03 9874 7915

Interstate and Country Representative

Carol (Hamilton) King
Telephone: 08 8370 7891



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

This will be my last "From the President" as my term of office ceases shortly as per our Rules of Incorporation that states a person elected President shall not hold that office for more than three consecutive terms at any one time.

It has been an honour to have been elected President of our Association and I have enjoyed the camaraderie of other Service Organisations and Associations in the sharing of ideas and goals. As with any positions we take on in our lives, success cannot be met without the support of the people around you. Our Association is fortunate to have a strong, dedicated group of women serving on the committee and my sincere thanks to them for their support over the past three years.

I would like to extend my grateful thanks to the Association membership for your ongoing support and good wishes during my term of President.

My lasting wish is that the Association continues to grow in numbers and to be strong and supportive for all members.

Yours in friendship,

Heather (Rankin) Fry

ARISING FROM OUR COMMITTEE MEETING

WRAAC ASSOCIATION AGM

Saturday 15th November 2014

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 1100 hrs on Saturday 15th November 2014 at the Shrine of Remembrance. Check in at reception and you will be directed to the meeting area. This will be an opportunity to look over the extensive renovation work. All Committee positions are declared vacant. (See Attachment #1)

Following the AGM tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available. For catering purposes please contact Diane Sherry by 10th November 2014 telephone 0408 553 412 or email dishe1946@yahoo.com.au if you intend to join us.

COUNCIL OF EX-SERVICEWOMEN'S PILGRIMAGE 2014

Saturday 22nd November 2014



As promised at the winding up of the Council of Ex-Servicewomen's Association to informally gather each year at the Ex-Servicewomen's Memorial Cairn situated in the Remembrance Garden, Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne. The date was to be nearest the rededication of the Cairn and this year is the 22nd of November 2014. We will meet at the Cairn at 1130 hrs and following a short wreath laying service to remember those who are no longer with us, we intend to gather at the Botanical Hotel for lunch at 1230 hrs.

We had a pleasant day last year and hope to see you all again.

If you wish to attend contact Cheryle Brown
Telephone: 0400 482 992 or
Email: rayhyd@bigpond.com

EX WRAAC SOCIAL GROUP PUB LUNCH

Saturday 4th October 2014

You are invited to join us for another pleasant afternoon catching up with old friends.

Details:

Place: The Orrong Hotel
Address: Cnr Orrong & High Streets
Armadale
Date: Saturday, 4 October 2014
Time: 12.00 pm onwards
Cost: Depends on what you order
from the menu.

You order and pay for your food and drinks as required.

For those travelling by private transport, car parking is on-the-street. It is easy to reach by public transport; the number 6 tram is the one to catch from Swanston Street, City. The Toorak Station is also very close to the Orrong Hotel which can be found at Melway reference Map 58 J:7. Please contact us by Wednesday, 1st October as we need to confirm the numbers attending.

We look forward to seeing you on the 4th October 2014, if you have any questions, give us a call.

Liz Maclaine Lyn Board Bev Bond
03 9397 1043 03 5989 2553 03 5952 3096

SWAN HILL REUNION

We have been advised the next gathering at Swan Hill will be held on the weekend of Sunday the 12th April 2015. Remember this is not an organised event so it is suggested you arrange accommodation very soon.

The contact number for the Swan Hill RSL Sub-Branch is Barry Townley: Telephone 0427 323 747
E-mail address: kaye.townley@bigpond.com.

Members prefer to stay at The Jane Eliza Motel with its close proximity to the Swan Hill Station and the RSL Club. Telephone 03 5032 4411

WRAAC ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Saturday 19th July 2014

A great time was had by all on this wonderful day as we gathered to remember that special time when we proudly wore the magnificent WRAAC uniform. The years have been kind to us we checked on those we served with and reminisced

of times passed. The visual display kindly organised by Ian Jager depicts young faces ready to have fun but with the underlying knowledge of contributing to something special and worthwhile.

Following drinks and canapé's the luncheon commenced with our special guest Captain Alan Stebbing (AACC) escorted to his table by President Heather Fry followed by our Patron, Captain Iris Petrass escorted by Past President Jude Pinkerton-Treloar. The entrance was special as the guests were kept in step to the sound of Green sleeves played by Lt Colonel John Stevens on keyboard.

Heather Fry presenting a thankyou gift to CAPT Alan Stebbing accompanied CAPT Gwenda Walker.



The WRAAC Flag Elizabeth (Rouse) Salmon, Standard Val Jones and Banner Liz Maclaine were proudly paraded around the room to Soldiers of the Queen, our stirring Corps March. As usual we were encouraged to clap, cry or cheer as happy memories took over. We were soon snapped back to reality when the booming voice of Margaret (Robinson) Jager (Sgt Catering) told us to sit down and introduced Association President, Heather (Rankin) Fry. Heather thanked all for their attendance and acknowledged the 45 plus years of service of two special members, the recently



retired WOI Elizabeth (Rouse) Salmon (Enlisted at 3 WRAAC Co 1968) and Major Val Jones (Enlisted at 3 WRAAC Co in 1969) Our Patron,



Captain Iris Petrass congratulated the girls on their significant achievements.

The Ode was read by Major Maggie More with Kelly Brogan performing a truly uplifting Australian National Anthem. Kelly stepped in to perform for us as our much loved Rebecca was unable to be with us on the day.

This year we acknowledged the Catering Corps and recognised their significant role in the ADF. Grace was said by our Chaplain, the Reverend Bill Pugh who offered words of comfort as we mourned

the loss of those on board Malaysia Airline Flight MH17. Our thoughts are with those so sadly affected by the tragedy.

Barbara Palmer proposed the Loyal Toast, Lyn (Work) Board to Absent Friends and Gai Cooke to the Association.

Our guest Speaker, Captain Alan Stebbing (AACC), walked us down memory lane as he remembered former WRAAC personnel and their professional contribution to Catering.

With CAPT Stebbing is from left Gai Cooke, Freda Murphy, Margaret Jager and Barbara Palmer



Well done to our Catering Girls, you're the best.

The raffle was a great success with Margaret, Emma and Amy efficiently running it in record time.

Snap Shots

How happy we all looked enjoying the day together.

That we will always remember our fellow WRAAC although not with us, they will always be there in spirit.

How good it was to see Ruth (Brown) Smith (Int) and husband Ron at the Luncheon.

It is always a joy to see Captain Ruth Durance and her husband John.

How proud we are of Elizabeth (Rouse) Salmon and Val Jones on their outstanding military longevity.

Seeing two great mates Denise Hodder and Maggie More enjoying the day together.

Vietnam Veterans Day Observance 2014

AUSTIN HEALTH
Friday 15th August 2014



Vietnam Veterans day is a significant time to acknowledge those who served our country and respectfully remember those who did not return

home to fulfil their hopes and dreams. The day is commemorated with services around Australia and overseas. Three members of the WRAAC Association Heather (Rankin) Fry, Maxine (Turner) Pettingill and Jude (Wood) Pinkerton-Treloar attended a service held in the Remembrance Garden at Austin Health to pay tribute to our Service personnel. The service was well attended but the presence of many widows told a story of sadness and enduring pain and sacrifice.

Former members of the WRAAC met and married servicemen and many today care for our boys who marched off to a place so far away we could barely pronounce the names.

Our thoughts are with you all and wish you well.

The National Vietnam Veterans Museum Phillip Island



From its humble beginnings in the 1990's the National Vietnam Veterans Museum at Phillip Island has become a fitting tribute to the legacy and preservation of our Veterans through visual and interactive displays.

We highly recommend a visit to this amazing centre.

The Museum is open from 10am to 5pm 7days a week.

Closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

CAPT Alan Stebbing
with WRAAC Assoc
Member Kath
(Donohue) Murnane
with her Vietnam
Veteran husband
Chris at Shrine of
Remembrance service on 18th August 2014



RFDC WWI COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLIAN PRESENTATION

Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic) Inc hosted the presentation of WWI Commemorative Medallions on Sunday August 3, 2014 at 2.00pm at Clayton RSL.

The WWI Commemorative Medallions were presented to twenty-five people by Brigadier Peter Alkemade RFD, Chairman, Victoria Executive – Defence Reserves Association.

Master of Ceremonies was Mr Don Kinsey AM and approximately 100 people were welcomed by the RFDC (Vic) Inc. Acting Chairman, Lt Col Barry Ingram AM RFD ED (Ret'd).

The WRAAC Association (Vic) was well represented with Commemorative Medallions being presented to Dorothy Holmquest, Margaret Handte, Myrene Purcell and John Sloss, husband of Ruth Durance who was also present on the day.

Refreshments were served after the presentation allowing all present to reflect and tell the stories of their particular descendants. The WWI Commemorative Medallion Presentation was enjoyed by all who attended.

Heather Fry
Executive Council
Reserve Forces Day Council (Vic) Inc.



Brigadier Peter Alkemade RFD and Myrene Purcell

SAUSAGE SIZZLE NEWS

This year, our sausage sizzle fundraiser at Bunnings Box Hill was a great success considering the Sunday trading day. The WRAAC Association usually has a Saturday allotted to us with the anticipation of a hungry workforce clambering for our tasty fare as we prepare for a 9am start. We should not have been concerned as we made a Net Profit of \$1021.51, a great result for all concerned.

Association Members found to be cooking up a storm at Bunnings were Margaret and her husband Ian Jager, our Patron Iris Petrass, Maxine Pettingill, Liz Maclaine, Diane Sherry, Brenda Walters and Jude Pinkerton-Treloar.

Our thanks to Hugh Fry for his excellent chain of supply skills thus ensuring we had the stock to conduct the day successfully.

The day is always hard work but the camaraderie shared between us always outweighs the negative such as the unforgettable smell of snags and onions. It is an odour that tends to permeate every item of clothing one possesses on the day!

See you there next year!

AROUND THE WRAAC PACK

Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG

Still leading by example, it was uplifting to read Ben is studying for a Master of Business Administration at the University of Queensland following 16 years in the military. Well done Ben.

Bus trip to Ballarat

The Returned Nurses Sub-Branch invited members to join them on a bus trip to Ballarat in July to visit the reflective POW Memorial. The weather was rather chilly but it did not deter from the significance of the visit and the memories we all hold dearly in our heart. Following a leisurely drive under the impressive Arch of Victory and then along Avenue of Honour we joined together at the George Hotel for lunch.

The Nurses will notify us when they intend to have another outing. It was a wonderful day with great company.

VALE



F3/482 Rita Anne Grogan
13/12/1934 – 2/04/2014

Deepest Sympathy to the Grogan family on the passing of Rita. A much loved member of the Association.

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



MEMBERSHIP

Annual Membership fees were due 1st July 2014. A subscription renewal form is enclosed for members who are currently not financial.

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? Her contact details are listed above.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Miss Fiona CAMPBELL ARA 1974-8
F35799 RACT Centre Dvr Trg
Life Member Liverpool Tpt Unit
1/77 WRAAC OCS
41 Sup Bn Keswick SA

Mrs Denise HUTCHINSON CMF 1969
Nee CRAMP 3 WRAAC
Annual Member

Ms Susan HIRD ARES 1971-2
Nee GILLET 3 WRAAC
F32252 1977-80
Annual Member 3 RAAPC
3 PEVT MED
5 RVR swan Hill

Can You Help

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

Ms Shirley Brown
Mrs Jeanette Coburn
Ms Marilyn Dell
Miss Joanne Doolan
Ms Robyn Gibson (nee Vincent)
Lt Evelyn Howarth
Ms Pamela Hunt (nee Walsh)
Ms Angela Jones
Mrs Joyce Payne
Ms Debbie Umpleby
Ms. Sallyann Welton

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

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT #1: AGM Nomination Form



WRAAC ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 15th November 2014
Shrine of Remembrance
MELBOURNE

NOMINATION FORM

(Please Print)

I (your name) being a financial member of the
Association, nominate for the position of
..... on the committee

Signed

Proposer

Seconder Print Name

I accept the nomination

(Signature)..... Print Name

Returns are to be sent to the Secretary, Diane Sherry, Unit 73 – 2 Gremel Street, Reservoir
Victoria 3073 by Friday 7th November 2014.

Only financial Member's may nominate, second, or be nominated.

SECRETARY'S USE ONLY

Date received All Financial Yes / No

Diane Sherry
Secretary