



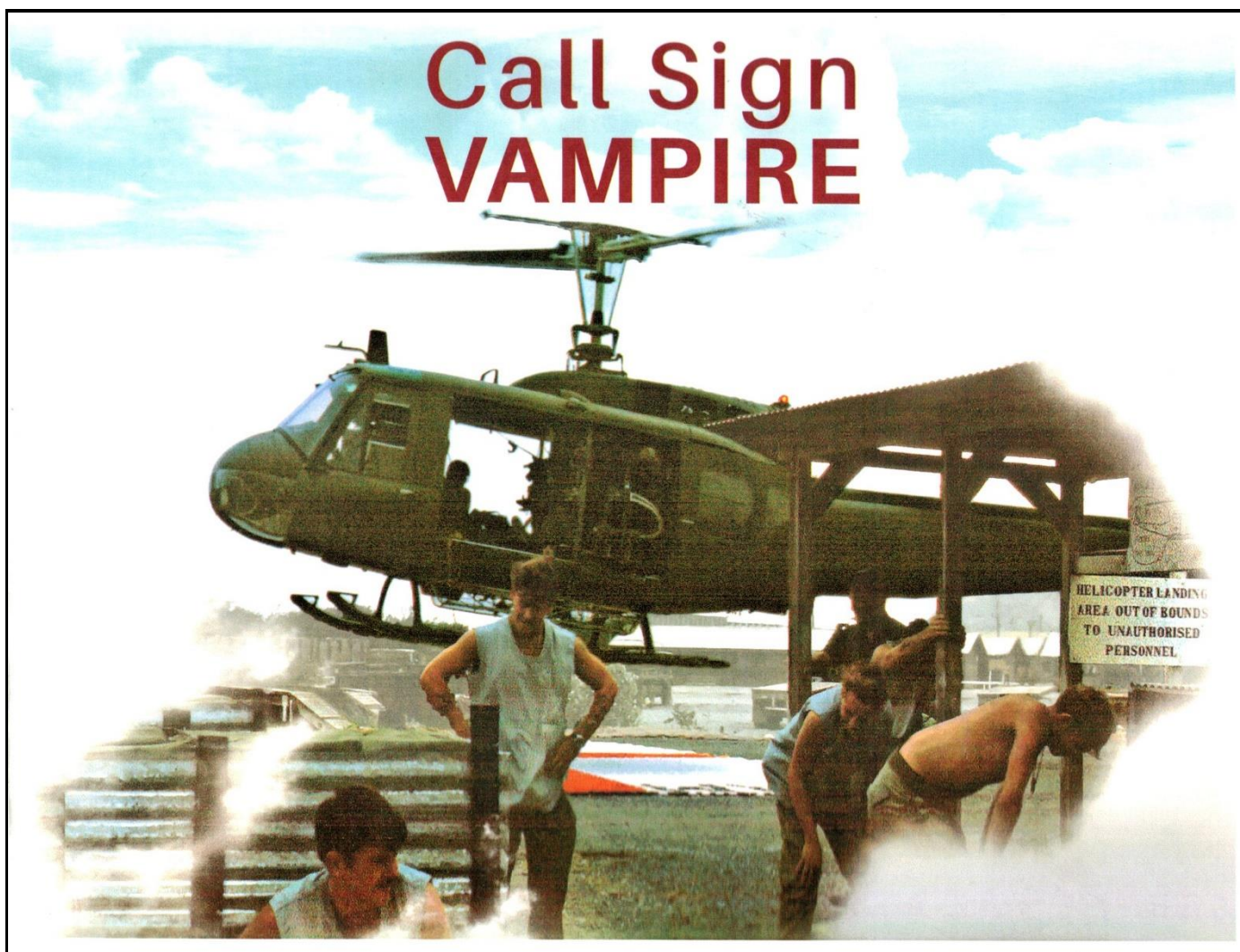
# ***THE FIGHTING FOURTH***

*4RAR, 4RAR/NZ (ANZAC), 4RAR (CD0)*



*AUTUMN EDITION*

*Patron Lieutenant Colonel Brian Avery (Retd)*



*LZ AUSTRALIAN HOSPITAL*

*VUNG TAU*

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**NB: Please ENSURE Cheques & Money Orders are made out as follows to:**

**4RAR ASSOCIATION QLD INC.**

**Web Page: [4rarassoc.org.au](http://4rarassoc.org.au)**

Good day all, I hope you are all keeping well.

I am slowly regaining my health back after a serious attacks of numerous health ailments. I wish to thank you all for your kind get well wishes and prayers while I was out of action.

We now have a new Treasurer Alan Dorber who brings a wealth of experience with him. He was elected at our AGM. I have to say Secretary Wendy was happy to see him join our ranks as it relieved her of some the weight of the administration over the last twelve months as she has not been well herself as well as looking after me.

We had the Battalion Birthday on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at the Geebung RSL with around forty-five guests attending. Due the extensive heat on the day we had to move the Service into the main dining room, although it did not have the same atmosphere as if it was held at the memorial. After the service Drinks, Lunch and good reminisce was held by all.

Allan McLean - Editor



Allan (Blue) McLean & George Bostock



Susan O'Neill, Greg & Kay Shannon, Lorraine Yvonne & Reuben Chadburn

**WARNING ORDER**

As mentioned in our last newsletter it was suggested that we may hold our AGM/Annual Dinner in Bundaberg over a Three-Day Period in November 2023

**We need to know if you are interested: YES/NO**

**Name.....Number Attending.....**

Please advise Secretary Wendy ASAP by 30/06/2023 at: [secretary@4rarqld.org.au](mailto:secretary@4rarqld.org.au)

Telephone: 0417 715 979 or Mail P.O. Box 7167, Sippy Downs Qld 4556

## **4RAR BIRTHDAY 2023**

At previous birthday services, Noel Huish usually related anecdotes about our early days, such as when we made our own ration packs because the army could not provide any for field exercises. I would like to continue by telling you about training in those early days at Woodside.

The older veterans here would remember training in Woodside. The Battalion was destined to relieve 3RAR in Malaysia in 1965. For a battalion destined to serve in the tropics in Southeast Asia, Woodside was hardly the ideal training environment.

The climate didn't compare with our future area of operations. Who remembers carrying out vehicle counter-ambush drills with frost forming on a moustache? The training areas were not only limited in size. Remember freezing night ambushes and counter-ambush drills in the rainforest (sorry, mallee scrub) north of Renmark and Berri. The major training areas of Cultana and Alamein were suitable for desert warfare training, but hardly representative of tropical forests. Who can forget our final exercise in mid-winter in the Kuitpo Pine Forest, pretending to be in the jungles of Borneo. Remember getting our combat smocks to protect us against the winter chill of the Adelaide hills.

There were no other Regular Army field units with which to train or from which we could get support. We trained in isolation. We had to go to Puckapunyal to work with other units, mainly tanks but also artillery.

4RAR was raised on the old tropical establishment of about 750 men, which was compatible with the British and New Zealand battalions in Malaysia. The two battalions in Sydney and Brisbane were on the Pentropic establishment of over 1,300 men. In late 1963, when it was announced that 4RAR was to be raised in Woodside, 1RAR and 2RAR were built up to include their reinforcements. In 1964, these additional personnel were posted to Woodside, along with a large draft of young soldiers from the Infantry Centre. Officers, Warrant Officers and NCOs came from the two battalions, but also from other units throughout Australia. Although many of the Warrant Officers and NCOs had seen service in Malaya, few of the younger soldiers had ever seen tropical rainforest or endured monsoonal rain. Amongst the officers of the rank of captain or below, only one captain and one lieutenant had seen active service in Malaya and one lieutenant had served in the Pacific Islands Regiment.

The CO wanted to rectify this situation. He sought and got approval for 4RAR to train in the wettest part of Australia, the rainforests of North Queensland, during the height of the wet season. The area selected, the mountainous region of Mount Spec, was close to the town of Ingham, along with Innisfail a claimant to the wettest town in Australia. The Mount Spec area was a plateau averaging about one thousand metres in elevation and covered in dense tropical rain forest with just a few logging tracks. The exercise was to be called Exercise Downpour in anticipation of the monsoonal deluge expected.

Some of you may remember a warning we received just before we left Woodside. 1RAR and 2RAR were being re-organised into four of the smaller battalions and were not operational

was known that the government was going to commit a force to Vietnam, and the Malaysian Prime Minister had asked for additional troops for Confrontation. We could be going from the exercise direct to Vietnam, or direct to Malaysia to reinforce rather than relieve 3RAR, or we could return to Woodside.

Immediately after the birthday parade on 1 February 1965, a road party left Woodside and established a logistics base at the 31RQR depot in Ingham and was hosted by that unit. The main body of the Battalion flew in chartered civilian jets for Townsville, from where it was taken by truck to Mt Spec. During that flight, I sat next to Sergeant Denny Cook, who told me that he was nervous about the flight. I thought that unusual for an old veteran like Denny, until he said that he had flown in an aircraft over two hundred times, but had never landed in one!

At Mt Spec, 4RAR established non-tactical camps where the companies could acclimatize to the hot, humid conditions and undertake training similar to what had been undertaken in Woodside, but in more realistic terrain and climate. Each company had a field kitchen set up by our cooks, who did a wonderful job of feeding the battalion, even to the extent of making fresh bread rolls. During this non-tactical training, hardly a single drop of rain fell. I think many of the younger members began to suspect that the move to North Queensland was pointless.

After the first week, the second phase of the exercise saw the Battalion go tactical, with three rifle companies being exercised while C Coy provided the exercise enemy, so that all four companies were able to put into practice the skills learnt. After a rest day, the Battalion went tactical again, with the locals, 31RQR, providing the exercise enemy. Rations and other supplies were to be delivered by air and any casualties evacuated the same way.

Now the real purpose of the exercise became apparent. The rain which had largely held off during the non-tactical phase came with a vengeance. In the space of sixteen days, two cyclones moved through the area. In the final few days of the exercise, heavy rain, low clouds and gale force wind made it impossible to fly and without roads, resupply was not possible. Without food, and continuously wet, the effectiveness of the unit crashed. The Exercise Director, Colonel Stan Coleman, terminated the exercise a day early. 4RAR walked out of the exercise area to the Bruce Highway, where it was picked up by trucks with the intention of moving it to Townsville, where it would then return by chartered jet to Adelaide.

That last day was the worst. Over 400mm of rain fell that day, accompanied by cyclonic winds. I knew I was miserable because I could feel the rain running down my back and between the cheeks of my bum. As my platoon reached a made road, we passed a checkpoint where the Exercise Director was watching our withdrawal. Coleman had been the Commandant at Portsea when I was an officer cadet and recognised me through the pouring rain. "Hello, young Avery. Glad you went to infantry now?" I responded with a rather sickly grin.

Our misery had not finished once we reached the highway. Trucks were ferrying troops to Townsville, so we had to wait in freezing, driving rain. It was getting dark when some trucks pulled up and took the rest of D Coy on, leaving just my platoon. Night fell, and no more trucks. Then about 2200 hours, a lone truck was passing, and I flagged it down. The driver told

me it was the last truck in Ingham and he hadn't expected to pick anyone up. I piled the whole platoon, over thirty men, onto the one truck, which would normally carry sixteen.

When we got to Bluewater, the bridge was under water and the canopy of an International truck could be seen sticking up above the flood water. We could go no further, so we all trooped into the Bluewater Café. At least we could get something to eat. Inside, we found Major Deighton and the rest of D Coy. Their trucks were parked out of sight behind the café. They too hadn't eaten for two days and by the time we had arrived, there was nothing edible left in the shop.

The next morning, the water had subsided. We recovered the flooded vehicle and amazingly it started. The whole company piled on the trucks and left for Townsville, certain that the rest of the Battalion were now warm and dry in Woodside, but no. When we arrived at Kissing Point Barracks, the whole of the Battalion was miserably jammed into the CMF drill hall. The cyclone had closed Garbutt and flying would commence that afternoon.

At least every member of 4RAR now knew what tropical rainforest and monsoonal rain was like.

One little anecdote I would like to share with you. It is often said that the most dangerous creature on the battlefield is a young officer with a map and compass. On the second week, D Coy was moving along one of the forestry roads with my platoon leading. The company commander halted the company and asked me for a LOCSTAT. I sent one, and within seconds, I was asked to check it. I did and confirmed my first one. "If that is your LOCSTAT, you would be standing in Lake Paluma. I'm coming forward." I was with my lead section commander, so when the OC arrived, he found a grinning LT Avery and Corporal Col Parker standing up to their knees in Lake Paluma. - **Brian Avery**

A Russian Jew named Jacob was finally allowed to emigrate to Israel. At the Moscow airport, a customs inspector found a statue of Lenin in his luggage and asked, "What is this?"

Jacob replied, "Wrong question, comrade. You should have asked, 'Who is this?.' This is Comrade Lenin. He laid the foundations of Socialism and created the future prosperity of the Russian people. I am taking it with me as a memory of our dear hero."

The Russian customs official sent him on his way.

At Tel Aviv airport, the Israeli customs official also asked, "What is this?" "Wrong question, sir. You should be asking 'Who is this? This, my friend, is Lenin, the bastard who caused me, a Jew, to leave Russia. I take this statue as a reminder to curse him every day."

The Israeli official sent him on his way.

When he settled in his new home, Jacob placed the statue on a table.

The following evening, he invited friends and relatives to dinner.

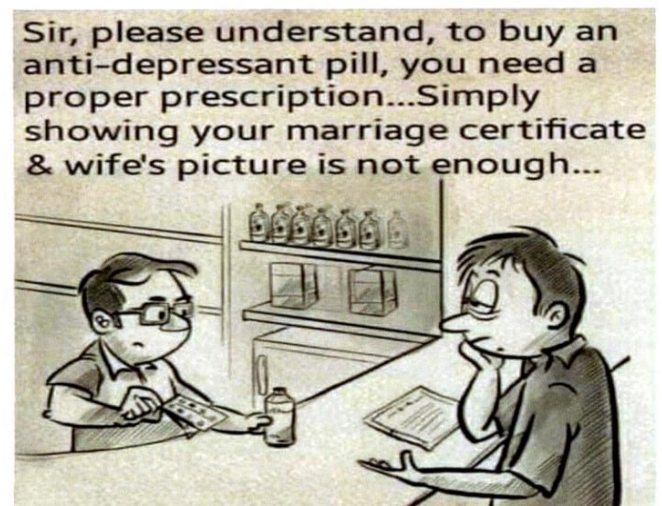
Spotting the statue, one of his cousins asked, "Who is this?."

Jacob replied, "Wrong question. You should have asked, 'What is this?.' This is five kilograms

of solid gold that I managed to bring with me from Russia without having to pay any customs duty or tax."

**The Moral:**

*"Politics is when you can tell the same shit in different ways to fool different people and still come out smelling like a rose."*



## Secretary's Report

Dear Members,

I hope this finds you all in good health and that you are all keeping up with you COVID and flu injections when they become available. For our gentlemen members speak to your doctor to see if you are eligible for the shingles injection. If you are interested in receiving it, it is worth getting as it protects you from the shingles. It quite expensive but DVA will pay for it so make sure you inquire when you go to the doctor unfortunately ladies, we miss out again unless you want to pay \$800 for it. Allan spoke to our GP this week and he is applying to DVA for Allan to receive his.

On a brighter note, Ladies put in your diaries for the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 for the Ladies at the Geebung RSL Club on the same format as last year having a pay as you go which everyone agrees is a great idea. I believe Jaye, Bernadette & Christine are organising a surprise for everyone this year. I will forward a flyer closer to the time .

Earlier this month you should have received notification of our new bank details. We now bank with the Bank of Queensland which will now make it easier for us to pay accounts as with the CBA they are doing away with cheque accounts as of June. For those of you who may have missed the details they are: **BANK OF QUEENSLAND: BSB: 124-152**

**ACCOUNT NUMBER:23395357 - 4RAR Assocation QLD Inc**

We will still take cheques, Money orders and Cash but we would prefer direct debit into our account with your refernce Name and what payment is for.

**Membership Payments: As of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 memberships are due.** Remember Membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30 June each year. I know some of you pay it from January to December but our Financial year runs from July to June yearly. A Membership Form is at the back of newsletter. **A new Merchandise Price List is attached to newsletter.**

A short history of 4RAR by Lt Col Brian Avery (Rtd) can be found on our:

**Web Page: [4rar.assoc.org.au](http://4rar.assoc.org.au)**

Details for **ANZAC DAY** are enclosed and I hope it is a far better day than last year and you all have a great day catching up with old mates with a glass ot two.

Please give a thought to our **AGM/ANNUAL DINNER** in a Regional area and give us your answer as we need to know as to book the accommodation or not. Where we are considering holding the AGM/DINNER is at a great location once there you don't have to travel as everything will be at the one venue. I have stayed there and it was great. The sooner we know the sooner we can confirm the amount of rooms we need.

**“IT IS UP TO YOU ALL NOW.”**

That's all for now.

Secretary Wendy

### **Treasurer's Report**

Just a short note from the Treasurer; After agreeing to change 4 RAR accounts from the Commonwealth to Bank of Qld. We finally got there. As yet I am still working on the banking process, so I really don't have a report to give, just that your funds are in safe hands. I am glad there are no major projects going on with the association as present. I think by the time the next AGM I might have it worked out. To all attending ANZAC Day in the city, I hope to get to say "Good Day" but if I don't have fun. Talk to you all at the next meeting.

Alan Dorber Treasurer.

### **President's Report**

I hope you all have had a great year so far.

It has been reasonably quiet for the association to date.

There is a lot of decisions to be made for All State Associations for the future off 4RAR.

National President AT THIS TIME WE ARE THE ONLY Battalion not having one.

Since attending the RARC AGM late last year we as a Battalion are long way behind the eight ball as we have not been getting information from the RARC.

We are attempting to catch up to the other Battalions BUT as you are aware we have had no new members really since 1972. ALSO, no active Battalion to work with.

I must say all other Battalions seem to be working very well with their Relative Battalions.

I have written to all the state Associations with a request to discuss all the matters that need attention.

I sent them all a list we the committee think should be discussed over a ZOOM MEETING yet to be organised. We will keep you all informed with the solutions once sorted.

Did you all get to read the new DUTY FIRST MAGAZINE. We intend to add to the magazine, if you like or have something to add please do so , by contacting Wendy.

We will look at putting the Fighting Fourth on the RARC Webpage. Plus, the other States also.

We are intending to hold this year's AGM & Annual Dinner at Bundaberg . We are hoping that some of our members from places north of Bundy might like to attend.

We would like to see it as a mini reunion. Noel Huish will be doing the REECE Easter. So more to follow on this.

Noel Fairley President.





## ANZAC DAY

**Form up areas for the RAR Associations and the Buggy Rides if you require transport instead of marching. If you require transport, please let President Noel know as he will have to advise the ANZAC Day committee. Email: [president@4rarqld.org.au](mailto:president@4rarqld.org.au)**

ANZAC DAY: Assembly 1030hrs Expect Step Off 1040hrs. This year's ANZAC Day parade comes with some challenges.

FUP we will meet on George street at the Cnr of Charlotte street we will step off at 1015hrs. The order of march is below, we group 4 section C

2/4 RAR  
8/9 RAR  
5/7 RAR  
7 RAR  
8 RAR  
9 RAR  
1 RAR  
2 RAR  
3 RAR  
4 RAR  
5 RAR  
6 RAR

There is construction work happening just before the saluting dais the road goes from 4 lanes to 2 lanes.

**MOST IMPORTANT** for about 600 meters there are large cats' eyes on the Adelaide Street leading up to just short of the saluting dais these are very large and are a trip hazard make sure you watch your step and pass on this information to your members.

If you need a jeep or buggy you need to send in a request, you just can't turn up on the day a grab a buggy. Request Form Following page.

**After the March we have arranged for you to meet at the "THE GRAND CENRAL HOTEL" Ann Street, Brisbane opposite the Cenotaph above central station for drinks and a catch up with mates.**

Regards

Noel Fairley President

Look for Banner!

**Chairperson**  
Mr Kerry Gallagher AM



**Executive Officer**  
P O Box 45  
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NEW FARM QLD 4005  
Ph: 07 3358 3361  
[events@rslsouthqueensland.org](mailto:events@rslsouthqueensland.org)  
<http://www.rslsouthqueensland.org/anzac-day-parade/>

## **2023 ANZAC DAY PARADE BRISBANE**

### **VETERAN/WIDOW TRANSPORT REQUEST**

#### **Parade Taxi – Group 1 only**

**(collect/return from/to residence)**

**Please call 07 3556 5788 direct (from 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023), cut off for registration is currently 17<sup>th</sup> April and subject to volunteer driver availability.**

#### **Veteran Transport Vehicles**

It would be appreciated if transport in a Jeep or Buggy  
(Vehicle allocation is dependent on an on-site assessment of individual's physical ability to safely enter/exit  
the vehicle type)  
**from Commonwealth Bank (corner of Queen & Edward Streets)**  
could be organised for the following.

UNIT / ASSN: \_\_\_\_\_

VETERAN/WIDOW NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

VETERAN/WIDOW CONTACT PHONE  
NUMBER/EMAIL (IF APPLICABLE): \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT  
/CARER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT/CARER  
PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**All passengers using veteran transport, Jeep, or Buggy, are asked to wear a mask for the safety of all (mandatory for drivers)**

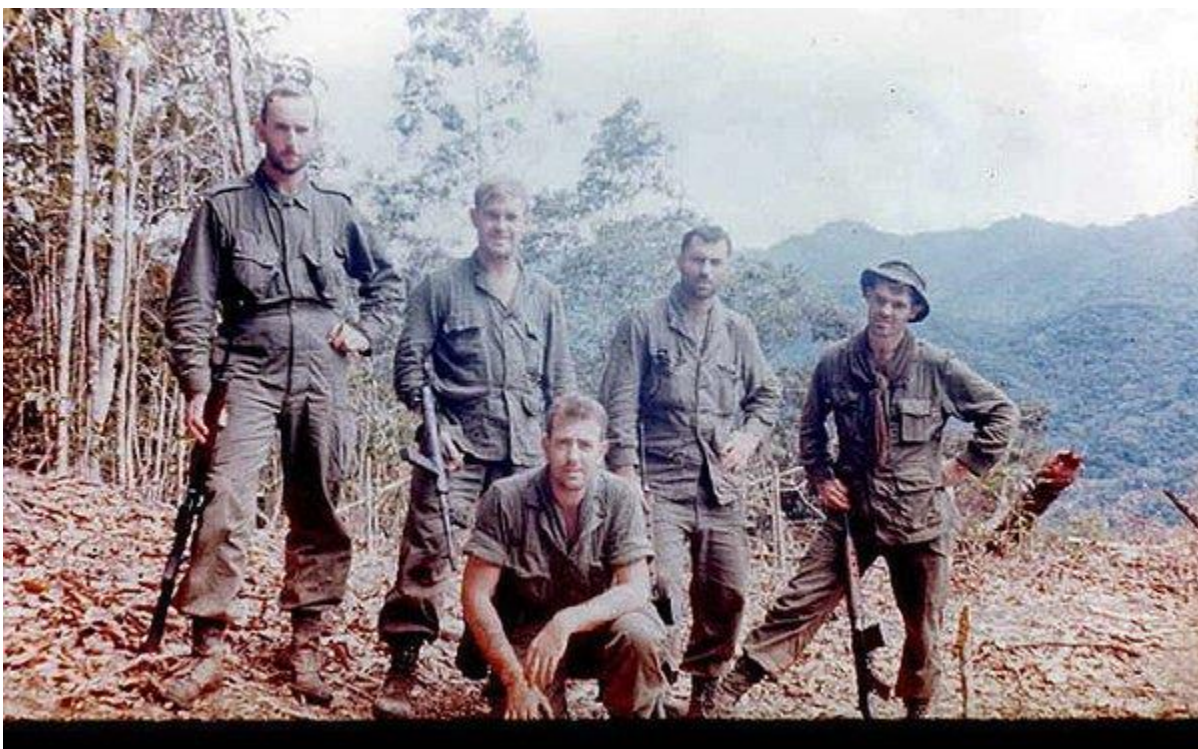
A buggy shuttle service operates from the junction of Eagle Lane and Queen Street. Primarily to transport participants requiring access to the Veteran Loading area outside the Commonwealth Bank (corner of Queen & Edward St) in response to the vehicle lockdown security restrictions. A limited service is offered to transport veterans to George Street.

**Kiss and drop at 110 Eagle Street. adjacent to Eagle Lane**  
*(To be completed and returned to the EO ADPB by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April)*

**Subject article from QUORA written by TIM BLIZZARD re Vietnam Fighting Tactics**

**How did the Australian Army's approach to fighting the Viet Cong differ from that of American forces?**

There were many significant differences. The Australian army not only had different strengths and weaknesses in comparison to the Americans, but it had also fought several wars from which it had learned vastly different lessons. For example, the Australians had been part of a successful counter-insurgency operation in Malaysia and had also fought against pro-Indonesian insurgents in the jungles of Borneo during the konfrontasi. Aussie troops in Borneo:



The primary American strategy was attrition; basically, the US Army had almost unrivalled firepower, especially in artillery and air support, and thus their primary aim was simply to find the major VC formations, draw them into battle and destroy them. They routinely conducted huge search and destroy missions, where whole divisions would scour an area of jungle hoping to flush the VC out. These worked reasonably well, but it meant sustaining casualties.

When the Australians first deployed to Vietnam they started with a battalion, which was just embedded in a US airborne brigade, where they took part in these large scale US manoeuvres. Straight away the Australians knew that this really did not suit their strengths, nor was it how they had learned to fight in the jungle and how to conduct counterinsurgency. It was too loud, too aggressive and too impatient for their doctrine.

It was decided to upgrade the Australian presence to a brigade group which was large enough to act independently. About 4,500 men strong (including some kiwis), it included two or three infantry battalions, artillery, armour, engineers and aviation support. The 1st Australian Task Force deployed in 1966 to Phuoc Tuy, near Saigon, which became Australia's Tactical Area

of Responsibility. Phuoc Tuy province was somewhat of a VC stronghold; it sat right on the VC supply line from Saigon to Cambodia, which made it important to the enemy. Rather than destroying the VC the Australians aimed to disrupt their operations. After building a base at nui dat, which included removing and rebuilding villages within artillery range, they were able to begin operations. The main method by which the Australians disrupted VC operations was through long and extensive patrols. In many cases American forces would sweep an area but then not be back for quite some time, which allowed the VC to dominate the local population once they had gone (often through brutal acts of violence). Separating the insurgent from the local population was the primary Australian objective, rather than simply killing the enemy. In Phuoc Tuy, they would have companies out on patrol for weeks, constantly ambushing and engaging VC elements and preventing them from moving freely throughout the province.

The Special Air Service Regiment were especially good at these kinds of long-range patrols. They would often spend weeks in the jungle stalking the VC. Recently on the Jocko podcast, a Navy Seal veteran recalled the time he had spent on patrol with the SASR in Vietnam; for a whole week not, a single word was spoken by anyone in the patrol, that's how strict their noise discipline was. SASR elements were especially good at ambushes. They claimed to have inflicted almost 600 killed for just 1 combat death. SASR in Vietnam:



These tactics immediately showed their worth. Within a year the local VC unit had been so badly disrupted that a “main force element” was directed to attack the Australians; the 275th regiment. Their objective was to inflict a significant defeat on one of these patrols in order to stop the disruptive patrol activity. The idea was, if one of these company strength patrols could be annihilated, the Australians would be cowed into changing their tactics. Rather than guerrillas who fought in civilian clothes and used hit and run tactics, main force elements were armed and equipped in the style of the North Vietnamese Army, including the typical heavy weapons such as machineguns, mortars and direct fire weapons.

The whole regiment ambushed a single Australian rifle company at a rubber plantation called Long Tan. Outnumbered at least 10 - 1 D company, 6RAR was almost annihilated, but by utilising a reverse slope defence they were able to survive. The excellent Australian/American/New Zealand artillery imposed devastating casualties on the VC. The

battle was eventually won when Australian mechanised infantry launched a counterattack. Fully a third of D company had become casualties with 18 killed, but after the battle they buried 245 VC dead.



After the battle the VC main force units decided to largely abandon Phuoc Tuy, avoiding direct clashes with the Australians. Most of the other battles of the war occurred when Australian units were deployed in support of US operations, under the command of III Corps. Generally speaking, the Australian tactics were very effective at disrupting the insurgency. They had worked in Malaya and Borneo, and they were working in Vietnam too.

To be fair, so did American tactics. Although it was seen as a political turning point in the war, the Tet offensive largely destroyed the VC. After that period the local South Vietnamese communist forces were basically obliterated; NVA regulars had to take up the fight after that. It all came to nought in the end, however. - *Tim Blizzard*

The next Veterans' and Families' Hub is set to be established in Caboolture, Southeast Queensland, with health and wellbeing organisation Lives Lived Well announced today to lead the Hub's development.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Matt Keogh said the Australian Government is delivering on its commitment to provide more localised support to Southeast Queensland's defence and veteran communities.

"I am pleased to announce that Lives Lived Well will establish the Southeast Queensland Veterans' and Families' Hub, bringing a new perspective to supporting veterans and families," Minister Keogh said.

"For over 40 years Lives Lived Well have provided health and wellbeing support in Queensland and New South Wales, with extensive experience in working with individuals and families needing physical and mental health services and support with social connections.

"This experience, and through working with the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (Queensland Branch) and Australian War Widows Queensland, places them in a great position to lead the Southeast Queensland Hub."

Veterans' and Families' Hubs provide a one-stop shop for current and former serving Australian Defence Force members and their families.

"All current serving personnel, veterans and family members can access support from our hubs across the country, including health and mental health services, wellbeing support, advocacy, employment and housing advice, and a place to catch up with mates new and old," Minister Keogh said.

"This latest hub further expands the existing hub network and will ensure veterans can access the supports they need close to home. - G J DECKER National Secretary RARA

**DISCLAIMER:**As there has not been much going on over the last few months months I have used articles from other Authors.In no way do we 4RAR Association Queensland claim to be the original author's of these articles.

*“Keeping the Spirit Alive “*

-14-



2023 marks 60 years since the arrival of the Australian Army Training team (AATTV) in South Vietnam (SVN) on 3 August 1962 – and 50 years since the withdrawal of combat troops in 1972.

**FILE PHOTO:** *Vietnam Memorial, Canberra. Photo by Laura Larking.*

The Australian government intends to mark the occasion with a Commemorative Service, televised nationally by the ABC on 18 August 2023 from the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial (AVFNM) in Canberra.

Many Vietnam Veterans and the next-of-kin of KIAs are too old or frail to attend this ceremony.

To account for this, the Vietnam Veterans Vigil (VVV) will provide surviving Vietnam Veterans and the Australian people the opportunity to participate in other meaningful ways right across the nation and overseas in recognising the national loss and paying their respects to those who were Killed in Action (KIA) and to show solidarity with their loved ones for their loss.

It is intended to hold a Service of Remembrance at every grave or Commemorative plaque site across the nation and overseas on 3 August 2023. The first being a Dawn Service Dawn Service, to be held at the AVFNM in Canberra.

Other Services will be held at 11am local time across Australia and in Malaysia. The last Service, at Dusk, will be held in Scotland, where LCPL Robert Buchan is laid to rest with his Mum and Dad.

VVV is asking for volunteers to co-ordinate each Commemorative Service

You can find more information on the VVV website – [vvv.org.au](http://vvv.org.au)

On the website is a list of all Australian KIAs, a map showing which towns across the nation they are commemorated in and detailed information on how you can help.

There is even a suggested template for the prepared Commemorative Service and links to the sound recordings you may wish to include.

It is requested that every grave visited be photographed by those in attendance.

Those photographs can then be downloaded to the Virtual War Memorial of Australia website. Full and easy instructions are provided.

This collated virtual Gallery of Remembrance will provide an enduring legacy of Remembrance for all Australians, now and into the future, to reflect upon.

While the intent is to visit the graves of all 523 KIA, a secondary aim is to visit the graves of any other Vietnam Veterans, who have since died and are buried in the same cemetery.

Organising committee members and patrons were all members of the Australian Vietnam Forces Welcome Home Parade 1987 and the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial Committees

Many Thanks

Supporting the Virtual War Memorial <https://vwma.org.au/>

Keep Well & Travel Safe

Regards Greg

G J DECKER Secretary RARA National Telephone 0417 464 251 Email: [secretary@rarnational.org.au](mailto:secretary@rarnational.org.au)



**THE HON MATT KEOGH MP**  
**MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
**MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL**  
**COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION TO MARK 50 YEARS SINCE THE END OF AUSTRALIA'S**  
**INVOLVEMENT IN THE VIETNAM WAR**

Today, the Prime Minister and Minister for Veterans' Affairs launched a commemorative medallion to honour those who served in the Vietnam War.

The medallion is a small but meaningful way to honour the service of Vietnam veterans and to recognise the sacrifice of those who never returned home and that of their families.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. Some 60,000 Australians served in the Vietnam War, more than 3,000 were wounded and 523 tragically lost their lives. We must honour those who served and the families that support them.

The medallions are available for every veteran, and can be applied for by Vietnam War veterans, widows of veterans and other family members of veterans.

The launch of the medallions continues the Australian Government's recognition of this significant anniversary throughout 2023, culminating in a national commemorative service on Vietnam Veterans' Day, 18 August 2023.

For more details on the commemorative medallion, including how to apply, or for more information about the other commemorative events planned, visit the DVA website:

[www.dva.gov.au/vietnam50](http://www.dva.gov.au/vietnam50).

**PARTNERS OF VETERANS OF AUSTRALIA**  
**QUEENSLAND BRANCH**

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**RSL Queensland**  
17 Mar · 🌐

For Those Who Stand Beside Them."

These are the words inscribed on a plaque dedicated to the partners of veterans recently unveiled in Caloundra. The plaque honours the Partners of Veterans Association of Australia - Qld Branch and their unwavering commitment to supporting service members and their families.

Read the full story at <https://rslqld.social/42h0Pc6>.

RSLQueensland #DefencePartners #Veterans

ilqld.org  
RSL Queensland | Caloundra plaque dedicated to partners of veterans [Learn more](#)

👍❤️ 1.3k 71 comments 40 shares



## *Passing Parade*

***AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN  
AND IN THE MORNING  
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM  
LEST WE FORGET***



*Yes, you will always march beside us.  
And when our time is through  
We will muster on the last parade.  
To march again with you*

*RIP*

<i>Ian Venning</i>	<i>6<sup>th</sup> January 2023</i>
<i>John (Snow) Vautin</i>	<i>4<sup>th</sup> February 2023</i>
<i>Michael R Carroll DCM</i>	<i>11<sup>th</sup> February 2023</i>
<i>John Stanley Cornell</i>	<i>20<sup>th</sup> March 2023</i>
<i>Cyril McGurk</i>	<i>Date to be Confirmed.</i>

***LEST WE FORGET***





# 4RAR MERCHANDISE



DESCRIPTION	SIZE	QTY	COST \$	\$
POLO SHIRTS <b>Plus Postage \$15.00</b>				
MENS SIZES: SM, MED, LARGE, XL,2XL,3XL,4XL,5XL			\$ 50.00 each	
LADIES SIZES: 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 <b>Plus Postage \$15.00</b>			\$ 50.00 each	
*Ladies who require larger sizes please refer to the chart below.				
4RAR CAP <b>Plus Postage \$10</b>			\$ 30.00each	
<b>NB: If purchasing Cap &amp; Shirt together Postage is \$15.00 only</b>				
4RAR ASSOCIATION TIE <b>Plus Postage \$ 10</b>			\$ 35.00 each	
NUMBER PLATE SURROUNDS SET <b>Plus Postage \$12.50</b>			\$35.00per set	
4RAR PLAQUE <b>Plus Postage \$15.00</b>			\$ 50.00 each	
MISSION IN VIETNAM <b>Plus Postage \$20</b>			\$100.00each	
THE FIGHTING FOURTH <b>Plus Postage \$20</b>			\$100.00each	
EAST TIMOR <b>Plus Postage \$20</b>			\$100.00each	
GREEN MULES/GIANTS <b>Plus Postage \$10</b>			\$ 15.00each	
OUR SECRET WAR <b>Plus Postage \$15</b>			\$ 35.00each	
4RAR PATCHES <b>Postage Included</b>			\$ 5.50each	
ICB PATCHES <b>Postage Included</b>			\$ 5.50each	
4RAR CAR STICKER <b>Postage Included</b>			\$ 5.50each	
NAME TAGS <b>Plus Postage \$2.50</b>			\$ 15.00each	
4RAR FACE MASKS <b>Postage Included</b>			\$ 15.00each	
<b>TOTAL ITEM(S) PRICE:</b>				<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL POSTAGE:</b>				<b>\$</b>
<b>ORDER TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$</b>

### PS65 Men's TrueDry Pique Short Sleeve Polo

EASY FIT	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Half Chest	55.5	56	58.5	61	63.5	66	68.5	71
Body Length	70	72	74	76	78	80	82	84

### PS66 Ladies TrueDry Pique Short Sleeve Polo

Modern Fit	8	10	12	14	16	18
Half Chest	43.5	46	48.5	51	54	57
Body Length	60	62	64	66	68	70

**MAIL ORDERS TO:** Secretary/Treasurer  
 4RAR Association Qld.Inc.  
 Post Office Box 7167  
 SIPPY DOWNS QLD 4556

**Payment Details:**  
 Direct Debit: BSB:124-152 Acc No: 23395357  
 or by  
 Cheque or Money order made Payable to:  
 4RAR Association Qld Inc.

Email: [secretary@4rarqld.org.au](mailto:secretary@4rarqld.org.au)  
 Telephone: 0417 715 979

Please note your name & action on direct debit form  
 so I can identify the person and reason for deposit.

NAME:.....

DELIVERY ADDRESS:.....

.....STATE: .....POSTCODE:.....

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Thank you for your valued support of the 4RAR Association Queensland Inc. it is greatly appreciated.



\$50 Plus Postage \$15.00



\$30.00 Plus Postage \$10.00



\$35.00 + Postage \$12.50



\$5.50 Postage included.



\$15 EACH POSTAGE INCLUDED



\$35 EA + \$5 POSTAGE



\$50 + \$15 POSTAGE.



**4RAR ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INCORPORATION INC**  
**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**



New Membership  Membership Renewal  (Please Indicate)

I wish to make application to join or renew my membership in the 4RAR Association Queensland Inc as a former serving member of 4RAR, 4RAR/NZ (ANZAC), 2/4RAR, 4RAR(CDO) or other unit or service with close ties to 4RAR as accepted by the committee.

Army Number:.....

Surname:.....Christine Names:.....

Home Address:.....

Postal Address:.....

Rank on Discharge:.....Company:.....Unit:.....

Honours and Awards (CSC,DCM,OAM, ETC) etc):.....

Units and Subunits Served:.....

Spouses Name:.....

Telephone Numbers:.....(M).....

Email:.....

Joining Fee and Annual Subscriptions. In each financial year including the year of acceptance to the Association. Ordinary members are to pay before the 30th of June, an annual subscription for membership from July 1 until June 30th each financial year. Ordinary Members are entitled and encouraged to vote at the AGM each year.

I enclose: 1 year membership fee(\$30) or 2 year membership fee (\$60) or 3year membership fee (\$90), Please indicate

Payments may be made by direct debit to: Bank of Queensland: **BSB 124-152 Account Number: 23395357** include your name: e.g, John Jones .

Cheque or Money Orders made payable to: **4RAR Association Qld Inc.**

Applicant's Signature:..... Date:.....

Please Reply to:  
[Secretary@4rarqld.org.au](mailto:Secretary@4rarqld.org.au)  
 Or  
 Secretary,  
 P.O. Box 7167  
 SIPPY DOWNS QLD 4556

