

CONTACT !



*Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and
Associated Forces Inc.
Newsletter*

2008
Pre Memorial Day Issue

CONTACT !

© JOURNAL OF BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS & ASSOCIATED FORCES INC.
incorporating RAAF VIETNAM ASSN. & QANTAS "SKIPPY SQUADRON" ASSN.

ABN 74 645 329 198

CFN 17276

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THOSE WHO SERVED IN ALL POST WORLD WAR II CONFLICTS

Patron: Major General CMI (Sandy) Pearson AO DSO OBE MC (Rtd)
Office address: Allied Services Centre, 108 Macquarie Road, Springwood NSW Australia
(next to Springwood Civic Centre)

Postal address: Post Office Box 55 Springwood NSW Australia 2777
Office: (02)4751 8528, Fax (02)4751 8538,

Email address: secretary@bmvets.com.au

Web site: www.bmvets.com.au

Your Committee

President:	Jack Lake	tel (02) 4754 4771
Vice President:	Glenn Daly	tel (02) 4754 1393
Secretary:	Graham Glasson	tel 04 1851 8538
Treasurer:	Kevin Craven	tel (02) 4736 6692
Welfare Coordinator:	Geoff Raymond	tel (02) 4754 4327
Yard Maintenance	Peter Jones	tel (02) 4751 8833
John Ronan		tel 0405 817 747
John Woolley		tel (02) 4754 3015
Padre Bill Wheeler		tel (02) 4754 4575

Remaining 2008 Committee Meeting
Dates All meetings commence 1000hrs

10	August
14	September
12	October
9	November
14	December

Welfare Officers

John Fenton (L2) - Blue Mountains and Southern Highlands,
Home: 02 4647 9742
Email: johncfenton@bigpond.com

Bob Metcalfe (Advocacy Level)- Mid Nth Coast
Home: 02 6582 6280
Email: bm60@tpg.com.au

Ray Westwell (L2) - Blue Mountains & Lithgow
Home: 02 6352 1945
Mob: 0404 489 734

John Ronan (L1) - Blue Mountains & Penrith
Home: 0405 817 747
Email: harley6@primus.com.au

Kevin Craven (L2) - Blue Mountains & Penrith
Home: 02 4736 6692
Mob 0407 391 761
Email: kfcraven@bigpond.com

John Staal (L2) - Sydney Northern Beaches.
Home: 02 9977 6872
Mob: 0407 003 932
Email: gstaal@bigpond.net.au

Geoff Raymond (L2) - Blue Mountains
Home: 02 4754 4327
Email: welfare@bmvets.com.au

Del Heuke (L2) - NSW Mid North Coast
Home: 02 6557 0779
Email: delinfred@optusnet.com.au

Terry Pracy (L2) - QLD Sunshine Coast
Home: 07 5448 2028
Email: g_gnome@bigpond.com

Rick Anthoney (L2) - Western Sydney
Home: 02 9831 1645
Email: ranthoney@bigpond.com

Robert St John (L3) - Northern Beaches
Home: 9949 3746
Email: benny_76@msn.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Again I thank Glenn Daly for standing in during my absence - it is an ongoing exercise.

Sue and I had a great time in Adelaide with ex-Malaya/Borneo mates from 3RAR. The current members of 5RAR made us former members very welcome for the presentation of their new colours. We were very impressed with the enthusiasm, turnout and drill on parade. The BBQ after the parade was most welcome along with the few cold tinnies and a chance to mix and chat with the diggers.

The open day at their Robertson Barracks with the display of weapons and equipment including firing on the electronic range was a bit of a buzz and gave us a real insight into current weapons, equipment and training in today's army.

The activities were finished off with a mixed formal dinner at the Sgts. Mess. A fitting climax to a great few days.

On the home front all is going well with the lead-up to our big day - Memorial Day - on the 17th August. This year being the 40th anniversary of the Battle of F.S.B. CORAL/BALMORAL our army's largest land battle since WW11.

Graham Glasson, having one Memorial Day preparation under his belt, has things running smoothly. All we need now is good weather for the day. Failing that we are much more prepared for wet weather. Contingency plans are in place after having experienced last year's wet.

Hope to see as many members as possible on the day. Remember, veterans wearing uniforms or medals have access to free public transport.

Jack Lake

President

Mid Year Raffle Results

1st Prize:	Rob Welsh	Ticket No. 17179	\$1000 gift voucher
2nd Prize:	Yvonne Kore	Ticket No. 10741	\$400 gift voucher
3rd Prize:	Pam Matheson	Ticket No. 17409	\$300 gift voucher

Raffle drawn at the Springwood Sports Club on Sunday, 13 July 2008.

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

17 August 2008

Memorial Day will begin with a parade, commencing at 1130 hours, starting adjacent to the Fire Station proceeding east along Macquarie Road to the Springwood War Memorial situated in Buckland Park.

Taking the salute from the dais, our Guest of Honour and guest speaker at the parade and service which follows will be Air Vice Marshal Mark Skidmore, Air Commander Australia. Air Vice Marshal Skidmore will also be representing Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston, AO, AFC, Chief of Defence.

The parade and service will be attended by various ex-service organizations supported by a number of regular Defence and Cadet units from the three service arms and a contingent from the Vietnamese community .

Chaplains from the three services will officiate at the commemorative service, held at the War Memorial, to honour those Veterans who made the supreme sacrifice.

The day concludes with the enactment of the ancient and time honoured ceremony "Beating the Retreat" performed at 1600 Hours by the Lithgow Pipe Band at the Cenotaph which will be followed by the ceremonial lowering and stowing of the flags performed by members of the Association and a representative of our Vietnamese friends.

Please invite your family and friends to view the parade and make a day of it.

Brian Day continues his series on Australian and other VC winners .

Lieutenant George Mawby Ingram V.C.

24th (Victoria) Bn Australian Imperial Force

On the 4th October 1918 the 24th Battalion had helped capture the Beurevoir sector and it was expecting to rest, but it was hurriedly organized to attack more strongly defended German positions. Early on the morning of 5th October the advance of the 24th Battalion began and it was not long before strong points and machine-gun nests were encountered.

[London Gazette, 6 January 1919], Montbrehain, France, 5 October 1918, Lieutenant George Mawby (Morby) Ingram, 24th (Victoria) Bn, Australian Imperial Force.

*****Citation*****

For most conspicuous bravery and initiative during the attack on Montbréhain, East of Peronne, on 5th October 1918. When early in the advance his platoon was held up by a strong point, Lieutenant Ingram, without hesitation, dashed out and rushed the post at the head of his men, capturing nine machine guns and killing 42 enemy after stubborn resistance. Later, when the company had suffered severe casualties from enemy posts, and many leaders had fallen, he at once took control of the situation, rallied his men under intense fire, and led them forward.

He himself rushed the first post, shot six of the enemy, and captured a machine gun, thus overcoming serious resistance. On two subsequent occasions he again displayed great dash and resource in the capture of enemy posts, inflicting many casualties and taking 62 prisoners. Throughout the whole day he showed the most inspiring example of courage and leadership, and freely exposed himself regardless of danger.

George Ingram was invested with his Victoria Cross by King George V at Buckingham Palace on the 15th February 1919.

George Ingram was born in Bendigo on 18 March 1889. He joined the 7th Company of the Australian Garrison of Artillery at the age of 14 years in 1903. He was part of the Australian Military contingent which went to New Zealand in 1906. He enlisted in the 3rd Battalion, Australian Military and Naval Expeditionary Force on 10 December 1914 and served in New Guinea at the beginning of WW1.

He was discharged as a Corporal on the 19 January 1916, joining the AIF the same day. He arrived in France in January 1917 as an acting Corporal. By the 18th March he was an acting Sergeant a week later at Bapaume he was awarded the Military Medal. The citation read, "For great courage and initiative as a member of a bombing party by the excellent placing of his bombs" On the 20th June he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant, being awarded the VC on 5 October 1918 at Montbrehain, East of Peronne, France.

In April 1919 George Ingram returned to Melbourne and on his discharge became General Foreman with E.A. and Frank Watts Pty Ltd, building contractors. During WWII he served with the Royal Australian Engineers and attained the rank of Captain. George Ingram died on the 30th June 1961 at his home in Hastings and was buried in Frankston Cemetery.

The Victoria Cross, Military Medal, and campaign medals awarded to Captain George Ingram, 24th (Victoria) Bn, Australian Imperial Force, have been sold at auction by Sotheby's of Melbourne for an approximate hammer price of AUS\$383,760 (£187,200). The purchaser of the group remains unknown but has indicated that the George Ingram Victoria Cross will be given to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

Brian Day

Welfare Waffles

The welfare scene is going along as normal, we have had a few more enquiries for assistance from some younger serving members, so the message regarding ESOs and the help we can offer is getting out there.

Now, here is an item that is of some interest. This was sent in by Bob Metcalfe a very welcome and prolific contributor.....Thanks Bob.

******IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THOSE RECEIVING DFRDB PENSIONS******

COMSUPER, the Department administering DFRDB, may have been taking the MEDICARE LEVY from DFRDB pensions of TPIs and those with a Gold Card who are entitled to free medical treatment. The process to have the MEDICARE LEVY deductions ceased is to provide the DFRDB Authority with a certified true copy of their Gold Card. On receipt, the DFRDB will take action to cease deducting the MEDICARE LEVY.

To recover the MEDICARE LEVY already deducted, individuals will need to take up their case with the Australian Taxation Office. I recommend that all TPIs and those with a Gold Cards that provide free medical treatment who are in receipt of a DFRDB pension contact the DFRDB Authority to ascertain their own situation.

DFRDB Authority: Telephone 1300 001 877
Postal Address: PO Box 22 BELCONNEN act 2616

TAXATION Office: Telephone 131020
Postal Address: GPO Box 5056 SYDNEY N.S.W. 2001

Geoff Raymond.

Be careful of reading health books, you may die of a misprint

ASSOCIATION 20th ANNIVERSARY PORT CROCKS, NECKTIES, CAPS & STUBBY HOLDERS

Association port crocks (\$30.00), neckties (\$20.00), caps (navy in colour with matching green association name embroidered or if you wish with an embroidered association logo, one size fits all \$10), screen printed association stubby holders (\$5), all inclusive of GST, are now available from the secretary.

Mail orders are very welcome. Please allow sufficient funds in your cheque/money order to cover postage.

BMVV&AF NEW QUALITY SHIRTS

Association new style quality embroidered poly-cotton polo style shirts with pockets (in 4 colours, white, light blue, navy and bottle green and in 3 sizes L, XL, and XXL \$25 inclusive of GST, are now available from the secretary during normal business hours 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday and Thursday only.

Mail orders are very welcome. Please allow sufficient funds in your cheque/money order to cover postage.



Your Host, Peter (Dit) Eston

**Enjoy a Break on the Beautiful
Sapphire Coast at Merimbula**

Colonial Cove Features:

**2 Bedroom Self Contained Units
Full Kitchen and Laundry
BBQ Area In a Garden Setting**

**Located in the Fish pen area
Between the Lake and the Ocean
Phone Dit for Bookings**

(02) 6495 2038

Special Rates in 'Off Season'

www.colonialcove.com

PADRE'S CORNER

Last time I talked about anniversaries and special Commemorations or services. Let's take that a step further and talk about pilgrimages - an old fashioned word which is associated with going to a particular place for a special observance or ceremony.

Since before written history began people have made special journeys to so - called 'Holy places'. The motivation has been quite varied, it ranges from superstition to devotion and seeking a special blessing or healing and quite often all of the above.

The ancient Celts or Druids have gone to Stonehenge; Christians down through the ages have flocked to any number of shrines and holy places; Muslims focus their pilgrimage on Mecca; while Hindus often seek to bathe in the Ganges and Buddhists will travel to worship and pray at particular centres of devotion from India to Japan. What about the modern Australian tourist visiting Europe or Asia? Don't most of us want to visit famous Cathedrals or Temples? Why? Is it just to look at the beauty of the architecture and decorations or are we subconsciously looking to experience some spiritual dimension?

Talking about Christian pilgrimages, we are all aware of the visit of the Pope for World Youth Day of the Roman Catholic Church. Now there is a modern pilgrimage and it is expected to be the largest gathering of a crowd of any kind in the history of our nation. Such gatherings and pilgrimages are great for the local economy, but more importantly they are great for the participants who can derive spiritual blessing, a sense of security and even of healing as they experience a perceived closer reality of Divine presence through ceremony and associated physical reminders or icons.

We all have a spiritual dimension. For some of us it is more obvious or demonstrative than others who keep it quiet, but it is there all the same. To get into close contact with our great God you don't necessarily have to go on a pilgrimage or make an outward show of worship, although this does help many people. We can come close to the almighty in a quiet and personal way through a response to Jesus, God's Son. He said:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mathew 11:28)

Now There's a personal invitation from the son of God to each of us. We all have troubles, problems, joys and fears and he invites us to lay them before him personally and he promises to help us deal with them. Isn't that as good as it gets?

Bill Wheeler
02 4754 4575



Invest just 60 minutes today to live the life you want tomorrow

As a BMVets member you can access this **free** service to review your finances and Superannuation.

As a Certified Financial Planner I can show you how much you're likely to retire with, given your current circumstances and how best to top up your savings and super, if you need to. As I am fully accredited in Centrelink and DVA regulations, I'll also show you how to make the most of any pension or tax concessions you may be entitled to. With expert financial planning advice you can create a better future and enjoy the life you want.

60 minutes could be the best investment you'll ever make.

Neville Barnier CFP, Dip FP Investment & Insurance Solutions Pty Ltd
19/2 O'Connell St PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Email: info@iisnet.com.au
Tel: 02 9891 3555
Fax: 02 9687 3733

*Authorised Representative of AMP Financial Planning Pty Limited
ABN 89 051 208 327,

I thought this might be an appropriate piece to include in this July/August edition leading up to our Memorial Day parade and memorial services on the 17 August 2008. This piece explains where 'The Ode' we all know comes from, and the original work from which it came.

THE "ODE"

The Ode comes from '**For the Fallen**', a poem by the English poet and writer Laurence Binyon and was published in London in the *Winnowing Fan*; *Poems of the Great War* in 1914. The fourth verse, which became the League Ode was already used in association with commemoration services in Australia in 1921.

FOR THE FALLEN

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children
 England mourns for her dead across the sea,
 Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
 Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
 Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,
 There is music in the midst of desolation
 And glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
 Straight of limb, true of eyes, steady and aglow,
 They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
 They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
 Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn
 At the going down of the sun and in the morning
 We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again,
 They sit no more at familiar tables of home,
 They have no lot in our labour of the daytime,
 They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires and hopes profound,
 Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
 To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
 As the stars are known to the night.

As the stars shall be bright when we are dust,
 Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
 As the stars that are stary in the time of our darkness,
 To the end, to the end, they remain.

NOTE:

Each year after Anzac Day and Remembrance Day debate rises on the word 'condemn' or 'contemn'. The Ode used is the fourth stanza of the poem *For the Fallen* by Laurence Binyon and was written in the early days of WW1. By mid September 1914, less than seven weeks after the outbreak of war, the British Expeditionary Force in France had already suffered severe casualties.

Long lists of the dead and wounded appeared in British newspapers. It was against this background the Binyon wrote *For the Fallen*. The poem was first published in *The Times* on 21 September 1914 using the word 'condemn'. Some people have suggested that the use of 'condemn' in *The Times* was a typographical error. However, *The Winnowing Fan*, published a month or two later and for which Binyon would have had galley proofs on which to mark amendments, 'condemn' was again used.

Binyon was a highly educated man and very precise in his use of words. There is no doubt that had he intended 'contemn', then it would have been used. Dr John Hatcher, who in 1955 published a biography of Binyon, does not refer to any doubt over condemn/contemn, despite devoting a solid chapter to *For the Fallen*.

The British Society of Authors, executors of the Binyon estate, says the word is definitely 'condemn', while the British Museum, where Binyon worked, says its memorial stone also shows 'condemn'.

Both expressed surprise when told there had been some debate about the matter in Australia. The condemn/contemn issue seems to be a distinctly Australian phenomenon. Inquiries with the British, Canadian and American Legions revealed that none had heard of the debate.

'Contemn' is not used in Binyon's published anthologies and the two volumes set Collected Poems, regarded as the definitive version of Binyon's poems, uses 'condemn'. The RSL handbook shows 'condemn' and a representative of the Australian War Memorial said it always used 'condemn' in its ceremonies.

Geoff Raymond

Source: <http://www.army.gov.au/history/ode.htm>



Vale

SQNL D David COOPER

D.O.B. 20/05/1936

D.O.D. 29/06/2008

Served in Malaya, Malaysia, Vietnam and PNG with RTFV and SUPFLT

Enlisted: 14/09/1954

Discharged: 11/02/1981

Lest We Forget



Vale

W.O.2 Roy ABNETT

D.O.B. 24/04/1944

D.O.D. 07/06/2008

Served in Malaya, Borneo, Thai Border and Vietnam (18/04/1967 - 16/04/1968)

Served with 3rd & 7th Battalions R.A.R.

Enlisted 07/08/1962

Discharged 07/08/1977

Associations Honorary Treasurer 1991 - 1994

Lest We Forget



Vale

SQNL D Chris SUGDEN

D.O.B. 03/04/1922

D.O.D. 28/03/2008

Served in New Guinea, Korea and Vietnam with 22 SQDN 77 SQDN and was the original Commanding Officer of RTVF (1964 - 1965)

Enlisted 28/04/1941

Discharged 18/04/1966

Lest We Forget

Fellow Vietnam Veterans,

The Patron of the Australian Veterans Vietnam Reconstruction Group, Mr Charlie Lynn, MLA, will host a dinner at NSW Parliament House in honour of all Vietnam Veterans on the 18th August 2008 titled "Salute to Vietnam Veterans Charity Dinner", with the intention of raising much needed funds to assist the AVVRG (a licensed NGO), to continue to provide humanitarian aid and environmental solutions to the impoverished people of Vietnam within the Ba Ria/Vung Tau Province and in major hospitals in Ho Chi Minh City.

A number of high profile guests have been invited including Col Joye, Little Pattie and Normie Rowe, who have all signalled their willingness to attend, as well as actual participants in the Battle of Long Tan. If any of your members wish to attend they may contact the AVVRG NSW Sub-committee President, Mr Kerry Phelan at kerry.phelan@gmail.com or mobile 404334663

Vietnam Veterans Day at the Long Tan Cross- 2008; As the AVVRG is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Long Tan Cross, I will be personally attending the 41st anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in Vietnam on the 18th of August. Should any of your members wish to join me, they may contact me at kevinferwin@yahoo.com.au or on my mobile 0412873271.

I respectfully ask you to disseminate this information amongst your members.

Thank you,
Kevin Erwin
President Australian Veterans Vietnam Reconstruction Group

VOLUNTEER LAWN MAINTENANCE SERVICE

We are **desperately** in need of volunteers living within the Blue Mountains / lower Mountains area, who can give about one day a week or fortnight, to **supervise work-for-the-dole participants** with lawn maintenance for needy disabled veterans and war widows.

You won't need to bring any tools as all equipment and transport will be supplied by the Association.

If you are able to help please telephone Peter Jones on (02) 4751 8833.

Requests for lawns to be mowed can be made through the office on (02) 4751 8528, however, if you would like more information please call Peter Jones.

*An elephant is a mouse,
built to Government specifications*

McPHEE KELSHAW,
Solicitors, Attorneys, & Conveyancers

Suite 1, The Old Bakery Arcade,
170 Macquarie Road,
Springwood NSW 2777

Telephone (02) 47511055

Facsimile (02) 47515668

(honorary solicitors to this association)

*For all your stationery, computer
consumables
& office furniture you can rely on*

Office
CHOICE
SPRINGWOOD

*Kevin Blakelock (ex Vung Tau ferry)
of Office Choice Springwood,
3 Raymond Mall, Raymond Road,
Springwood.*

Telephone (02) 4751 5360 Facsimile (02) 47515946

Remembering the Battles of Fire Support Bases "Coral" and "Balmoral", Vietnam

(Article sourced from the AWM & diggerhistory website)

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Battle of F.S.B. CORAL/BALMORAL our army's largest land battle since WW11.

During the "Mini-Tet" offensive mounted by Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces in May 1968, the 1st Australian Task Force deployed two battalions to an area twenty kilometers north of Bien Hoa city to intercept and disrupt the approach of enemy forces towards the capital, Saigon, or the Bien Hoa-Long Binh base complex. Several fire support bases (FSBs) were established to provide defended firing points for artillery and mortars which would cover foot patrols to be sent out by the battalions (1 and 3 RAR). One of these FSBs was dubbed "Coral", situated seven kilometres north of the town of Tan Uyen.

Occupation of Coral was begun on 12 May, but the defences remained unfinished when, at about 3.30 am on 13 May, it was attacked following a brief but intense rocket and mortar barrage. The 1RAR mortar platoon position was overrun, along with one of the 102 Field Battery's six 105 mm M2A2 howitzers in the base. With the aid of extensive air support, the attack was beaten off by 6.30 am and the captured gun-pit was retaken - still with the gun in it (this howitzer is now in the Memorial's collection).

At 2.15 am on 16 May Coral again came under attack, this time from a North Vietnamese Army (NVA) force estimated at three battalions strong. The base was now defended by armoured personnel carriers of A Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, and 1RAR's rifle companies, all of which were heavily engaged; part of the A Company position was occupied for a period, but the enemy was forced to withdraw. The attack was repelled after four hours of fighting, with the Australians having suffered five men killed and nineteen wounded. Two members of an American battery which had reinforced the base were also wounded. Only 34 enemy bodies were recovered, but blood trails and drag marks indicated that many more casualties had been removed.

On 22 May Coral was subjected to yet another rocket and mortar barrage, but this time the NVA troops were dispersed by return fire from 1RAR's mortars as they formed up to attack. Although there were further bombardments on 26 and 28 May, and patrols sent out from the base came into contact with the enemy, Coral was not seriously threatened again. During fighting on 26 May the base's defenders even turned the tables on the NVA by sending a troop of Centurion tanks from C Squadron, 1st Armoured Regiment (which had arrived as reinforcements

Cont' Page 11

IMPORTANT

Due to Privacy Laws hospitals are not permitted to tell our Welfare Officers if there are any Members or Vets admitted. PLEASE, if you know of any Members or Vets ill or admitted to a hospital contact our Office, any of our Committee or Welfare Officers in your area so we can organize visits etc. If you are ill or admitted please have a family member or Service mate contact us for any support that may be required.

T.F.B

Tom & Fiona Brownjohn Funeral Services

73A Lurline Street, Katoomba NSW

Burials & Cremations, Local, Interstate and Overseas

24 Hour Personal Service

7 DAYS A WEEK

**NEED TO JOIN A FUNERAL FUND OR
MAKE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ?**

Then talk to **Fiona Brownjohn**, formerly manager of Wood Coffill Funerals, Katoomba. Fiona, husband Tom and staff will professionally attend to your every wish.

telephone: (02) 4782 2613, (02) 4782 5516

Proudly Australian Owned & Operated

three days earlier), outside the perimeter wire with infantry support; these engaged and destroyed most of a NVA bunker system that had been discovered. Nine Australians were killed and 28 wounded, while the attackers lost more than the 52 bodies they left behind. Enemy efforts on 26 May were primarily focused on another FSB named "Balmoral", which was established about 4.5 kilometers further north on 24-25 May by 3RAR supported by tanks. The defenders easily threw back assaults launched against Balmoral on 26 and 28 May. On the latter occasion, the attacking NVA regiment lost at least 42 killed and seven prisoners, but again casualties were thought to have been higher. One Australian was killed and six wounded.

Australian & New Zealand Units involved

- 1st Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) (Infantry and supports)
- 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR) (Infantry and supports)
- 102 Field Battery, 12 Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery (105mm howitzers)
- 161 Field Battery, Royal New Zealand Artillery (attached 12 Field Regiment RAA) (105mm howitzers)
- A Squadron 3 Cavalry Regiment, Royal Australian Armoured Corps (Armoured Personnel Carriers)
- C Squadron 1st Armoured Regiment, Royal Australian Armoured Corps (Centurion tanks)
- 104 Squadron Royal Australian Corps of Signals
- 61 (Independent) Recce Flight

Roll of Honour

Rank	Initials & Surname	Unit	Date KIA
Pte	D.E. Abbott	1RAR	30-May-68
Pte	E.J. Bailey	1RAR	13-May-68
Pte	L.N. Brown	3RAR	26-May-68
Pte	A.J. Cooper	3RAR	26-May-68
Cpl	I. K. Dawson	1RAR	14-May-68
Pte	J. W. Desnoy	3RAR	26-May-68
Cpl	R.B. Hickey	1RAR	13-May-68
Sgt	P. E. Lewis	3RAR	13-May-68
Pte	R. L. McNab	1RAR	13-May-68
L/Cpl	W.H.Martin	1 RAR	16-May-68
Pte	C. R. Nisbet	1RAR	14-May-68
Pte	J.A. O'Brien	1RAR	13-May-68
Cpl	J.G. Pearce	1RAR	14-May-68
Gnr	C.J. Sawtell	12 Fd Regt	13-May-68
Gnr	I.J. Scott	12 Fd Regt	13-May-68
Pte	L.R. Sheppard	1RAR	13-May-68
Pte	W. M. Thomas	3RAR	26-May-68
Pte	B. M. Trimble	1RAR	13-May-68
Pte	A.J. Wallis	1RAR	16-May-68
Pte	R.C. Watson	1RAR	13-May-68
Pte	H.W. White	1RAR	16-May-68
Cpl	J.H. Whitton	1RAR	13-May-68
Pte	J.T. Worle	3RAR	28-May-68
Sig	A.H. Young	104 Sig Sqn	16-May-68
Pte	B.T. Young	1RAR	16-May-68

Lest We Forget

1st Platoon Rifleman Wing, School of Infantry, Singleton Sponsorship

Our sponsorship of 1st Platoon Rifleman Wing, School of Infantry, Singleton is going well and as you can see by the photo below there are smiles all round. The photo was taken on the 22nd May during their 7th week of training; in this particular case at the "Urban Assault" training facility. Time permitting there is sometimes an opportunity to try your hand at the indoor range (computer generated) with the new weapons.

We would like to have as many of our members as possible attend these visits. There are three visits per course and members who are interested are advised that for continuity purposes they should ideally be available for all three two day visits on any given course. The three visits are to various training areas on the first two occasions and the third is the "March Out", where we make a presentation of an award for the "Most improved Soldier".

The timetable of these courses are known well in advance, and accommodation and meals are provided by the Sergeants Mess where you are made to feel very welcome indeed and I can assure you that you will enjoy yourself.



From L to R, Bob Walker, Geoff Raymond and Peter Mitchell with the 1st Platoon Rifleman Wing School of Infantry

INTERESTED IN HELPING LEGACY?

Blue Mountains Division of Sydney Legacy is in desperate need of Legatees to service the Blue Mountains area. Legacy was founded in 1926 by returned servicemen to care for the dependants of deceased comrades who served Australia in any operational area; those who were killed in action or who have since died.

Interested ?, please contact Trish Townsend (02) 4751 5994. Monday to Thursday only

During a visit to a mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director "How do you determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalised?"

"Well" said the Director "we fill up a bathtub then offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub". "Oh, I understand" said the visitor "a normal person would use the bucket because it is the largest and would be the quickest".

"No" said the Director "A normal person would pull the plug. Would you like a bed by the window?"

DISCLAIMER: This newsletter is produced for the membership of the Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces Inc., complimentary copies are distributed to interested parties. **Contact!** is written with care, in good faith and from sources believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Readers should not, however, act nor refrain from acting, solely on the basis of information in this newsletter about financial, taxation or any other matter. Readers, having regard to their own particular circumstances, should consult the relevant authorities or other advisers with expertise in the particular field. Neither the Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces Inc., nor the management committee or editor, accept any responsibility for actions taken by readers.