



Australian Navy in Vietnam Veterans' Welfare Association of Western Australia Inc.



NEWSLETTER

OUR NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING WILL BE AT 1200 ON MONDAY 14th MARCH 2010 AT THE SWAN YACHT CLUB, RIVERSIDE RD, EAST FREMANTLE.

Chairman's Report – March 2011

Sometimes we get some nice little surprises in the office. I mentioned in the last Newsletter that our Office Staff had not been granted the full travel allowances they were entitled to last year. Back in August last year, I lodged an appeal with DVA hoping to get the balance for our staff. Nothing happened for a long time, and I called DVA in South Australia where the BEST Grant is administered from on several occasions, only to get the usual run around, Such as "Nothing can happen as the Government is in a care taker due to the federal Elections. etc, etc." Well Lo and Behold, a couple of weeks ago, we received approval for the back payment of our travel expenses that we had incurred. This made for a nice little bonus for the troops as they trudge back to work in the Office.

I know there are such things as Guardian Angels, because we have some looking after us. To all of you out there who responded so magnificently to my appeal for a donation, I cannot thank you enough. Things are looking good for us now and we can progress with our work of helping you, and other Veterans without fear of financial difficulties. Your support and well wishes via donations, Christmas cards, and letters are all the thanks we need, and the motivation for us to keep going.

I would also like to say thank you, to those of you who turned up to our Memorial Re-dedication day on the 30th November last year, up on Monument Hill in Fremantle. As usual the Royal Australian Navy provided a ceremonial guard and flag party and the service was conducted by Chaplain Duncan Bearchi of the RAN.

I am also very pleased to announce that we have a new Patron. He is Captain Brett Wolski, ADC, RAN, Commanding Officer HMAS STIRLING. Captain Wolski replaces Captain Brett Dowsing, RAN, who has been posted overseas.

MARCH 2011

Some important news for you to remember, please write this down in your diary. Our AGM will be held on May 23rd 2011 at the Swan Yacht Club at 1200.

The reason for the early elections is that several of our currently elected office bearers will be away from early June and would not be able to attend the AGM.

There will be no printed newsletter for June, so this month you will get two pages of jokes to make up for it. For those of you who are on our email list a reminder will be sent out to you about the AGM date sometime in early May.

As you are aware our Official Motto is "Care and Support for all Veterans." Sometimes the going gets a bit tough, so next time you are in our Office, you might see our "Unofficial Motto" hanging on the wall. Just cut this out, or print it and stick it on the fridge. It might just give you a laugh, and help you through the day.



Peter Denver
Chairman

Thought for the Day

"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a piece of shit by the clean end."

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH US.

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ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

Did you know that we have our own website? You can find it at www.ranveteranswelfare.asn.au

When you get some time go into the site and have a look around. Our Webmaster Tic Toc does a fantastic job of keeping it up to date. He is always looking for interesting items to include on our website. So if you have items of interest, be it Army, Navy or RAAF, please feel free to forward them onto him.

ANZAC DAY – Monday 25 APRIL 2011

Our Association will be marching through the streets of Fremantle again this year. The Parade route starts and ends at the Esplanade Park in Marine Terrace and is just over 1 Km in length. Step off time will be at 1015, so you will need to be there no later than 1000 to form up. All Veterans are invited to march with us if they wish, if you don't have a specific Banner to march under. Look for the Blue and Gold Australian Navy in Vietnam Banner.

On completion of the march, there will be a brief address and closing ceremony by Fremantle dignitaries. We are hoping to have a limited number of parking vouchers for the car parks at either end of the Esplanade Park for those participating in the March. If we do get them, they will be issued out on a first come first serve basis. So if you will need one, please advise our office staff, and we will mail you one out if, and when we get them.

On completion of the march, it has now become tradition for us to make our way with our families to the Swan Yacht Club on Riverside Road, East Fremantle, and is opposite Leeuwin Barracks. For those of you have not been to the Swan Yacht Club before, it is an excellent family venue, where meals and drinks can be purchased at very reasonable prices.

We also take part in the ANZAC DAY Ceremony at the Club, which involves a very short March around the Club, and a brief Service.

Following that, the Midland City Brass Band always puts on a fantastic free afternoon of music for all to enjoy. The Swan Yacht Club has been a very strong supporter of our Association, and other Veteran Associations for many years. We are deeply grateful to the Commodore Mr Dean Furness, The Committee, and Management of the SYC who go out of their way to make our day memorable.

Once again we will be running our raffle at the Club as a fund raiser, and we need donations of new items that we can raffle off. So if any of you have any unwanted left over Christmas presents, or gifts that you have received that you will never use, please don't leave them in the cupboard somewhere. Perhaps some of you have contacts with a business or a retail outlet who would be willing to donate an item for us to raffle. Please contact us and we will arrange to pick them up, providing of course you live in the Perth Metro area. This is one of our Major fund raisers for the year. Please help us with your donations, all you have to do is call us at the Office and we will do the rest.

Floods, Fires and Cyclones

Recently we have seen the East Coast ravaged by floods and cyclones, whilst here in the West we have had some devastating bushfires. It just goes to show the true colours of the Aussies, that in times of crisis, we band together as one to help out our mates. Even if we don't know who we are helping. Watching the various emergency services and the ADF swing into action to assist those affected by these catastrophes makes me very proud to be an Aussie. These people do a magnificent job and all of them are heroes.

It is also a timely reminder that even if you think it won't happen to you, you need to be prepared for an emergency evacuation from your home.

Know where all your valuables and documents are stored, either in a box, a container or an envelope so that you can grab them quickly if necessary.

Keep a good first aid kit, torches and spare batteries, a couple of bottles of water, a small radio, and other essentials in a grab bag ready to go.

If you can afford home and contents insurance, make sure you know exactly what you are covered for. Please remember homes can be rebuilt, so if you are told to go by authorities, grab your valuables and get out. If you hang around you put your life in danger and those of potential rescuers.

An old guy was in Woolworths the other day pushing his trolley around when he accidentally bumped into a younger guy also pushing a trolley.

He said to the young guy, "Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going."

The young guy says, "That's OK. It's just a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate. The old guy said, "Well, maybe we can help each other. What does your Wife look like?"

The young guy says, "Well, she is 24 years old, tall, with long blonde hair, green eyes, long legs, big boobs and she's wearing tight white shorts, a halter top and no bra. What does your wife look like?"

The old guy said, "Doesn't matter. Let's look for yours." Most old men are helpful like that!!

*** POOF* and the light goes off**

An 86-year-old man goes for a physical. All of his test results come back normal.

The doctor says, " Gary everything looks great. How are you doing mentally and emotionally? Are you at peace with God?"

Gary replies, "God and I are tight. He knows I have poor eyesight, so he's fixed it so when I get up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom, *poof* the light goes on. When I'm done, *poof* the light goes off."

"Wow, that's incredible," the doctor says.

A little later in the day, the doctor calls Gary's wife. "Marianne, he says, Gary is doing fine but I had to call you because I'm in awe of his relationship with God. Is it true that he gets up during the night and *poof * the light goes on in the bathroom, and when he's done, *poof* the light goes off?"

"OH MY GOD!" Marianne exclaims. "He's peeing in the refrigerator again!!!!"

Dear God, my prayer for 2011 is for a fat bank account & a thin body.

Please don't mix these up like you did last year. AMEN.

This one is for everyone who.....

- a) has kids
- b) had kids
- c) was a kid
- d) knows a kid
- e) is going to have kids.

I guess that means all of us!!

DADDY'S GONNA EAT YOUR FINGERS

I was packing for a business trip and my three year old daughter was having a wonderful time playing on the bed. At one point she said, 'Daddy, look at this' and stuck out two of her fingers.

Trying to keep her entertained, I reached out and stuck her tiny fingers in my mouth and said, 'Daddy's gonna eat your fingers,' pretending to eat them. I went back to packing, looked up again and my daughter was standing on the bed staring at her fingers with a devastated look on her face.

I said, 'What's wrong, honey?'

She replied, 'What happened to my booger?'

To Be 6 Again!

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off he asked what she'd like to have for her birthday. 'I'd like to be six again', she replied, still looking in the mirror. On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Fruit Loops, and then took her to Disneyworld theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was. Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake. Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted.

He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, 'Well Dear, what was it like being six again?'

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed. 'I meant my dress size, you f*#&\$@ retard!!!!'

The moral of the story: Even when a man is listening, he is still gonna get it wrong.

THE MIRACLE OF TOILET PAPER

Fresh from my shower, I stand in front of the mirror complaining to my husband that my breasts are too small.. Instead of characteristically telling me it's not so, he uncharacteristically comes up with a suggestion.

If you want your breasts to grow, then every day take a piece of toilet paper and rub it between them for a few seconds.' Willing to try anything, I fetch a piece of toilet paper and stand in front of the mirror, rubbing it between my breasts. 'How long will this take?' I asked.

They will grow larger over a period of years,' my husband replies.

I stopped. 'Do you really think rubbing a piece of toilet paper between my breasts every day will make my breasts larger over the years?'

Without missing a beat he says, "Worked for your 'bum', didn't it?"

He's still alive, and with a great deal of therapy, he may even walk again, although he will probably continue to take his meals through a straw.

Stupid, stupid man.

The Aussie farmer

A man owned a small farm in Australia. The Taxation Department determined he was not paying proper wages to his staff and sent an investigator out to interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them!", demanded the investigator.

"Well," replied the farmer, "there's my farm hand who's been with me for three years. I pay him \$500 a week plus free room and board.

"The cook has been here for 18 months, and I pay her \$480 per week plus free room and board."

"Then there's the halfwit. He works about 18 hours every day and does about 90% of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 a week. He pays his own room and board, and I buy him a bottle of whiskey every Saturday night. He also sleeps with my wife occasionally."

"That's the guy I want to talk to ...the halfwit!" said the agent. "That would be me," replied the farmer.

JOKE OF THE YEAR

Two women were sitting quietly together, minding their own business.

Mexican Oysters

A big Texan stopped at a local restaurant following a day roaming around in Mexico City.

While sipping his tequila, he noticed a sizzling, scrumptious looking platter being served at the next table. Not only did it look good, the smell was wonderful.

"What is that you just served?" he asked the waiter.

"Ah senior, you have excellent taste!" the waiter replied. "Those are called Cojones de Toro, bull's testicles from the bull fight this morning. A delicacy!"

"What the heck, bring me an order."

"I am so sorry senior," the waiter replied. "There is only one serving per day because there is only one bull fight each morning. If you come early and place your order, we will be sure to save you this delicacy!"

The next morning, the cowboy returned, placed his order, and that evening was served the one and only special delicacy of the day. After a few bites, inspecting his platter, he called to the waiter.

"These are delicious, but they are much, much smaller than the ones I saw you serve yesterday."

The waiter shrugged his shoulders.

"Si, Senior. Sometimes the bull wins..."

Breast Feeding

A bloke was sitting on a bus when a gorgeous woman next to him starts breastfeeding her baby.

The baby won't take it so she says, "Come on, eat it all up or I'll give it to this nice man here." Ten minutes later, the baby is still not feeding so she says again, "Eat it all up or I'll give it to this nice man here."

The bloke says, "Listen, love, can you make your bloody mind up, I should've got off four stops ago!"

And the Truth shall set you Free!!

Wife asks husband, "How many women have you slept with?"

Husband proudly replies, "Only you, Darling - With all the others, I was awake."

Hospital Visiting Hours are 10 am to 4 PM