

'Paludrine Parade'



Official Newsletter of the Royal Australian Army Service Corps
Vietnam Supply Platoons Association

Patron: MAJGEN David McLachlan AO (Rtd). Web Site: <http://raascsupply.asn.au/>

Wollongong reunion a huge success!

Issue No: 37
December, 2014

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They came from the north, the west and they came from the south. Forty plus members of the association travelled far and wide to arrive on the east coast of NSW at Wollongong for the 2014 reunion. The reunion ran from Mon 27 to Fri 31 October, a five day itinerary that was designed to please everyone and please everyone it did. Barry and Bridget Carroll had done a brilliant job in organising this years reunion. Most members stayed at the Wollongong Surf Leisure Resort in Fairy Meadow, just across the road from the Towradgi Beach Hotel, the venue for many of our Meet & Greets, BBQ's and our formal dinner. The itinerary for the 2014 reunion included a visit to the historical Fleet Air Arm Museum at HMAS Albatross in Nowra. There was a visit to the famous blowhole in Kiama. The Nan Tien Buddhist Temple, located on the

southern outskirts of Wollongong was another favorite. There were visits to the Albion Park RSL, where we had a few lunches and this was also the site of our plaque laying ceremony and church service. There were many other things that members did as individuals which included walks in nearby national parks as well as sightseeing trips to see nearby features such as the Sea Cliff Bridge. Our big finale was the Corps Dinner, a great feed and addresses by both Geoff and Leonie Christopherson. The raffle prizes were great and who could forget Bob Denner entertaining everyone with jokes and some rather far fetched stories! By Friday it was all over, with a few gathered for a farewell lunch at the Towradgi pub. It was great week of get-togethers which left everyone looking forward to our next adventure in 2016. Photos of the reunion are shown over the next few pages of this Reunion Edition.

Welcome to our New President

Hi everyone. I'm Ken Taylor and have been asked to give a little of my background. I had almost finished my apprenticeship in 1969 when I was called up. I went to Wagga for basic training and my platoon won the pass out parade. That gave me a great feeling for what was coming, as I was very apprehensive of service in the Army. Off to Puckapunyal for Corps training and into the RAASC as a driver/forklift operator. I was posted to 186 Air Dispatch in Sydney and thought my life in the Army was going to be just great. Little did I

Ken Taylor
25 Sup Pl - HQ 5 Coy
9/01/1971 - 4/11/1971

know that one day, I was loading the supply ship 'Jeparit' for Vietnam, and the next—I would be unloading it on a posting to 25 Supply Platoon, Vung Tau! I have made lifetime friends in the Army and have great enjoyment when we all get together at our reunions. After Army service, I went back to being a cabinet maker, but it took me many years to settle down. Finally however, I became a specialist in my trade. I'm retired now and share my life with a wonderful lady; Marilyn. Well—I think that just about covers it. Not bad for someone who doesn't like to talk about himself. Marilyn and I are already



Ken and Marilyn Taylor, at the dedication service held at the Albion Park RSL during the 2014 Wollongong reunion.

looking forward to being part of the team and we both would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and the New Year to come.

2014/2016 Committee and State Representatives

Executive Office Bearers:

President Ken Taylor
 Vice President Denny van Maanenberg
 Secretary Russ Morison
 Treasurer David Evans

Membership
 Welfare Manager Christina Luff

Newsletter Editor Denny van Maanenberg

Committee
 Member Ray Brown

Public Officer Currently Vacant

Regional Executive Members:

North Queensland Tony Simon (in absentia)
 Brisbane and Environs Don Noy
 Gold Coast Don Noy
 NSW Country Bob Denner
 Sydney Metro Barry Carroll
 South Australia Noel Schluter (in absentia)
 Victoria Tony Galea (in absentia)
 Tasmania Glen Breaden
 Western Australia Graeme and Maria Sherriff

2016 Perth WA Reunion Organiser Graeme and Maria Sherriff

New Vice President



Denny and Jenny van Maanenberg enjoying the Minnamurra Rainforest in the Budderoo National Park during the 2014 Wollongong Reunion

Hi folks, Denny van Maanenberg here. May I say that I'm honoured to take on the position of vice President. My wife Jenny and I have been fortunate enough to have attended reunions in Albury, Phillip Island and of course Wollongong. We've enjoyed every one of them and like the rest of the crew, we're looking forward to Perth in 2016. I've been asked to put something of a bio together. Not much to say really. I joined the Bendigo which had and a company. Had such a great time that a year later, joined the ARA. Was allocated RAASC because of my CMF time and did my Corps training in Sydney. My first posting was to 852 Sup Dep Pl in Wewak, Papua New Guinea. That was a real culture shock, but I really enjoyed it up there. A year later, a posting order arrived sending me to 9 Tpt Coy in Townsville for pre-Vietnam training. Before I knew it, I was at Det 52 Sup Pl in Nui Dat. Did my year there in 69/70, came home and in 1973, changed over to RACT and had a variety of post-

**Denny van Maanenberg
 Det 52 Sup Pl
 9/04/1969-9/04/1970**

ings in Queenscliff, Townsville and Melbourne as either a Clerk Admin, Postie or Movements Clerk. Got out of the Army 1976 and joined the Victoria Police, but stayed on in the Army Reserve. Did a total of 22 years of army service and loved every minute of it. Now retired and enjoying life. We've kept busy. Jenny and I do a bit of caravanning and my other love is motorcycles. Not surprisingly, I joined up with the Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club—Gippsland Chapter and am currently the Chapter Secretary. I look forward to playing an active role in the future development of our association. **DVM**

Old unit rock in a hard place still visible after 40 years!

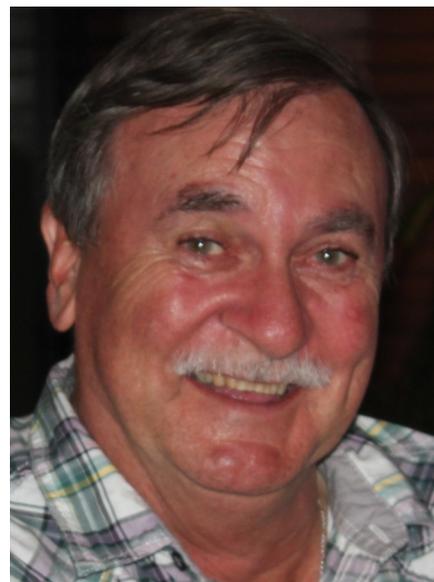
Here's a bit of Vietnam history for you. Some of the many visitors that return to Vietnam over recent years, find some rather incredible relics. One ex-RAASC member found himself wandering about the old sites in Nui Dat where Det 52 Sup Pl, Det 8 Pet Pl, the Cash Office and several other TFMA units were located. He stumbled across a rock, still clearly marked with the RAASC Corps colours and the unit name still legible. Amazing to have the paint work survive some 40 years of tropical weather. Would have been nice to have it shipped home, but the excess baggage costs would have been rather excessive. Not quite sure of who our photographer was, but thanks for sending it to us. Nice to have as a bit of history from a long time ago. (Editor).



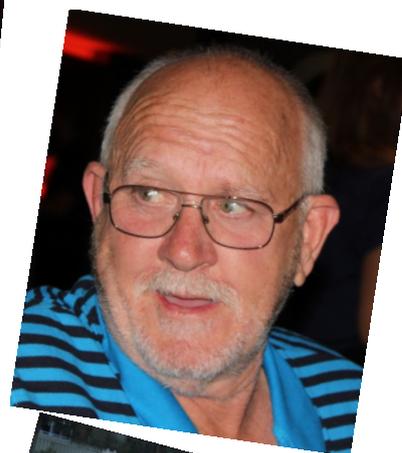
Presidents Christmas Message

Firstly on behalf of your newly appointed Executive, I want to take the opportunity to offer warm wishes for the Christmas season to you and your loved ones. Christmas provides a time for us to reflect on and take time out for our families or for those who are very dear to us. I hope that you can just take a little time out from the celebrations, a little time away from the dinner table and enjoy the people and things around us. We will continue to pay the bills, get the newsletter out etc, and keep things ticking along. Our Association is a small one. We are fortunate to have good guys in each State representing the Association, and we aim to track down and encourage other guys and their partners to join us. We have over 500 RAASC guys that served with us in the Companies and Platoons, and if you add in our wonderful wives/partners—well, the possibilities are endless. Marilyn and I have always enjoyed the fellowship of our Association, and its many members. We look forward to each of the reunions which are always good fun and

plenty of sharing etc. At the Phillip Island reunion, we made a conscious decision to include our partners in our membership. Early in our history, our reunions were 'blokes affairs' with a distinct military flavour. That suits some, but not others. We appreciate the work of Barry and Bridgett Carroll in organising our reunion in Wollongong just recently. The photos show just what a great time was had by all. Don't you think? Now that we are going to include our ladies into our membership fold, I think that it would be a good idea if they could have some kind of input into future reunions e.g. What type of things they would like to do. It is a bit late for the Perth reunion as things are rolling along nicely, but to the future. We thought the Plaque Laying initiative continues to hold an important place in our reunion and appreciate the new initiative with the Table of Remembrance offered at our Corps Dinner. So many have passed on and we must rejoice in and remember their service to our great Nation. We have had several of our number pass on; we were asked to help a lonely supply veteran in Melbourne. Although



not a member, some months before passing he asked for help to have his wishes recognised. Two of our Victoria members, Geoff Christopherson and Denny, our new VP, were able to help fulfil his wishes. We also lost stalwart veteran Bob Cooper. Rest in Peace. For the rest of you, reach out to our other comrades and welcome them into the fellowship of the Association. In conclusion, I wish you all Happy Christmas, travel safely, and enjoy your family and friends.
Ken and Marilyn Taylor.





Want to see the WW1 & WW2 critical sites in France, Belgium & Germany? Then read on.....

Our secretary, Russell Morrison is seeking expressions of interest for a European bound trip to explore the history of our WW1 and WW2 forbears in the UK and Western Europe in 2015. The end result will depend on what members want to see, but to keep prices down, Russell hopes to make it a self drive tour. Some examples of what participants could do include a WW1 self guided tour to northern France and Belgium, Fromelles and Pozieres and other significant sites where Australian troops fought. There are also significant WW2 sites which would include the Normandy Beaches, Falaise Pocket, German bunker systems and V1-V2 rocket sites. Then of course it's over to Germany to check out the military sites of Berlin, Munich and possibly a trip to Folkestone UK for a military and vintage equipment festival. Timings are not critical, but many official events are happening in western Europe, especially around ANZAC Day. So if your are interested, then feel free to contact Russ on either (02) 6292 7567 or 0408 947 935 to discuss further.

Picture on right: Shows WW2 American troops raising the French flag on the Eiffel tower in Paris, shortly after the Normandy landings.



At our Corps Dinner, a place was set for those no longer able to be with us. The items on the table were very symbolic, with each item having a special meaning. In addition to those already mentioned within this Newsletter, it is with some sadness that we report the passing of two soldiers who served in our supply platoons.

310358 Staff Sergeant

James Robert BARBER GM, RAAOC,

Born in London, England on the 7th March, 1930.

SSGT Barber served with 25 Supply Platoon, Vung Tau in South Vietnam between the 10th September, 1968 and the 3rd of September, 1969. He was awarded the George Medal for bravery for saving life during an explosion in Vietnam on the 3rd October, 1969.

218271 Private

Henryk Stefan FABISIAK, RAASC.

Born in Germany on the 6th May, 1949.

PTE Fabisiak served with Det 52 Supply Platoon in Nui Dat, South Vietnam between 10th January, 1971 and the 5th May 1971 before being transferred to 5 Company RAASC in Vung Tau, where he served from the 5th May, 1971 to the 30th September, 1971.



Remember these? If anyone has some old Military Payments Certificates, (MPC), I'd b happy to publish them in the next edition of PP. (Editor).



In the next edition of Paludrine Parade we intend publishing more photos of our committee members and State representatives. In the meantime, here's Barry Carroll (left) our NSW rep and David Evans, our ever smiling Treasurer.



**DISCUSSION
PAPER**

**RAASC VSPA 2016
REUNION PERTH
Suggested
ITINERARY**

Proposed Dates: Mon 2nd May, to Fri 6th May, 2016

ACCOMMODATION:	Suggested venue is the Travelodge Hotel. 8 nights @ \$120.00 per night.	
SAT 30th April	Train travelers arrive in Perth - FREE DAY	
SUN 1st MAY	0930-1430	OPTIONAL: Tour 1 – Swan Valley with Sweet Treats. \$57.50 PP.
MON 2ND MAY	0900-1100 1100 1230-1500 1500	FREE TIME Commencement of formal 2016 Reunion events. Registration Lunch – Anzac House Free Time
TUE 3RD MAY	0900-1600	Tour 2 – Mandurah/Cruise estuary/Kings Park \$66 PP.
WED 4TH MAY	0900-1600	Tour 3 – Fremantle/Barrack St. Cruise. \$60 PP.
THU 5TH MAY	0900-1400 1400-1430 1500-1730 1800	FREE TIME Service (yet to be determined) AGM Dinner – Anzac House
FRI 6TH MAY	0900-1100 1200-1430	FREE TIME Lunch – Anzac House or Hillarys (Bus) Air travelers and those with caravans etc depart to do their own thing.
SAT 7TH MAY	FREE DAY	
SUN 8TH MAY	Train travelers depart for Adelaide.	

NB: The dates coincide with Indian Pacific Train arrival and departure times. Tours require a minimum of 30 people

PLEASE NOTE: This suggested itinerary is not set in concrete. It is a suggested program only and is open for discussion, suggestions and any further ideas. However, the suggested dates for our 2016 reunion are reasonably firm.

We need to know what members intentions are for 2016. Whilst it is early days – we would like an idea of how many members may be attending the 2016 reunion. There is a tentative submission form on the last page of the Newsletter, we would like you to fill in and forward to Christina by the end of this year.
See last page for details.



RAASC VIETNAM SUPPLY PLATOONS ASSOCIATION (VSPA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 OCT 2014 AT WOLLONGONG

Present: As per listing

Apologies: Bruce Manning, Irene Chaplin, Tony and Liz Galea, Brian Stephenson, Denis and Lenore Cowling, Bob Metcalf, Marty and Jessica Ansen

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - held at Albion Park RSL Sub-Branch.

Purpose:

1. Confirm the business of previous meeting at Cowes in 21 Mar 2013,
2. Update the members on any general business being undertaken in the name of the association including our Executive reports.
3. To elect a committee and other sub committees as required to maintain and strengthen the association.

Bob Denner introduced the AGM, reminding us of some of those key members; the two retired Generals, and President Bruce and Membership Secretary Christina who were unable to make the meeting.

1. Previous meeting at Cowes in 21 Mar 2013 - three main issues:

Firstly, we agreed we would lay an Association Plaque at Dorrigo, Vietnam Veterans Day in Aug 2013. We have previously agreed to lay a plaque at each reunion as a cost to Association funds.

Secondly, we offered three-year memberships which includes spouses/partners, in addition to the single year memberships. The aim is to save Christina administrative time and money, and involve our ladies who support us and treat them as equal members with equal voting rights..

Thirdly, we discussed the location and frequency of our reunions, and appointment of teams to plan and run each event. At Cowes we agreed to the Wollongong reunion.

Fourthly, we held our regular elections. Bruce indicated that if anyone else was prepared to set up a new Executive, we would give every assistance for that to happen.

Proposed - Russ Secoded - Don Noy

2. Business arising from the previous meeting

Laying of VSPA Plaques at our Reunions

We have laid plaques at Canberra, Albury, Coolangatta, Dorrigo and Cowes. We are keen to leave a presence for future generations to see and read about. Our plaque does this. We agreed we would fund ongoing plaques if an appropriate location were to be found.

Three Year Memberships - the Executive is very happy with the take up rate amongst the members of the three year option. Bob reminded us, then asked the ladies to join us so they felt included as equal members and able to contribute their ideas to the running of these events which were as much needed for them as their partners.

Membership-Welfare Report and Treasurers Report later under General Business

Election of Office Bearers

The President explained the role of the Executive and the need for others to run the reunions. That said, the Chair was handed to Bob Denner, all positions declared vacant and nominations sought for the positions below.

Canberra-based Executive:

President	Ken Taylor
Vice President	Denny Van Maanenberg
Secretary	Russ Morison
Treasurer	David Evans

Membership/Welfare Manager	Christina Luff
Newsletter Editor	Denny Van Maanenberg
2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme & Maria Sherriff
Committee Member	Ray Brown
Ex Officio Public Officer	vacant

Regional Executive members

North Queensland	Tony Simon (in absentia)
Brisbane and Environs	Don Noy
Gold Coast	Don Noy
NSW Country	Bob Denner
Sydney Metro	Barry Carroll
South Australia	Noel Schluter (in absentia)
Victoria	Tony Galea (in absentia)
Tasmania	Glen Breden
Western Australia and 2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme & Maria Sherriff

Each member was voted in unanimously by those members present.

3. General Business

Membership Fees We offer three year memberships. We know of at least 15 members and wives/partners who have taken advantage of this offer. It works well, and makes membership secretary Christina's life a lot easier. What is disheartening is the fact that our members are not renewing as much as we'd hoped. We also issue our newsletters free to: three honorary guest members - two MAJ GEN and one BRIG, widows and RAASC Vietnam Association. RAASC Association provides us with their newsletter reciprocally.

Next Reunion 2015-2016 - Graeme Sherriff indicated he would be happy to run the next reunion in Perth. Taking into account 15-18 month lead time, he anticipates likely date to be post ANZAC Day 2016 which would give members time to save, and the weather is more amenable.

Getting there: various options include cheap Virgin Happy Hour airfares booked early, TPI and Senior concessions on the train or driving from interstate for those keen to drive. Accommodation would be sourced to enable good deals for the members. Graeme presented a rough concept which included:

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- Arrive Perth Saturday, accommodation in Perth close to ANZAC House,
- Sunday - vineyard tour,
- Monday - lunch at ANZAC House,
- Tuesday - Mandurah river cruise,
- Wednesday - Fremantle & Maritime Museum guided tour,
- Thursday - AGM, plaque laying and Corps Dinner,
- Friday - free time and lunch at ANZAC House, and
- Saturday free time departure.

To make the event cost effective, at least 20 folk are required for the bus tours. A show of hands from the floor indicated a keenness to participate. We are keen to align ourselves with an RSL as they will have the resources to assist us in the commemorative aspects. Inglewood RSL was mentioned.

REPORTS

1. President's Report

Bob reported in Bruce's absence. David McLachlan our Patron is always keen to see us keeping in touch, and offers his apologies. David and Sara Ferguson also send their apologies. We are fortunate to have Geoff and Leonie Christopherson with us again at our reunion. President Bruce in particular sends his best wishes but is unavailable due to an urgent family commitment which is going to take all of this week. He did want to be with us. He also indicated he would be happy if someone else nominated for the President's job. Bruce is keen for us to discuss the running of the Association, and in particular periodic Reunions. His concern was it may be too difficult to get together, too often and recommended a 15-18 month gap between each reunion. That being the case, it would mean DECEMBER 2015-APRIL 2016.

We place on record our thanks to Barry Carroll for taking a stand to run this one. Graeme Sherriff offered to run the next Reunion in Western Australia for the Association.

2. Secretary's Report

I wear two hats: that of SECRETARY and the Newsletter Editor. Our main OPERATIONAL REASON for the newsletter is to advise members about our reunions. If you want something included in the newsletter, especially if it is not TIME CRITICAL, let me know. We do three newsletters a year, supplemented by email notifications to report time critical issues. Secondly, our aim is to report anything affecting our members and the wider Veteran community. Out of interest 32 paid up members receive an email version of our newsletter. Another 49 Vets, some RAASC, some not, also receive newsletters and other material from me. Your Exec have the odd meeting, but mostly we do business by phone, email, or face to face where needed. It is a delight that Bruce, Christina, Ray and David are on the team. We have been working closely together since 2006. And we are especially fortunate to have Christina dealing at the front counter as it were with you all. Well done Christina. Despite all your personal difficulties, you keep us all going! Keith would be proud of your efforts if he were here today. I reflect Bruce's thoughts on the issue - we are happy to let someone else have a go, and would offer every help to get you up to speed easily and quickly.

We have good people, but we wear out after a while. More interestingly is the spread of our Veterans and their wives/partner, members or not, around the country:

QLD	40
NSW	30
VIC	30
WA	10
TAS	10
SAUST	10
ACT	4
TOTAL	134

We are subsidising the Corps Dinner \$5/pp and have contributed some \$200 from Association members to Christina to buy prizes over and above those provided by the members.

Correspondence Summary (not in order of importance)

Hopefully you are all getting three copies a year of the DVA VETAFFAIRS newspaper. The Association receives a significant amount of other email from various individuals and Government, and Veterans organisations across the country. We try to get this news out straight away via email, and in the newsletter when we have sufficient material to print a newsletter.

DFRDB indexation and government promises and the recent unreasonable pay offer for our defence personnel heads the top of the list. And they come from DFWA, DVA, and various state, VVF, VVA, RSL, on wide range of Veterans issues. Some other examples of correspondence we receive include:

- Military Historian Graham Wilson-a book on rationing in the Australian Army-on hold,
- Vietnam and Gallipoli Tour advices,
- Dieldren and Agent Orange articles,
- New PTSD ruling-acceptance of perception of threat,
- Military history, and new Military equipment across the globe,
- Photos wanted-Nui Dat chapel,
- Missing and deceased veterans, from all Corps

We feel one of our important roles is to network and share information that is relevant to our members.

Moved: Russ Morison, Seconded: Denny Van Maanenberg
All agreed.

4. MEMBERSHIP & WELFARE REPORT 13/14

Well folks another reunion is upon us. Boy, where did the last 18mths go. I do hope you all have a wonderful week. I am sorry I am unable to attend I hope to catch up at the next reunion. The membership currently stands at 51. Thank you to all members who have taken up the 3 yrs membership as it makes my job a lot easier. We are still having a concern with the way the bank records your transactions, which means we have trouble identifying who you are. When you renew your membership, it would help us match payments to transactions, if you can please indicate on your membership form:

the date, the amount and whether it is for membership, reunion or donation,

It makes it easier to trace individual members on the statements. A couple of guys already do this and it works very well. We now have three of our widows that are sent a regular news-

AGM Minutes continued from page 8.

letter. It is so nice to see Sue Hazel, and Sue Hartas attending the reunion. We have three honorary RAASC guest members- two MAJ GEN and one BRIG Geoff with us today, and several RAASC-RACT Associations reciprocate newsletters with us. On the welfare side we have a couple of our guys on the sick list:

Dennis Cowling and Tony Galea.

Regrettably, Bob Cooper passed away last August. We sent Flowers to Kay and the family on behalf of the members. Robert Evans of Det 52 Sup Pl also passed away earlier this year, attended by some of our own members. I would like to pass on my thanks to the committee Bruce, Ray, Russ, David for their help throughout out the year. If you would still like me to stay on as membership & welfare officer I am happy to stand again

Regards Christina Luff. Moved: Russ Morison,
Seconded: Don Noy. All agreed.

TREASURERS REPORT

David presented two reports for ratification:

2012-2013 - the audited return which showed we had a profit of \$1143.17 but total receipts of \$6279.97 (which included reunion deposits), and

2013-2014 – not yet audited with revenue of \$2165.93 (the figure required by Office of Regulatory Service to ascertain registration fees) and a profit of \$877.83 (ie. balance of revenue over expenses)

Matching Deposits - He then spoke about some of the difficulties we have in matching member deposits when using the

NAB. He asked members to identify their NAME, what the deposit is for and the date when making deposits into our account as this makes identification of depositor easier to reconcile.

Annual Financial Return - The Office of Regulatory Services (ORS) has introduced a rule about how they determine fees for registration of organisations – essentially revenue up to \$5000 is fee free. Last year we had to pay a fee to lodge our return because the ORS based their fee on our total receipts (which exceeded \$5000) rather than our net receipts (profit).

For the latest financial return and in preparation for our Annual Report, we will show reunion deposits separate to our ACTUAL revenue (which is membership receipts, donations, raffles and interest) which will ensure we are within the \$5000 limit for fee free registration.

In addition, the cost of reunions will be calculated and shown as a separate report for future AGMs.

Cost Savings Measure - We have purchased a colour laser printer which we believe will save us a heap on printing costs. We understand it should pay for itself after three editions. It is held at David's place and used when required.

Moved: David Evans Seconded: Don Noy All agreed

RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association 2012-13 Treasurer's Report		
Balance of National Access Account at 1 July 2012	1109.86	
Balance of Term Deposit at 1 July 2012	4000.00	
Total Balance of Accounts at 1 July 2012		5109.86
Receipts		
Membership fees 2012-13	1080.00	
Membership fees 2013-14	20.00	
Membership fees 3 years	420.00	
Mementabilia - badges	10.00	
Phillip Island Reunion 2013	4166.60	
Donations	100.00	
Reunion raffle	341.15	
Interest 2012-13	0.32	
Interest 2012-13 Term Deposit	141.70	
Total Receipts	6279.97	
Expenses		
Web Site Hosting	195.00	
Postage	100.00	
RAASC Victoria Membership	15.00	
Plaque for Phillip Island	359.70	
Reunion 2013 Phillip Island	4417.10	
Donation to NVAW	50.00	
Total Expenses	5136.80	
Balance of Receipts to Expenses 2012-13		1143.17
Balance of National Access Account at 30 June 2012	2111.33	
Balance of Term Deposit at 30 June 2012	4141.70	
Total Balance of Accounts at 30 June 2012	6253.03	6253.03

I, David William Evans, Treasurer (RAASC - VSPA) certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Receipts and Expenses of the RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association for the year 2012-13.

signed

5 December 2013

J. Ray-Jordan Brown have audited the accounts of the Association and have found them to be satisfactory

6/12/13

RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association 2013-14 Treasurer's Report

Balance of National Access Account at 1 July 2013	2111.33	
Balance of Term Deposit at 1 July 2013	4141.70	
Total Balance of Accounts at 1 July 2013		6253.03
Revenue		
Membership fees 2013-14	180.00	
Membership fees 2014-15	0.00	
Membership fees 3 years	1720.00	
Donations	110.00	
Interest 2013-14	0.19	
Interest 2013-14 Term Deposit	155.74	
Total Revenue	2165.93	
Expenses		
Web Site Hosting	195.00	
Postage	47.20	
RAASC Victoria Membership	15.00	
Plaques for Dorrigo & Wollongong	739.81	
Office Reg Services - fee	37.00	
PO Box	102.80	
Envelopes Stationery Ink	32.05	
Colour Laser Printer	100.49	
Bank fee - Cheque book	18.75	
Total Expenses	1288.10	
Balance of Revenue to Expenses 2013-14		877.83
Deposits for Wollongong Reunion 2014		
Deposits Wollongong Reunion	1504.00	
Payments from Deposits	0.00	
Balance of Revenue + Deposits for 2013/14		2381.83
Balance of National Access Account at 30 June 2014	4337.42	
Balance of Term Deposit at 30 June 2014	4297.44	
Total Balance of Accounts at 30 June 2014	8634.86	8634.86

I, David William Evans, Treasurer (RAASC - VSPA) certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Receipts and Expenses of the RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association for the year 2013-14.

signed

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ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2014-2016

Bob reminded us that the Association needs new blood with new ideas, and to ensure vitality that we also need to think of succession planning. He declared all positions vacant.

Two nominations were received for the Executive:

President - Ken Taylor, and
Vice-President - Denny Van Maanenberg.

David and Russ indicated they were continuing, and were able to advise that Christina would stay on if she was wanted. The Executive now comprises the following members who will be included in our Annual Report to the Office of Regulatory Services:

President	Ken Taylor
Vice President	Denny van Maanenberg
Secretary	Russ Morison
Treasurer	David Evans

Other Executive members include:

Membership/Welfare Manager	Christina Luff
Newsletter Editor	Denny van Maanenberg
2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme & Maria Sherriff
Committee Member	Ray Brown
Ex Officio Public Officer	vacant

Regional Executive members

North Queensland	Tony Simon (in absentia)
Brisbane and Environs	Don Noy
Gold Coast	Don Noy
NSW Country	Bob Denner
Sydney Metro	Barry Carroll
South Australia	Noel Schluter (in absentia)
Victoria	Tony Galea (in absentia)
Tasmania	Glen Breden
Western Australia & 2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme & Maria Sherriff

As no other nominations were forthcoming, the above members were elected unopposed, on a show of hands.

GENERAL BUSINESS

VSPA Collared T Shirts. Denny initiated an offer to source T shirts to encourage esprit de corps and a sense of belonging. Some of our members have examples of what we might want which could include:

- Collars,
- Breast pockets,
- Colour options including corps colours, and
- Sizes to suit both sexes.

He has contacts from other activities outside VSPA, particularly Asian-Pakistan and Indian producers who produce very good quality T shirts, likely to a maximum cost of \$15 each including delivery, provided there is sufficient interest. Feedback from the floor indicated a strong interest, and as such, he would provide several

designs for us to choose from which would be marketed through our newsletter.

OTHER MATTERS

Name Tags

Bob was concerned by the manner in which name tags were produced with the words "wife of". The ladies are full members in their own right and need not even have their SURNAME mentioned in future. It does make it easier to remember names by having name tags, if done properly. The Executive will take this on board.

Appreciation Letters

We will write to Bruce to thank him for his guidance and leadership as our first past President. The Association is in good hands as reinforced by Geoff Christopherson also.

We will provide a copy of the membership listing to our State Representatives so they can make contact and encourage others to come along to our reunions.

We will write to our Guest Speakers, Geoff and Leonie Christopherson, RSL Albion Park and Shellharbour Salvation Army for their assistance and help given during our Reunion and Plaque laying.

Moved: Paul Griffiths, Seconded: Alan Windle that our General Business be accepted

Meeting closed at 1430

Ken Taylor	Russ Morison
President	Secretary
Date.....	

Editors Notes.....



Well here it is. My first Newsletter. Whew!!! What a job. I thought it would be simple enough, putting together a few bits and pieces and Voila—out comes the Newsletter! My intention is to get four editions out a year that follow the seasons. A Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring edition. Due out on the 1st December, 1st March, 1st June and the 1st September. My hat goes off to Russ, who has laboured tirelessly over the years doing both the Secretarial job and the job of Editor. I can sympathise with him, 'cos it ain't easy getting peoples contributions in, sorting out the available space and then editing submissions to make it all fit. Nevertheless, it's a rewarding job as it does make you appreciate the efforts of everyone who is involved in our association. My thanks go out to the committee who have helped ease me into the role of Editor and also my wife Jennifer, who I've co-opted as my sub-editor as her proof reading skills are next to none. She finds mistakes even after I've read and re-read drafts and thought it all OK—so many thanks to her. I'd also like some feedback from everyone on what they feel should be in our Newsletter. I welcome suggestions, submission, photos and any useful stories, yarns (verified or not)! That would interest our readers. I'm not really a political animal and there's enough media out there to highlight issues of concern to ex-military personnel especially Vietnam era personnel, so I'm going to try and keep it all very relevant to everyone. So ladies (and gentlemen) if you have any good recipes that we could all use, or any other ideas that can go into this blurb—send them to me and we'll get it out in the next issue. *Denny van Maanenberg, Editor.*

Preliminary Notice of Intention to attend the 2016 Reunion in Perth WA from Sat 30th April, 2016 to Sunday 8th May, 2016

Please Note:

The dates shown above are for those travelling from Adelaide to Perth by the Indian Pacific. Train arrives Perth on a Saturday and departs for Adelaide on the Sunday. The actual reunion dates run from Mon 2nd May to Fri 6th May.

This is not a commitment to attend, rather it provides the RAASC VSPA Committee with some feedback as to approximate numbers attending, to allow for some forward planning by the WA Reunion organisers.

Name : Partners Name:

I/We will be attending the 2016 WA Reunion (Please tick box)
 will **NOT** be attending the 2016 WA Reunion (Please tick box)

At this early stage I/We intent to travel to the 2016 WA Reunion by;

Train from (With my vehicle)

Train from (Without my vehicle)

I/We will be flying across from

I/We will be driving (without caravan etc) across from

I/We will be driving (with caravan etc) from

I/We would be keen to go on Tour 1 – Swan Valley with Sweet Treats. \$57.50 PP.
 (Optional tour for those arriving in Perth early).

I/We would be keen to go on Tour 2 – Mandurah/Cruise estuary/Kings Park \$66 PP.

I/We would be keen to go on Tour 3 – Fremantle/Barrack St. Cruise. \$60 PP.

Could you please fill in this simple questionnaire and email it to Christina at bamberg01@bigpond.com.
 or put it in the post and send it off prior to the end of 2015 to ;

**Christina Luff,
 RAASC VSPA,
 PO Box 207
 Mitchell, ACT 2911**