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12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 50 11 September 2016

This issue is quite a milestone for the Association, being the 50th issue since we began them back in 2013. Who'd have thought that we'd have that much to say!!! I hope you've enjoyed reading them and have found them interesting.

1. New Member:

We are very pleased to welcome another new member. Peter Willey was a gunner with this regiment, and served in Vietnam from March to November 1971. He lives at Battery Point in Tasmania. On behalf of all members, we welcome Peter as an Ordinary Member and hope we can catch up with him at the reunion next year.

2. Death of Ed Margetts:

Jack Parr from 1RAR has advised us of Ed's death (see below). This sad news will be of interest to all members who were at Coral and witnessed the courage of men like Ed and his mates in the mortar platoon on that first night.

The sad news is that Ed Margetts passed away 25th August 2016.

His funeral was held at Casino NSW on Tuesday 30th August.

Edwin Francis Margetts 2786475

Ed was conscripted into the 7th National Service intake in January 1967 After completing Basic and Infantry training at Singleton NSW he was posted to the 1st Battalion at Holdsworthy, NSW. Here he became a member of the Mortar Platoon in Support Company.

'Ted' was a member of the Mortar platoon at FSPB CORAL and was one of the eight wounded when the platoon was overrun by the NVA human wave assault on the morning of the 13th May 1968.

May he Rest in Peace Jack Parr

3. Membership Fees:

A gentle reminder that there are still a number of members who have not yet paid the renewal of their membership fees. Fees for many members became due at the end of our Financial Year on 31st August 2016. This applied especially to all of us who were previously recorded as Perpetual Members – a classification that no longer exists. Early reminders were sent in June to all of you who were becoming due.

If you are one of those who have not yet paid, you can remit the money to Beery by direct bank transfer to National Australia Bank BSB 082-225, A/c No. 836546425, or by mailing a cheque to John Beer at 81 Fawcett Street, Glenfield, NSW 2167.

Further Overdue Notices will be issued during September, but please don't wait to be chased up. Thanks.

12 Field Regiment (Vietnam) Association is a Branch of RAA (NSW) Association Inc
The Association ABN is 90 248 586 329. However, the Association is not registered for GST and is Tax-exempt

4. Long Tan Commemoration Services:

Last month, there were many services held round the country to mark the 50th anniversary of this heroic event.

Our member John Hannon attended the service in Innisfail, North Queensland, and laid a wreath on behalf of 104 Battery. Thanks John.

Our member Don Tait attended a service at the AWM and sent this report. Thanks Don.

Trev,

I represented the Association at the AWM on Wednesday, 17 August at the Hall of Memory Performance "I was only 19". It was a great rendition that lasted five minutes. Following it, attendees (about 50) laid poppies on the Unknown Australian Soldier's Grave. About 45 minutes later in the cold of Canberra, Noreen and I attended the Wreath Laying Ceremony, which was outstanding. I have had the honour to be in the same place with one VC winner in the past but never with two of them – Mark Donaldson who gave an address and Ben Roberts-Smith who laid a wreath. Ben is the biggest person I have ever seen; his shoulders are as wide as I am tall – no rude comments please.

I thank the Association for the honour of representing it at the Rendition and the Wreath Laying Ceremony.

Regards, Don

5. Ken Marsden in Vietnam:

Our member Ken Marsden continues to do good work for children in Vietnam. He has sent us the following update:

Giday Trev, just a little update, I'm off to Vietnam again on Monday week 29/8 Have attached a couple of photos of the last school, before and after, this is school no.8 so far with another to be built before the wet season, Sept/Oct.

Each trip we give the kids a good freshly cooked meal, some secondhand clothes playground equipment and some lollies. The last trip the kids were given woollen hats to keep them warm, up in the mountain areas it gets very cold.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable VV day, cheers for now.... Ken



3.

6. Tribute to 104 Battery:

President Flood has sent us a media item about a service for Artillerymen which was held at Mt Pleasant, Canberra on Anzac Day. The item reproduces a speech from Peter Sharp who was BK of 104 Battery in '68-'69. For our members who are ex-104 Battery, the media item is attached for your interest.

7. Annual General Meeting:

This year's AGM will be held at 1300hrs on Wednesday 9th November 2016 at the Ingleburn RSL. Your official notice is attached to this email.

Note that all committee positions will become vacant and your nominations of members to fill the positions are encouraged.

Attached is an official Nomination Form you can use. You can send it in prior to the meeting, but if you choose to nominate someone from the floor at the meeting pursuant to Rule 18.1, you will still need to provide a completed Nomination Form at the meeting to confirm that the person you are nominating (who may not even be at the meeting), has agreed.

The bad news is that our Rules require our illustrious President, Graham "Flood" Floyd to stand down this year and he cannot be re-elected. It is imperative for the healthy future of the Association that we appoint a reliable and capable replacement for Graham. So please give it some heavy thinking and come up with a few worthy nominations for this crucial role.

The Association acknowledges the ongoing support of the Ingleburn sub-Branch of the RSL in the publication of these Bulletins, and thanks them for their assistance.

Q Store Craze

OUT THEY GO!!!!

Spring is with us at last and we have purchased 100 Tee shirts in sizes from S to 5XL. You can own your own T shirt and FREE Regimental cap for the crazy price of **\$25.00!!!!!!**

You wouldn't get prices like these at TARGET BUY NOW!!!!!!

The last of the Mohicans!!!!!!!!!! Our Chambray shirts have sure been a great seller. Were down to the last of them. We have three long sleeve Mens, 2 x large short sleeve, 2 x XL S/S 3 x XXXL S/S and 2 x 5XL S/S. These shirts are **now sacrificed @ \$15.00 and for \$3.00 we will throw in a cap!!!!!!!!!!**

BARGAIN HUNTERS



Caps

The summer favourite is quickly getting scarce. Once this batch is sold there will be no more. So get in now whilst you can. Crickey, you can't even buy a schooner these days at this price, **\$6.00 Supa special**

Association Regimental Tie

This is the second generation of our original and it includes background shadows of the artillery badge in the full length of the tie. You could look fresher than Sir Les Patterson on Anzac Day wearing one of these specials,

Limited number to clear \$16.00



All items listed are **PLUS POSTAGE** and on a first in, best dressed basis. The first 10 Caps or Ties ordered will receive a special gift of previously quitted stock. **ORDERNOW.....**
Via: cossie0102@bigpond.com or Phone: Cossie on 02 49 303 359 or 0409 432346. If I don't answer, please leave a message.

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