

2ND BATTALION

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

South West Pacific, Japan, Korea, Malaya, Thai-Malay Border, South Vietnam, Cambodia, Rwanda, East Timor, Solomon Islands, Iraq, Timor Lesté, Afghanistan

RINGO

Courage. Sacrifice. Mateship.

NEWSLETTER

PATRON: COLONEL JM CHURCH, DSO, (RETD)

DECEMBER 2014

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year has passed very quickly and I want to thank all members of the management committee for their tireless support throughout the year. Without their dedication, hard work and timely advice, it would not have been possible for us to have achieved what we have.



I also wish to pay tribute to Rod Newham who resigned from the committee in October. Rod's contribution during the last four years has been very much appreciated.

I am pleased to announce that we have appointed Ross Bimrose to the committee of management. Ross is currently looking at the Association's constitution, especially our Vision Statement and Objectives.

On 24-25 October, the Association held its annual

reunion at Coolangatta/Tweed Heads. Members and their guests enjoyed a wonderful "Meet and Greet" evening in the Harbour Lounge on Friday night. The AGM was held on Saturday morning in the ANZAC Room at the Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL and all major office holders were reelected unopposed. I would like to congratulate Monsignor Eugene Harley on his appointment as the 2RAR Association Honorary Padre.

During the meeting Terry Dinneen spoke of his endeavours to find the missing After Action Reports of the 1967-68 tour, and of his consultations with the Australian War Museum. Wayne Wills highlighted the shortfall of participants (without PTSD) at the Gallipoli Research Foundation project at Greenslopes Hospital.

The Commemoration was well attended with very good support from the RSL sub-branch – thanks to the President Joe Russell. The reunion and lunch was enjoyed by all and topped off a wonderful two days. We review this activity each year and look at ways to enhance this event.

On a sad note, we recently had to farewell our very good friend and staunch committee member David Huntley.

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David passed away on 19 September following a period of ill health. David's last event was his attendance on 31 August at the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Commemoration at the National Memorial Walk. David was also the printer of RINGO, and the 'Raffle's Man' at the annual reunion.

Also, on 10 October we lost Alf Handley in a tragic accident on the Sunshine Coast. Many of us have known Alf for a long time and have admired his willingness to help others. He was a soldier's soldier. As a previous president of this Association, Alf provided us with a genuine friendship and his wise counsel was always appreciated. He was a man with a great sense of humour and his loss is immense. We will miss him as a friend. He may be gone, but he will never be forgotten.

We have recently lost a number of our warriors (those that we know of) since the last RINGO. We pass our thoughts and prayers to the families of those who have departed.

There are also a considerable number of our members who are in poor health. I would like to pass on the Association's best wishes and our hope for a speedy recovery.

I am attending the RAR Corporation AGM and National Council Meeting at the Infantry Centre in Singleton on 28-29 November. A number of important issues will be discussed and all relevant information will be disseminated via RINGO as well as our website.

The Association also gives a warm welcome to the following, who have been invited and have accepted the appointment as honorary members: Campbell Newman – his father was operations officer 2RAR first tour Vietnam 1967/68; Tiffany Young – the widow of Tom Young who organised the SA reunion in April this year; and Audrey Scatchard – the widow Mr Bernie Scatchard who rendered long and loyal service as our Tasmanian representative.

(Continued below)

PRESIDENT
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT/WELFARE
SECRETARY
TREASURER
ANNUAL REUNION CO-ORDINATOR
MERCHANDISE
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
PROJECTS
MEMBER
HONORARY PADRE

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PT (PAUL) KING
AJ (ARTHUR) MACDONALD
RJ (RICK) HOLLINGDRAKE, OAM
TE (TERRY) DINNEEN
RW (ROSS) BIMROSE
MONSIGNOR EA (EUGENE) HARLEY

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Website: http://www.2rar-association.com.au

WARRIORS WHO HAVE MARCHED OUT

- NX501687 Keith Noel <u>FAKES</u>, 66 Aust Inf Bn Japan 1946-48, 9 Pl C Coy. Passed away at Lake Macquarie. Funeral 25 November. Age: 90 years. The ranks thin, another 66 Bn digger at rest.
- 2703928, 27330 Major William Kenneth (Maps)
 <u>CARTER</u>, 1RAR Malaya 1959-61, 2RAR Vietnam
 1967-68 (MID), 9RAR, 8/9RAR. Graduate of OCS
 1953. Age: 80+ years. Funeral 19 November at
 Caboolture, Qld. Thanks Glenn Willmann, Ossie Kleinig
- 13793 Warrant-Officer Class 1 (RSM QUR) Alfred Frederick James (Mother/Alf) <u>HANDLEY</u>, 1RAR Korea 1955-56 (Pte), 3RAR C Coy Malaya 1957-59 (Pte), C Coy Malaya 1963-65, Borneo 1965 (Cpl), 2RAR Vietnam 1967-68 A Coy (SSgt), Vietnam 1970-71 CSM A Coy. Tragically killed. Age: 83 years. Funeral 20 October 2014 at Caloundra, Qld. Thanks Ross Bimrose
- 2410214, 213992 Sergeant Walter John <u>DAVIES</u>, 1RAR Korea 1956 (Pte), 2RAR Malaysia1961-63 (TBC), AATTV Vietnam 1965-66. Passed away Harristown Qld, date unknown. Age: 80+ years. Rest in Peace Walter. Newsletter RTS.
- 6708564 Private Wayne Jeffrey <u>DODGE</u>, 1ARU 1967, 6RAR 1967, 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) 3 PI A Coy 1967-68 Vietnam. Passed away Queenstown Tas, 8 December 2013. Age: 68+ years. Thanks Wally Musgrave
- 539716 Corporal Hawea (Guv) <u>GREY</u>, RNZR, 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Vietnam, V1 Coy 1967 Aslt Pnr Sect. Served 20 years: Malaysia, Borneo, Vietnam and Singapore. Passed away New Plymouth, NZ. One of the RSA's great servants. Thanks Kev Bovill
- 42428 Captain Anthony Joseph Jerram (Jesse)
 <u>JAMES</u>, 2RAR Malaya 1961-62, RAE, 21 Const Sqn,
 2RTB. Commissioned 2Lt 1963 (OCS). Jesse passed
 away 15 August. Age: 73 years. Thanks Terry Byrne
- 1732098 Private Roland (Rolly) Douglas <u>LEE</u>, 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Vietnam 5 PI B Coy 1967-68. Passed away suddenly. Age: 68+ years. Funeral 24 October at Hervey Bay, Qld. A huge man with a big heart and a ready smile. Thanks Arthur Francis
- 166616 Captain Barry John <u>TOMS</u>, 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Vietnam 1970-71. Passed away in November. Age: 73+ years. Funeral held at Kingaroy, Qld. Rest in Peace Barry. Thanks Terry Dinneen
- 16303 Sergeant Barry John <u>PINNER</u>, 2RAR/NZ
 (ANZAC) Vietnam 1967-68 Cpl C Coy, 1970 RP Sgt.
 Passed away Townsville. Age: 77+ years. Funeral 20
 November. Renowned for his lively sense of humour.
 Thanks Jock Cassidy, John George
- 2401296 Private John George <u>BREAR</u>, 2RAR Korea 1953. Passed away 11 August. Age: 93+ years. Recorded in The Voice (KVAA) October edition. Rest in Peace John.
- 11952 Corporal Douglas Leonard <u>LANGDON</u>, 3RAR Korea 1951-52 Pte (WIA), 2RAR Malaya 1955-57 Cpl. Age: 81+ years. Passed away at home 20 November. Rest in Peace Douglas. Thanks Hugh Jones
- 325102 Lance Corporal DM <u>ADAM</u>, 2RAR Malaysia 1997. Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB). Died on 16 August 1997. No further details. Thanks Terry Dinneen

+

Yes, you'll always march beside us, And when our time is through We'll muster on that "Last Parade" To march again with you.

LEST WE FORGET

(Continued from previous page)

Both Tiffany and Audrey attended our October reunion, and laid wreaths in memory of Tom and Bernie.

I attended the 2RAR Battalion birthday activities in Townsville on 18 October and was present for the unveiling of the refurbished museum; we had donated \$5,000 towards this project. I also had the opportunity to present the 2RAR Association Champion Soldier award to Private Liam Kiernan from the Recon Platoon, Support Company.

The 2RAR Association agreed to assist with the seating replacement program at The Royal Australian Regiment's National Memorial Walk at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera and we donated \$1000 towards to purchase of new seating. I also want to thank a number of our Association members who form part of "Dad's Army" and help with the maintenance of the Memorial Walk each week.

In conclusion, I would again like to congratulate Rick Hollingdrake OAM, on being awarded life membership for his exceptional service to the Association over many years. I would further like to thank all Committee members for their outstanding efforts throughout, and to acknowledge the work undertaken by a number of spouses/partners during the year; their dedication and support is very much appreciated.

In closing I wish all members and veterans of 2RAR and their families a joyous and safe festive season and I look forward to catching up with you all in the New Year! "Second to None"

Leo Van De Kamp President

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In 2015 committee meetings will be held as follows:

Wed 4 Feb 15

Wed 1 Apr 15

Wed 3 Jun 15

Wed 1 Oct 15

Wed 5 Aug 15Wed 2 Dec 15

The AGM will be held on Sat 31 Oct 15 in the ANZAC Room Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL, the Commemoration Service at Chris Cunningham Park, and the Annual Reunion at Twin Towns Services Club.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Welcome to our newest members:

Jeffrey Klein	Dennis Enright	Richard Hawkins
lan Jesser	David Croft	Laurence Muller
Allan Robartson	Wilfred Matuch	David House
Harry Broadbent	Bernard Hughes	

DONATIONS

We appreciate financial donations, and we thank these members for their recent contribution:

Alf Vockler	Rick Hollingdrake	Paul King		
Brian Haddow	Lawrence Date	Kerry Smith		
Hugh Jones				

MEMBERS' DRAW

Congratulations to Brian Millet of Beresford, WA winner of the financial Members' Draw held on 1 October, who received 'Uncommon Soldier' by Chris Masters, 2012.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association is open to any person who has served in 2RAR after 16th October 1945: past members of 66 Bn AMF; 2RAR; 2/4RAR; 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC); 2RAR MTF-3; and all ranks currently serving in 2RAR.

Classes of Members: Ordinary, Associate, Honorary, & Life.

VALE: ALF HANDLEY & DAVID HUNTLEY

As recorded in this edition of RINGO, we recently lost two committee members in close succession: Alf Handley 2RAR Assoc. President during 2007-10, and David Huntley committee member 2007-14. Alf was tragically killed in a vehicle/pedestrian accident & David bravely battled a reoccurring brain tumour.

Alf was also past-President of RAR Assoc. (Qld) and widely involved. David was the RAR Assoc. (Qld) Printing Press operator; up until his passing, RINGO was printed by him. The photograph below (with appointments at that time) was taken on 28 February 2008.

Too early, too young!



L-R: Rick Hollingdrake OAM (Sec), Kiwi Gibbons OAM (Treas.), Paul King, 'Fred' Clark, Kevin 'Dasher' Dean OAM (VP), Alf Handley (Pres.) (dec.) Ron Gildersleeve, Ken Cupples, David Huntley (dec.)

ABOUT: KEITH FAKES

NX501687 Pte Keith Noel Fakes served in the AIF from 13 Mar 1946 to 30 Jun 1947, and in the Interim Army from 1 Jul 1947 to 2 Apr 1948.

Keith served in Japan in 9 Pl, C Coy, 66 Aust Inf Bn (British Commonwealth Occupational Forces) (66 Inf Bn BCOF) for a period of 525 days.

Keith was not eligible for active service outside Australia subsequent to 2 Sep 1945 (cut-off date). Keith was discharged from the Interim Army on 2 Apr 1948.

Keith died on 25 November, age 90 years.

Rest in Peace Keith.

RIFLE COMPANY BUTTERWORTH (RCB)

Deployments by Rifle Companies to RCB commenced in 1973. As at 3 Nov 14, the 107th rotation is at Butterworth, Malaysia. During this period about 13 members of the regiment (1RAR, 2RAR, 5/7RAR, 6RAR & 8/9RAR) lost their lives.

Cabinet records now released confirm that the RCB posting was not a training exercise but an operational posting involving Active Service.

This information will be a subject addressed at next weekend's RAR National Council Meeting in Singleton as it affects other battalions and units as well.

Data is being collated to support an application for the names of the RCB dead to be added to the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial.

Terry Dinneen

ABOUT: 325102 L/CPL DM ADAM, 2RAR

325102 L/Cpl DM Adam 2RAR died on 16 August 1997 while part of Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB), Malaysia. As such L/Cpl Adam should be added to our Roll of Honour.

I have no details of how he died, or his Company.

Terry Dinneen Committeeman

HONORARY PADRE: MONS EUGENE HARLEY

At the October AGM at Twin Towns Monsignor Eugene Harley was made Honorary Padre of the 2RAR Association. (Eugene told me that he may have been Honorary Padre in the early years. Ed.) Eugene served 27 years in the Army: 1953 to 1985. He served in Malaya, Borneo & Vietnam. Eugene was also blessed to serve 7 years with 2RAR.

240213 Lt-Col Eugene Harley (Royal Australian Army Chaplains) served 6 months in Vietnam (1967) with HQ AFV (Army). He previously had a short visit to Vietnam in 1963.

Before retiring in 1985, Mons Harley was appointed Principal Catholic Chaplain to the Army.

Congratulations Monsignor!

REUNION: 10TH INTAKE NATIONAL SERVICE 2015

A reunion of the 10th Intake National Service will be held 6-12 October <u>2015</u> at Sawtell Beach Tourist Park, NSW. Overseas service is not a prerequisite.

Contact: Richard Barry (richyvon47@hotmail.com) Tel: (02) 6792 3114



WEBSITE REPORT

The Association website has had a small set back, mainly linked to two problems; one is our contract with PayPal for payment transactions over the internet and the other is with our domain designation.

The first one we are working through and we are confident that we will have it solved in a couple of weeks.

The second problem will be resolved in a day or two.

We appeal for your patience and be assured we will get these setbacks sorted out as soon as possible.

> Gordon Hurford Secretary

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

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MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Check the <u>newsletter mailing label</u> for the status of your membership. If '2014' or prior, you have <u>lapsed</u>; if '2015' or beyond, you are <u>current</u>. Financial Year: 1 October to 30 September. 1 - 5 years (\$20 - \$100)

VALE: ROLAND (ROLY) LEE

13 May 1945 - 11 October 2014

This morning my comrade Vietnam Veteran Roly Lee suffered a stroke and died. Roly and I served in 5 PI B Coy 2RAR 1967-68.



I was a Section Commander. At various times he served as my Machine Gunner. He had been conscripted for National Service.

Roly was a big strong young man, calm and well ordered, who never had a bad word for another and always a smile and a rye joke no matter what the circumstances. He rode

with the flow of Army life with maturity far beyond his 21 years. He was the type of soldier that any Commander would want to have alongside in the confusion of enemy contact.

When the Platoon was ambushed and engaged and counter attacked the enemy in operation Coburg in early 1968 he and his 2l/c Peter Guthrie provided withering covering fire from an elevated position in such a manner that they probably were responsible for the Platoon suffering minimal casualties.

In all the years after we were discharged from Army we only spoke of that battle on one occasion. "We were fortunate on that day" said Roly "It was close to a disaster, we could have lost half the Platoon".

As it was there was one KIA and a number of WIA, including our Platoon Commander Eric Pearson. Platoon Sergeant Jack Woods took command, the Platoon engaged a superior enemy force for a number of days, eventually inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

Jack Woods was awarded a Distinguished Contuct Medal for his leadership of the Platoon during that period.

The toll for the soldiers of 5 Platoon, including Roly Lee, came in the years after, when they were discharged from service and left to their own devices to work through the silent aftermath of the battles of Vietnam.

After discharge we all went on our own way, seeking our own remedies. Many of our soldiers sought solace in the comfort of alcohol, many in withdrawn anger, and many found themselves in need of psychiatric care, for some the only release was suicide.

Roly and I separately channelled our energy into political action, doing all that we could to ensure that our country never blundered into another Vietnam or campaign of conscription, we worked to ensure that all Australians had universal access to medical care.

Roly lived and worked in Gladstone driving a massive petrol tanker until he and Judy retired to Harvey Bay. He loved going out in his boat on fishing expeditions with 'a few beers.' Roly was a Labor man with passion.

At every reunion he fought the Labor cause with humour as he argued and defended with compassionate loyalty. He believed in equality and support for those who were disadvantaged. He wanted a fair go for all.

He and Judy managed around five years of retirement, though his health deteriorated in recent years.

The last time I spoke with him I asked him how he was coping in a Retirement Home on Harvey Bay. "It is a great life" he told me "I can drive my golf buggy a couple of hundred yards to the RSL, enjoy a few beers and relax."

Thank you for the years of support Comrade. I will keep up the good fight.

John (Jack) Hungerford Newlyn, Vic

ABOUT: KEN JOHNSTON, OAM, MM

24 March 1948 - 8 March 2014

Ken Johnston's funeral was held at Southwest Christian Church, Hoppers Crossing, Vic on 18th March 2014.

Chaplin Andrew Robinson conducted the service, which was attended by family members, friends, serving members and ex-service personal, including Lt Col. Michael Bassingthwaighte, DSM CO 2RAR, and WO1 Brian Buskell, CSM RSM 2RAR.

Eulogies were read by Lt Col Graeme Mickeberg, on behalf of the Army, who spoke of Ken's creditable service: Which included; 2 tours of Vietnam:

1968-69 with 2 Sqn SASR

1970-71 with B Coy 2 RAR.

He served with 1, 7, 8 & 2/4 RAR, SUR, 6RVR and 40 IRC. An instructor at RMC Duntroon, and the School of Infantry.

RSM of Field Force Battle School, Pilbara Regt, & 4 Brigade. He also had postings to Army Survey Regt. 2 Training Group, Regional Training centres (Victoria and Tasmania).

He also saw service in PNG, the United Kingdom, and deployed to Malaysia twice.

In Vietnam with 2RAR, he was wounded twice and was awarded the Military Medal for leading his section under fire after he was wounded.

He was also awarded the medal of the Order of Australia for his service as RSM Field Force Battle School, Tully.

Other Eulogies were read by; Judge Smallwood of the County Court spoke on his service as his tipstaff for a number of years after his retirement from the Army.

Pastor Mal McLeod of Southwest Christian Church spoke of Ken's dedicated service to the church community, especially his leadership of the Men's Ministry.

His sister Judy spoke of his early family life and the mischief he got up to. His Daughter, Sgt Jasmine Johnston, spoke on his life as a husband, father and grandfather. He married Lily his wife of 37 years, whilst stationed in Malaysia. He was a gentle, kind, & comforting man who enjoyed the bush.

His spirit & soul are no longer shackled to his body. His son Pastor Ken Johnston read from the bible.

The ode was read by RSM WO1 Brian Buskell, CSM.

Poppies were laid at the Casket by family and service and ex-service personal.

LCPL Jeffery Mears 2RAR pipes and drums played when the casket was brought in and taken out of the Church, and also led the hearse through a Guard of Honour of serving members and former members of 2Sqn SASR and 2RAR

> Jim Cooper (Vic Rep) Mulgrave, Vic

ACCESS TO GALLIPOLI BARRACKS

When planning an activity, such a PI Reunion, at the RAR National Memorial Walk at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, you will need to make arrangements beforehand for access to the barracks through Secretary RAR Assoc. (Qld).

Information here: http://www.rar.org.au Contact: Greg Decker: 0417 464 251 secretary.rarassociationqld@gmail.com

2RAR ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Join the Association! Help us help you and your mates. Your membership is important to US. What do YOU get? Information: RINGO! 4 editions a year.

Enlist a mate. Sign him up. Encourage him.

HELP: FIND NEXT OF KIN

The Office of War Graves is still looking for the next of kin of Australian soldiers killed in action in Vietnam.



Help find the NOK of 1411181 Private Francis John FEWQUANDIE 3 PI A Coy 2RAR who was shot accidentally while on sentry duty, Phuoc Tuy Province, 4th December 1967.

Francis Fewquandie is buried in the Walkerston Cemetery, Qld. Francis Fewquandie is also commemorated at the South Sea Islanders Hall, The Lagoons, Nebo Road, West Mackay, Qld; unveiled

His name also appears on the Huey Museum Honour Board at the Port Pirie RSL, SA; opened 2014. ¹

on 25 August 1996.

Terry Dinneen Winmalee, NSW

ABOUT: DINH CO

Dinh Co was one day I might have liked to forget. It was a little hill with a monastery on top of it. It was south of Dat Do, heading down towards the Long Hai Hills. I was with 'Maps' Carter, OC Bravo Company at the time, and he said, 'I want you to take your platoon up and occupy that feature up there – Dinh Co'. I asked; 'Why do you want me to do that?', and he replied, 'To see if it is occupied'.

So we sat down, had a look at the map and the hill and decided how we were going to do it. I didn't expect to have any contact up there because, if I was, it was only likely to be an observation post or something like that.

When we got up on top we ran into a ring of M16 jumping mines, which killed one and wounded another fifteen of us. So that was a pretty sad day. ²

Gordon Hurford³ PI Comd

RINGO 1971: QUOTATION

Editor RINGO (55 Days to RTA! edition),

Sir, reference your last issue of RINGO. I would like to lodge a complaint. Your page on Super Cong is a gross misrepresentation of the facts. It should read: SUPER SIG, Strange Visitor from another country, who came to Vietnam, with powers far above those of mortal sigs. Super Sig, able to leap tall bamboo clumps in a single bound; more powerful than a VC camp; and who disguised as a mild mannered radio Sgt of 2RAR/NZ fights a never ending battle against Bn SOIs, frequency changes and radio waves.

George Taylor ⁴ Radio Sgt

'RINGO' ITEMS

Do you have a story to tell? A snippet about a mate, or an event? Served in Korea, Malaya, Vietnam, Rwanda, or East Timor and beyond?

Tell us about your experiences.

Post to: PO Box 1097 Toombul Qld 4012 Email: 2rarsecretary@gmail.com

Website: South Sea Islander Honour Roll: http://goo.gl/THwlSi

 2 Bullets, Beans & Bandages Australians at war in Viet Nam, by Gary McKay, $\ @$ 1999. Pg 202

³ Gordon Hurford was PI Comd 11PI D Coy 1967-8, 5PI B Coy 1968.

CALENDAR 2015

GALENDAR 2015									
1 Feb 1995	2/4RAR delink to form 2RAR and 4RAR	Townsville, Qld Holsworthy, NSW							
Sat 25 Apr	ANZAC Day	Local arrangements							
TBA Jul	Samichon Day commemorating the Battle of the HOOK 24/25 July 1953. Gus Breen Ph: (02) 9428 683 E-mail: gusbreen@yahoo.com.au	The RAR Memorial, Regimental Square, Wynyard Street, Sydney, NSW							
Mon 27 Jul	Korea Veterans' Day 62nd Anniversary of the Armistice in Korea 27 July 1953	Korean War Memorial, Broadbeach, Qld Local arrangements							
15 Aug 1973	2RAR and 4 RAR link to form 2/4RAR	Townsville, Qld							
Tue 18 Aug	Vietnam Veterans' Day	Local arrangements							
Sun 30 Aug	National Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day. Merdeka (Independence or Freedom) Day	Enoggera, Qld. Kings Park, Perth WA Local arrangements							
Tue – Mon 6-12 Oct	Reunion: 10th Intake NS 1967 POC: Richard Barry (richyvon47@hotmail.com) Tel: (02) 6792 3114	Sawtell Beach Tourist Park, NSW.							
Fri 16 Oct	2RAR Birthday 1945 (70th Anniversary)	Labuan, North Borneo							
Sat 25 Oct	2RAR National Reunion: AGM, Commemoration Service, & Reunion	Twin Towns, NSW							
Wed 11 Nov	Remembrance Day	Local arrangements							
Mon 23 Nov	RAR Birthday 1948 (67th Anniversary)	Hiro, Japan							

OPERATION - BRING THEM HOME

Operation "Bring Them Home", ⁵ is a project of the Vietnam VVAA, initiated by Bob Shewring VVAA (NT), to bring home the 25 Australian soldiers buried in Terendak Barracks, Malaysia and Kranji (Singapore) cemeteries.

Up to 24 February 1966 32 Australian soldiers were KIA or DOW in Vietnam; 11 were buried in Terendak Barracks, 2 were MIA, and 19 were repatriated, 9 at Government expense and 10 by next-of-kin.⁶

From 21 January 1966 all KIA/DOW were to be repatriated at Government expense to Australia. Although, there were another 13 buried in Terendak Barracks since this promulgation, the last one on 3 December 1969.

"I agree with you, where the relatives want the bodies brought home, - Bring the Bodies Home." Keith Payne, VC.

We seek your support to Petition the Prime Minister for this important operation, as one Vietnam Veteran to another.

Please sign the Petition as a show of your support. 7

EMAIL LIST

Not receiving emails from us? Then you are missing out. Be informed!

Email: 2rarsecretary@gmail.com

⁴ WO2 George Taylor MID 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn 1967-68, 1970-71. George was killed in a vehicle accident in early 1990s while serving with A Coy 9RQR at Nambour depot.

⁵ Website: http://goo.gl/EdzpUI

⁶ Hansard H of Reps No.10, 1966 8 Mar 1966, Pg 43 Q. 1444

⁷ Petition: http://goo.gl/fQ41s2

COMMEMORATION 2014





















COMMEMORATION 2014













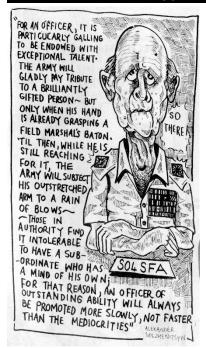








FAREWELL: WAKKA AND COMPANY



"WAR IS HELL!" said General Sherman way back in the American Civil War ... well, PEACE can be a bit of a worry too these days for the regular soldier ... togeer with his Company, WAKKA fights the never ending battle against "the system" ... Assaulted from the front by NCOs, attacked from the flank by officers and sniped from the rear by civilians, he emerges bloodied but un-bowed to fight another day and somehow, miraculously, keeps his sense of humour.

Thanks Reg Gillian! Since April 2013

VALE: MAJ BILL 'MAPS' CARTER

Major Bill 'Maps' Carter passed away on 7th November 2014 after a long illness. Bill had been in RSL Care Caboolture. The funeral was held at the Fernhill Village Chapel on Wednesday 19th November 2014.

Bill had service as a National Serviceman January to April 1952. He then served in the Citizen Military Forces April 1952 to January 1953. Bill then served in the Australian Regular Army January 1953 to February 1974. He was discharged on 14th February 1974 having attained the rank of Major.

Bill graduated from Officer Cadet School Portsea in June 1953. He had service in 1RAR, 2RAR, 9RAR and 8/9RAR, HQ 1Div, JTC and HQ 7TF. He had operational service in Malaya (1RAR) and South Vietnam (2RAR). Bill was awarded the MID for his service as Company Commander B Coy 2RAR.

There were approximately 100 people at the funeral, many of who served in B Company under 'Maps' command on the first tour of South Vietnam. Jim Connolly gave the military eulogy while Glenn Willmann from the Caboolture RSL conducted the Poppy Service. I heard John Knell attended. We toasted Bill at his 'wake' at the Caboolture RSL Club after the service. Rest in Peace.

ADVERT: VIETNAM 1967 PLATES

Paul Murphy has SVN67 (South Vietnam) number plates (Vic) for sale, and will consider best offers. Paul served with CHQ /10 Pl D Coy 1967-68.



Paul will donate \$50 of the proceeds to the Association. Contact Paul with your best offer: pauljmurphy@bigpond.com

SNIPPETS

- What devastating news. Alf Handley was a section 2ic in my platoon in Malaya with C Coy 3RAR. A remarkable soldier who had the respect of all of us. An outstanding soldier and a contributor after service. Laurie Lewis
- Alf Handley: A true "son" of the Regiment and an Australian to be proud of. His "rest" is hard earned. Bill Rolfe



Dad's Army (2RAR boys) L-R: Kiwi Gibbons, Arthur MacDonald & Norm Devereux at the RAR National Memorial Walk, Enoggera

- Alf Handley: At the parade of warriors who have passed on, you are the right marker! Don Lynch, AM.
- Bill Carter: The ranks are thinning and every passing is a matter of deep regret. But the memories never die. Richard Hall, DSM
- Alf Handley was fondly called Mother as he cared about the diggers, but you wouldn't call him that to his face.
 Barry Anyang-Burling
- I want to pass on my sincere thanks to you for organising a plaque for my little brother when he marches out from Singleton this Friday (2RAR). He follows in our father's footsteps and those that have served before him. We are very proud. Thank you so much. Sam Harris
- Can you confirm if this "James" served at 2RTB, or 3RTB? I served under a Lt. James as the platoon commander in 8 Platoon at Singleton as a recruit in 1966. Any chance it was him? He was a great bloke. Phill Eyenden Jessie served at 2 RTB from 20/4/65. Ed.
- Barry Pinner was one of my much respected Sect Comds in C Coy 2RAR SVN 1967/68. He knew the end was near but he maintained his sense of humour. You were a great soldier Barry. John George
- It is not well known that there are now well in excess of 72,000 men and women who served this nation since 1999, which is more than Vietnam, Korea, Malaya and Borneo combined.⁸
- Funeral Sashes: Not being in a hurry to put such to use at this point in time but I will order one of these as I will have use for it at some time and do believe in being prepared at all times. Find payment enclosed. Anon!
- What a great asset to the ADF (HMAS Canberra) and a great role for 2RAR, I spent time in RAE and in 4RAR & 2RAR. I am also a qualified shipwright. Alf Vockler
- I served with Bill Carter in 2RAR early 1958 and 1960-64. Bill is a graduate of the OCS Jun 1953 Class. Barney Gosman was also ex-2RAR in this era & OCS graduate of the Dec 1952 Class. Ossie Kleinig
- Alf Handley took over from Reg Jones as CSM C Coy. A very good man. RR Leach

⁸ DVA: Speech to open the launch of the peer to peer (Mental health) support network. 26 November 2014

SHOWING OFF THEIR SWAGGER

IT was in mid-1965 when Lt Col AWF Rofe, better known as Angry Arthur, assumed command of the 2nd Battalion, determined to leave his mark on it. One way he could do this was to smarten up the drill of the officers. So he tasked the Battalion carpenter to make each officer a swagger stick which they had to carry when out and about.

Almost 50 years later, Infantry soldiers still carry a stick though many now vary in shape and size and are an indication of rank within the battalion.

One of the original swagger sticks produced under the instruction of Lt Col Rofe has returned to 2RAR after it was donated by former battalion member Terry Dinneen. It was presented to the current CO of the battalion, Lt Col Michael Bassingthwaighte by former soldier Dennis Horrigan, DCM.

At the moment the adjutant carries a swagger stick but we decided to get one for the battalion's 2IC (second in command) so he will be carrying this (stick) around with him all the time," Lt Col Bassingthwaighte said. "Swagger sticks are traditionally for officers (and) is different to the cane which is carried by the CSMs (Company Sergeant Majors)."

2RAR Association spokesman Jock Cassidy said the swagger stick was an important piece of history for the battalion with the original sticks made from raw material such as broom handles and stainless steel. He said each stick had to be turned with a hand drill before being painted black, in the regimental colours.

To this day, the stick is carried in the right hand at the point of balance, parallel to the ground thin end to the front and kept parallel to the ground as the arm is swung. When it was necessary to salute the stick is transferred to and held under the left arm pit.⁹ *Thanks Jock Cassidy.*

PTE WILD DOG 1

The mention of wild dog in the last newsletter (By Hugh Jones) prompted me to check some old photos taken in



1954-55 at Enoggera between the Korea and Malaya tours of the Battalion. Pte "Rusty" Cullen, and Pte "Monty" Montgomery with other members of Mor Pl. I am sure all members of the Battalion at that time have fond memories

of wild dog as he was quite a character, although an unofficial mascot he accompanied the unit to Malaya but disappeared in 1956, possibly found a girlfriend in Penang.

Col. Beahan Charters Towers, Qld

PTE WILD DOG 2

One Saturday while on leave in Brisbane, we shared our hamburgers with the starving stray who decided to follow us to a taxi rank. We had made a fuss of him and decided to take him back to camp. We managed to hide him in the shower block, where we fed him on food from the Mess. We gave him the name Wild Dog.

He was discovered during an inspection and handed over to the RP's. The rest is history.

Tom Malone 'Cheesy' Prackert (dec.) 'Snowy' Higginbotham Ted George(dec.)

'BATTALION EXERCISES' BY BRIAN PANNELL

Our Battalion 2ic, Major Eric Smith was responsible for planning appropriate training exercises for the battalion as a whole and he appeared to be obsessed with night approach marches towards an objective and the launching of a dawn attack or the like and we did a number of these.

They were usually drawn out affairs with a lot of waiting around in the dark. On one occasion we were following a native pathway through a swamp in the middle of the night, in single file, the whole Battalion. My Platoon HQ group, four of us, were standing on a log trying to keep out of the water when my signaller lost his footing on the log and put both feet on the ground beside the log but kept on going down until only his head and shoulders were above the water. The ground was so soft that his weight plus the weight of his equipment and radio was just too much for it to support. We had to physically drag him out by the shoulders as there was no way he could have done it himself.

On another occasion, we had been going along in single file, in stops and starts when we came to a swampy creek with steep banks. My Platoon was 'point' for the Company and we had almost passed through the creek when my PI Sqt (tail end Charlie of the platoon) was asked by someone from Coy HQ travelling immediately behind us, what was the delay? He replied that "Coffee Pot", (the nick name for our Salvo Officer who invariably turned up on exercises with a brew when it was most needed) was up ahead and they should take out their mugs, put them in their left hand and say "black or white" as they went past. Coy HQ took his word, followed his instructions and passed the message on to the following platoons. Needless to say Coffee Pot was nowhere to be seen and they all had to stagger through the swampy creek holding their mugs in their left hand. The OC was not amused.

It was not long after this that I lost my treasured PI Sgt, Sgt Ray Dummett a WWII, Korean and Malayan veteran. We had been together for about 12 months and had a good little team; we worked well together.

On another Battalion exercise, we were in a defensive position on a hill in the jungle and as I had been given a good report on the Jungle Warfare Course, I was given the task of leading a reconnaissance patrol to find the enemy's base camp. I was briefed on the general direction I should go and set off with a couple of soldiers from my Platoon and skirted widely away from the designated area of the camp's location, circled round and there it was. We had come in from the rear unobserved, now all we had to do was get back to base quick and report so an attack could be organized. We had been gone a long time and it was imperative that we not waste another minute. Throwing caution to the wind, we set off along a track in the direction of the battalion's base, lickety-split, when all hell broke loose.

We had run in to an ambush intended for anyone coming from the other direction. We took off into the jungle at the side of the track and immediately became disoriented. Eventually, we found our way back to the Battalion only to tell the Intelligence Officer that yes, we found the enemy base camp but I can't show you the location on the map! What a dill.

(More anecdotes from Brian in Apr. Ed.)

THE BATTALION TIE

The new battalion tie reflects our Regimental heritage incorporating traditional colours in diagonal stripes of Battalion Black, Scarlet (Corps), & Rifle Green (Regiment).

To get one, see merchandise form page 12 page.

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⁹ Townsville Bulletin, August 14, 2014

KOREA: THE BEST GENERATION

Or My First 85 Years) 10

By Jack Matthews 11

We heard a whisper that something big was about to happen. My thoughts about this time was that even though I had just done the same things that thousands of other soldiers did I had not filled the ultimate experience that would let me go home satisfied.

Scared sometimes of course, but now in my later years, I can well understand the young diggers returning from Afghanistan, who after returning from their first tour, return again and again for another adrenalin shot, which may be hard to understand for those who haven't experienced it.

In the last days before the ceasefire came into effect, the Chinese put massive pressure on a fairly high hill called "the Hook" which it seemed was their gateway to Seoul and reoccupation of South Korea. I had been transferred to 2RAR when 1RAR went back home in April. We were moved to a forward position on the Hook; we knew it was going to be lively because the Black Watch and another British battalion had been beaten up pretty badly just before us.

There was consistent artillery and mortar fire from both sides which eliminated any chance we had of getting any sleep. All through the nights masses of flares lit the night sky like it was daytime. Hundreds of Chinese kept swarming up the hill to our trenches along the peak. They never got there. Len Haydon, a Lance Corporal at the time who I'd been through rookies with back at Ingleburn manned an exposed position twenty yards in front of my gun pit with a guy from Broken Hill and another young lad whose name I can't remember.

Mick the radio operator, on Len Hayden's orders directed mortar and enfiladed machine gun fire on the Chinese coming up the hill line after line. Mick was shrapnel wounded in the groin and flown to hospital in Japan. He was decorated with a Military Medal for his radio communication with Coy HQ which he carried out in difficult circumstances, but I'm sure he'd like to swap the medal back for the testicle which I heard he had lost.

Len Hayden was "mentioned in despatches" for his work in this action. At this time I was manning a gun pit alone about thirty yards above them and mental diarrhoea was my ever present companion. If those succeeding lines of Chinese had overrun Len's group the Chinese would have overrun the whole company position, me with it.

As it turned out the history books tell us that between three and four thousand Chinese were killed trying to take the hill during those three days of fighting. On the third night we were told that the truce was to come into effect at midnight, but we were to stay on awake in the trenches any way, just in case.

The shells stopped coming early in the night (but the flares remained all night) and after all the noise from these last three days things became very quiet but you still had to stay awake... awake... awake... I didn't; I awoke just after sunrise, surrounded by boxes of hand grenades with my arms still wrapped around that Bren like it was my lover, when some dickhead from battalion HQ or further up the chain of command kicked some dirt in my face while jumping the trench to catch a scenic view of the Chinese picking up their dead all the way down to the valley beyond.

The stink of dead bodies some which had laid there for months was over powering. There was a Chinese officer there who spoke very good English and some of the blokes were swapping cigarettes and having a chinwag. There was also a massive giant who someone said was a Mongolian.

I think our battalion moved almost straight away back to another line south of the 38th parallel. At home we were referred to as peace keepers, we were much more concerned with staying alive...

¹⁰ Memories of The Best Generation or My First 85 Years © Jack Matthews, 2013

THE PROUD BADGE OF THE ROO



How moving it is to be within this peaceful site Where young sturdy wooden limbs seek new heights Above the winding paths where cool shadows lie And visitors, exploring back and forth do try To find the name of a loved one from days gone by

Each tree in memory of a soldier who gave his life In a far distant place where there was bloody strife These were the warriors with the motto--Duty First Proud confident men who wore the badge of the Roo Who rallied from city and bush for freedom to pursue

Reflect on their sacrifice in the silence of this calming place See once more the pride etched on a familiar smiling face Hear again the busy sounds of military camps so long ago The rumbles of dark war clouds warning of a new season So many sad farewells and always the same reason

In time, here in this beautiful place the seeds will fall Giving life to yet another generation to follow the call And the spirits of the fallen remain forever in this Grove Amid sounds of laughter, bugle calls and marching feet too Of those who follow wearing the proud badge of the Roo ¹²

George Mansford 13

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Patrick Forbes Report

I enjoyed the piece by Patrick Forbes in the October edition and his glowing report of the Band and how it was liked by the men of the Battalion. As the Drum Major at that time in Korea I can tell you that the men of the Band absolutely loved playing the troops back into camp and in Battalion parades such as when we played and marched the Battalion from the fitting out Camp in Pusan to the United Nations Cemetery in Pusan which was quite some distance there and back.

At all times the men sang along with the songs particularly the unofficial Battalion song, Hoop De Doo which the men turned into Hoopsie Doo.

Suffice to say, I was a very proud Drum Major of a great team of Bandsmen in a Band under the command of WO2 Laurie Fletcher.

Kerry A Smith Bargara, Qld

RINGO by Internet

A while ago our organisation sent an email asking if those who had email, would mind receiving the newsletter via the internet (PDF file). This was to save costs. To date, I have not received a newsletter via this means. Also, on the 2RAR website the last newsletter is from 2013! If the newsletter isn't going to be sent via the internet, or placed on the website, why was the email sent in the first place?

Colin (Stuey) Stuart Seaford, Vic

Our email intended to gauge interest in RINGO via email. It is possible that we will decide at the 3 December meeting to continue RINGO via post, and upload PDF editions to the website. The website edition might be one issue behind e.g. December 2014 would appear in April 2015. Ed.

^{11 24063} Private Eric John Matthews, Royal Australian Corps of Signals. 1RAR, 2RAR Korea 1952-53

¹² The Badge: The original circa 1954 Royal Australian Regiment badge with the Edwardian 'Kings' Crown.

¹³ ©Copyright November 2008 by George Mansford

BEYOND VIETNAM

By Terry Dinneen.

Within two months of the cessation of hostilities of WWII on 16 October 1945, 66 Battalion was formed from elements of the 9th Division who were then in North West Borneo and Labuan. The Battalion then moved to Moratai, an island in the North West of Papua New Guinea, to join the rest of 34 Brigade in its preparations to move to Japan.



IRAQ: Piquet duty outside the former Australian Ernbassy residence. Private Nathan Lissing, 2RAR, is a member of the Australian Security Detachment (SECDET) responsible for providing protection to Australian Diplomats in Iraq. 2RAR operated in the Middle East as part of the Australian commitment to the coalition forces assembled to disarm Iraq.

The move to Hiro, Japan was completed in early 1946 and then in November 1948 66 Battalion became the 2nd **Battalion Australian** Regiment. The following March the title Royal was granted to the Regiment, and the 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment returned to Australia to take up residence at Puckapunyal. There the Battalion took on the job of recruit training for the

Army. This was prior to 1RTB being established at Kapooka.

In 1950 Korea beckoned and the RAR responded. However the Battalion continued its job of training recruits, Corps Training and training re-enforcements for the other two battalions of the Regiment until in 1953 when it moved to Korea in time to participate in the Battle of the Hook, which must rate as one of the foremost battles that the Battalion and indeed the Regiment has ever engaged in. With the fighting finished the Battalion returned to Enoggera the following year.

In 1955, the Battalion was called upon to re-build the jungle training facilities at Canungra as Australia had committed a Battalion plus other Arms and Service units to Malaya. Not only did the Battalion re-build Jungle Training Centre but they were first to go through it before heading off to Malaya to give Chin Peng a run for his money for two years, 1955-57.

Before they embarked they were presented with their colours by Field Marshall Sire William Slim, the then Governor General. They were the first colours presented to the RAR.

They returned to Holsworthy to 1 Infantry Brigade and participated in all the major exercises for the next four years and then returned to Malaya again in 1961-63 this time the 28th Commonwealth Brigade had relocated and concentrated at Terendak, just north of Malacca.

In the latter half of 1963 the Battalion again returned to Enoggera and expanded to become a Pentropic Battalion. The folly of that organisation was soon acknowledged and a reorganisation to the Tropical Warfare establishment proceeded in time for the Battalion to split in two and form 6RAR from one half.

In the last quarter of 1965 the 2RAR half received the 1st intake of National Servicemen to Corps train as 1RAR had already been committed to South Vietnam. Most if not all of the 1st intake of National Servicemen went off to 1RAR as re-enforcements or to fill up 5RAR who with 6RAR replaced 1RAR.

2RAR received the 3rd intake of National Servicemen to Corps train and they in the main remained with the Battalion and went to South Vietnam to relieve 6RAR in mid-1967.

2RAR initially received a Kiwi company from Malaya and then a further Kiwi Company a few months later and became the first of the ANZAC Battalions serving in South Vietnam. The Battalion returned home in mid-1968 and relocated to Townsville and went back to South Vietnam in 1970 still as the ANZAC Battalion. The Battalion returned home the following year.



A 2RAR MTF-3 soldier from A Coy on patrol. The Afghan National Army (ANA) led and MTF-3 supported clearance operation was conducted in the Mirabad Valley.

Not long after our withdrawal from South Vietnam in August 1973 the 2nd and 4th Battalions were linked to become the 2/4 Battalion. They would remain linked for a little over two decades until February 1995. During that period 2/4 Battalion participated in operations in Cambodia and Rwanda and mention must be made that some 52 soldiers from 2/4 Battalion who transferred to 1RAR and took part in Operation Solace in Somalia.

Operations in Cambodia in which the Battalion took part were in 1992/93. The following year 1994/95 the 2/4 Battalion also provided a company (A Coy) to operate in Rwanda. Immediately on de-linking 2RAR replaced that company with another (B Coy) for further service in Rwanda.

There was a four year break from operations before the Battalion was committed to East Timor in September 1999. Timor became a recurring problem and the Battalion returned there in October 2001 and again three times after Timor was renamed Timor Lesté. Two of these commitments were for periods of six months and commenced in April 2006, October 2007 and then for nine months in May 2009.

In 2003 and 2004 the Battalion provided elements to the Solomon Islands on three occasions for periods between four and six months. They were in July 2003, November 2003 and May 2004 but for the Battalion it was continuous for a 16 month period.

It is during these last two decades we see an unusual phenomenon occurring. There are numerous instances where the resources of the Battalion was split between two operational areas simultaneously.

2RAR was committed to Iraq four times. Twice between April 2003 and January 2004 while elements of the Battalion were in the Solomons. And again in May to December 2006 and finally in May 2009 to February 2010 while the bulk of the Battalion was in Timor Lesté.

Elements of the Battalion have served in Afghanistan twice for six month periods. Firstly in October 2007 (RTF-3) while the bulk of the Battalion was in Timor Lesté and the second period commenced June 2011 where the whole Battalion was committed as a Mentoring Task Force (MTF-3).

And now, a new era for the battalion has begun. Second to None!

DISCLAIMER: We have in preparing this newsletter used our best endeavours to ensure that the information contained in this newsletter is true and accurate, but accept no responsibility and disclaim all liability in respect of any errors, omissions, inaccuracies or misstatements contained in this newsletter

2ND BATTALION ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

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ITEM	PRICE	QTY	ITEM	PRICE	QTY
Cap: Black - "2nd Battalion"	\$34.00		Pewter Drink Coaster - RAR Badge	\$24.00	
Cap: Black/Silver - "ICB Badge"	\$34.00		Pewter Drink Coaster - ICB Badge	\$24.00	
Lapel Badge - "2RAR"	\$12.00		Pewter Belt Buckle - ICB Badge	\$27.00	
Polo Shirt: Black/Gold - "2nd Battalion" M(97)L(102)XL(107)2XL(112)3XL(117)	\$47.00		Iron On Badge - 2RAR	\$12.00	
Sport Shirt: Black/White - "Second To None" L(102) XL(107) 2XL(112) 3XL(117)	\$47.00		Bumper Sticker - 2RAR Association	\$5.00	
Tee Shirt: Black/White - "Second To None" L(102) XL(107) 2XL(112) 3XL(117)	d To None" \$31.00 Bumper Sticker – Vietnam Veteran		\$8.00		
Tie: 2RAR Tie (New style)	\$27.00		Bumper Sticker - 2nd Battalion		
Stubby Cooler - "2RAR"	\$10.00		Car Registration Plate Frames - 2nd Battalion		
Stubby Cooler - "Second To No Bastard"	\$10.00		Note Pad - Leather - ICB Badge		
Sticker (Oval) – "ICB"	\$5.00		Badge: ICB Metal/Bronze - Large		
Sticker (Round) – "2RAR"	\$5.00		Badge: ICB Metal/Bronze - Small	\$12.00	
Key Ring - Black/Gold	\$14.00		Badge: Returned from Active Service (RAS) Metal/Bronze	\$14.00	
Wall Plaque : 2RAR	\$47.00		Badge: Rising Sun – Gold/Metal	\$14.00	
Book: 2RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn 1967-68 Vol 1. Reprint 1985	\$90.00		Money Fold Leather with credit card pockets – RAS badge		
Book: Trackers Vietnam 1967/68. Peter Haran	\$29.00		Flag: 2RAR Black (48 cm x 31 cm)		
2RAR Sash: 2RAR (Funeral)	\$20.00		Name Tag: Preferred name:	\$25.00	

Package Deal 1	Package Deal 2	Package Deal 3	Package Deal 4
Polo shirt & Cap	Sports shirt & Cap	Polo shirt, Cap & Tie	Sports shirt, Cap & Tie
\$73.00 (save \$8.00)	\$73.00 (save \$8.00)	\$98.00 (save \$10.00)	\$98.00 (save \$10.00)

14 ONLINE PAYMENTS: 2RAR Association, Inc. Suncorp Bank. BSB: 484-799 Account no: 063 350 355 For membership, and/or merchandise email*/post the above form to: PO Box 1097
Toombul Qld 4012. For online payments, include your initials, name and description: ('1 - 5 year membership', &/or 'Merchandise') to allow your payment to be identified.
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