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The Purple Circle

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**30 years ago, 22 Construction Squadron was disbanded.
Medallions were presented to all Sappers on parade by
SASR**

Passing Parade

Bryan Albert Frederick Heal passed away on 16 January 2021 aged 81 years and 2 months. Bryan served in Vietnam from December 1966 to December 1967 with Det 55 Advanced Engineer Stores Squadron.

Willian Joseph (Bill) Holzworth passed away on 13 July 2021 aged 96 years and 2 months. Bill served in Vietnam from May 1967 to May 1968 with 1 Field Squadron. Bill also served in Borneo from June to December 1965 with 24 Construction Squadron.

John Neville (Jack) Salter passed away on 15 July 2021 aged 89 years and 5 months. Jack served in Vietnam from November 1969 to November 1970 with Headquarters, Australian Forces Vietnam.

John Francis Wallis passed away on 24 July 2021 aged 83 years. John served in Vietnam from April 1967 to April 1968 with 17 Construction Squadron.

Michael Patrick Bergin passed away on 4 August 2021 aged 72 years and 6 months. Micheal served in Vietnam from June 1970 to June 1971 with 1 Field Squadron.

Barry Robert Buckley OAM passed away on 21 August 2021 aged 77 Years and 2 months. Barry served overseas in 1972 with Headquarters ANZUK Force on board AS3051 John Monash and at Headquarters ANZAC Support Group Singapore.

James Norman (Jamie) Elliot passed away on 28 August 2021 aged 69 years and 11 months. Jamie served in Vietnam from November 1970 to January 1972 with 17 Construction Squadron.

Ross Edward Comben passed away on 4 September 2021 aged 79 Years and 2 months. Ross served in Vietnam from March 1967 to January 1968 with 1 Field Squadron.

Daniel Vincent Connolly passed away on 2 September 2021 aged 76 years and 1 month. Daniel served in Vietnam from March 1967 to February 1968 with 17 Construction Squadron.

With all Australian troops now home from Afghanistan, the following Sappers lost their lives during the war :-

Sgt Brett Till - 19 March 2009, Spr Jacob Daniel Moerland – 7 June 2010, Spr Darren James Smith - 7 June 2010 and EDD Herbie, Cpl Richard Atkinson - 2 February 2011, Spr Jamie Larcombe - 19 February 2011, Spr Rowan Robinson - 6 June 2011, Cpl Ashley Birt - 29 October 2011, Spr James Thomas Martin - 30 August 2012, Cpl Scott James Smith - 21 October 2012.

2 Sappers took their own lives after returning from Afghanistan suffering PTSD and depression – Spr David Wood - 2 deployments, died in 2013, Spr Luke Bray – 1 deployment, died in 2018.

LEST WE FORGET

MEET OUR MEMBERS



Ron (Tex) McPherson ESM

Tex was born in Broken Hill, NSW in 1947 and has a brother and a sister. He attended Nth Broken Hill Primary School and Broken Hill High School. He left school to join the army as a 19th Intake Army Apprentice carpenter & joiner in January 1964.

After leaving the AAS, Balcombe he was posted to SME to finish his apprenticeship and IET training. From there he was posted to Broadmeadows, Puckapunyal, Balcombe, Holsworthy, Melbourne, Townsville and Darwin. Tex served in Vietnam and did two tours to New Guinea.

Tex took discharge from the army in October 1987 and started work with the Commonwealth Dept of Works in Darwin and then on Christmas Island. In Perth, he worked for Swan and Kalamunda Local Governments as a building maintenance co-ordinator and with DFES until he retired in 2013.

Tex met his partner Kaye Dallas in 1994 while working on Christmas Island. They each have two children and Tex has two grandchildren.

When he retired, Tex started as a Volunteer Emergency Services responder and well as training Career and Volunteer Emergency Services responders. As a result of his volunteer service, he was awarded the Emergency Services Medal in 2020.

When he has time, he likes to play golf.

Tex and Kaye currently live in Swan View.



Carl Phillimore

Carl was born in Brisbane, Qld in July 1947 and has a brother and 2 sisters. His parents moved to WA not long after and he attended Claremont, Manjimup, Nollamara, Carnarvon Primary Schools and Tuart Hill and Kwinana High Schools. He left school at the age of 16 and worked as a store boy for Woolworths in Rockingham.

He joined the Army in March 1968 serving in Vietnam with 17 Const Sqn and 1 Civil Affairs. On return to Australia, he served with 22 Const Sqn and took discharge in March 1971. He also served with 13 Fd Sqn.

On leaving the Army, he worked in the construction industry and with Western Power.

Carl met his wife Sandra at the Jarrahdale hotel in 1970 and they married in the same year. They have two children and two grandchildren.

In retirement, he does a bit of handyman work, likes to ride his bike and being in the garden.

Carl and Sandra currently live in Greenwood.

WATERLOO DINNER ADDRESS

The following is an extract from the Head of Corps BRIG Matt Galton's Waterloo Dinner address:

The HoC commenced his address by telling the origin of events that occurred on 18th June, 106 years ago when LT Stan Watson and sappers of the 2nd Fd Coy completed construction of their pier at ANZAC Cove.

He then highlighted the achievements of Engineer units around Australia.

At 1 CER the EDD sections are now integrated into the Fd Sqns providing enhanced search capabilities.

Sappers from 2 CER provided much needed assistance to the NSW flood relief including providing water transport to move civilians, water and stores.

Sappers from 3 CER provided potable water to the Townsville University Hospital when the hospital lost water due to a broken main.

At 6 ESR, 20 EOD Sqn prepared battle procedures and developed IED training aids and proofed EOD doctrine to keep our EOD teams at the forefront of capability.

Sappers from Special Operations Engineer Regiment have been deployed in hazardous environments across the Middle East in technical laboratories.

The following is an extract from the COLCOMD Western Region MAJGEN Craig Williams added notes to the Head of Corps Waterloo Dinner Address:

Sappers here in the west have been busy. Firstly, the unit establishment has been increased by 50%, and recruiting is under way to bring soldiers into that far larger organisation.

Comd 13 Bde BRIG Challoner has also asked me to pass on that, further to that 50% growth, Chief of Army has approved that the Sqn grow to become 13 Engineer Regiment by the end of next year. The second Sqn will have a specialist construction focus.

Sapper teams from 13 Fd Sqn deployed to assist recovery efforts on the Giddegannup fires earlier this year, and with Cyclone Seroja in WA's Mid-West region, and of course many sapper teams have worked in the Covid response.

Reserve sappers wanting to qualify to operate Army plant will be partnered with civilian trade trainers to qualify unit members in plant codes. 12 codes are underway now and more will follow.

UBIQUE

WATERLOO DINNER

87 Sappers sat down for the Waterloo Dinner in Western Australia to enjoy a meal, drinks and the company of other Sappers whether they be serving or retired. ? of those attending were members of the Association.



Cpl Sarah Sobels, Spr George Thompson, LCpl Jared Bray, Cpl Mark Richards, Sprs Sam Tennent & Daniel Whooley



One leg of dining table layout



Left – Sprs Cameron Furness, Ed Windle, Mark Johnson. Tina Taroberrelli, Lcpl Dean Van der Woude, Sprs Troy Burch & Nathan King



Trevor Jones & Spr Michelle Hinman



Rick Gibbs & Snake Robinson

Pictures courtesy – Spr Talia Nicholson

Redevelopment of IRWIN BARRACKS

This news item is taken from the Saturday Western Australian newspaper dated 3 July 2021.



Problems with Growing Old

It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody asks you the questions.

Time may be a great healer, but a lousy beautician.

Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

A quote on a textured, yellowish background: "Live your life and forget your age."

A quote on a dark, textured background: "Sometimes, the first step towards forgiveness is realizing the other person was born an idiot."

A quote on a dark background with a silhouette of a person: "In life, it's important to know when to stop arguing with people and simply let them be wrong."

Norforce's Kimberley Squadron HQ in Broome

Photos sent in by Trevor Johnson who has been holidaying up in the north-west of WA with his wife Sue.



22 Const Sqn in Borneo



I wonder who was responsible for these two little mishaps!

Any feedback would be greatly appreciated. Ed



NOTICES

Next Luncheon

The next luncheon will be held at the Parkerville Tavern on Thursday 23rd September from 12 noon onwards. The Tavern is located on Owen Road in Parkerville.

If you intend to come along, please register your intentions with Trevor Johnson (0419 918 912 or tjohnson_wa@hotmail.com) by the evening of Monday 20th so he can book tables and give the Tavern an idea of numbers attending.

Next Meeting

The next general meeting is on Sunday 19th September at the Osborne Park RSL commencing at 11.00 am.

Annual Fees

Annual membership fees are now due. If you have not paid your fees by the end of September you will be an unfinancial member of the Association. After that a final reminder notice will be sent out and if payment has not been received by the end of October, your name will be removed from our members register and mailing list.

Honour Boards

The Association has now completed two Honour Boards to record executive members since the beginning of the Association in 1926. Board 1 covers the years 1926/27 to 1959/60, this includes the years from 1941/42 to 1947/48 when the Association was suspended due to World War II, and Board 2 covers the years from 1960/61 to 1993/94.

Board 3 will cover the years from 1994/95 to sometime around 2028/29 when there will be enough years to fill the next Board.

Did You Know

In America, the guards at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier do not wear rank badges so as to not outrank the unknown soldier.

Guards are allowed to wear medals as the Unknown Soldier is awarded the Medal of Honour, the highest medal one can receive.

Brain Teaser

Here is a little mind and brain test for you. If you can read the following paragraphs, you are said to have a strong mind:

7H15 M3554G3 53RV35 7O PR0V3 H0W 0UR
M1ND5 C4N D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5! 1MPR3551V3
7H1NG5! 1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG 17 WA5 H4RD BU7
N0W, 0N 7H15 L1N3 Y0UR M1ND 1S R34D1NG 17
4UT0M471C4LLY W1TH0U7 3V3N 7H1NK1NG 4B0U7
17, B3 PR0UD ONLY C3R741N P30PL3 C4N R34D
7H15!

I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacity uesdnatnrd what I
was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the human mind,
aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinertisy, it
dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr the ltteres in a word are,
the only iproamtnt thing is that the frsit and last ltteer be
in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you
can still raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This is bcusease the
huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the
word as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas
tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt.

Only 55 people out of 100 can read this.