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# The Purple Circle

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The President and committee of the Royal Australian Engineers Association of WA wishes all our members, families and friends a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year for 2022

## Passing Parade

**Dennis William Leworthy** passed away on 6 September 2021 aged 73 years and 5 months. Dennis served in Vietnam from January to November 1971 with AFV Det 55 Engineer Workshop and Park Squadron.

**LTCOL Stuart Neil Hurst** passed away on 7 September 2021 aged 84 years and 9 months. Neil served in Vietnam from July 1966 to July 1967 with Det 11 Movement Control Group and with 32 Small Ship Squadron from July to August 1971

**Phillip Roy Cannane** passed away on 27 September 2021 aged 84 years and 3 months. Roy served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam on AV1356 Clive Steele from June to October 1966 and again from January to April and July to October 1969. He sailed again on AV1353 Harry Chauvel from May to June 1970.

**Edward Robert (Ted) Waugh** passed away on 29 September 2021 aged 74 years and 7 months. Ted served in Vietnam from September 1968 to September 1969 with 21 Engineer Support Troop.

**Jack Cleere** passed away on 8 October 2021 aged 93 years and 1 month. Jack served in Vietnam from January to October 1970 with 17 Construction Squadron. He also served 2 years in PNG from January 1967 to January 1969.

**Graham James Moon** passed away on 18 November 2021 aged 82 years and 5 months. Graham served in Vietnam from October 1966 to August 1967 with 1 Field Squadron.

**David William Wilson** passed away on 6 December 2021 aged 80 years and 9 months. David served in Vietnam from June 1970 to May 1971 with 21 Engineer Support Troop and 1 Field Squadron.

## LEST WE FORGET

### 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

The date '1 July' is an important date in the history of the Corps of Engineers. It is the date the Australian Engineers were formed in 1902 and the date 13 Field Squadron was raised in 1912.

Not only will the Corps be celebrating 120 years of the Royal Australian Engineers, 13 Fd Sqn will have double reason to celebrate, they will be celebrating 110 years of 13 Fd Sqn **AND** the formation of an Engineer Regiment in Western Australia incorporating 13 Fd Sqn, a Regiment HQ, and a new Squadron.

Early plans at the moment are for a Regiment Parade on Sunday 3 July 2022 to mark the event. Watch this space for more information.

## MEET OUR MEMBERS



### Peter Perry

Peter was born in Warragul, Vic in May 1944 and has 4 brother and 3 sisters. He grew up on a rural property south of Warragul and attended Bona Vista and Lardner primary schools and Warragul high school and Tech college

Peter joined the Army in January 1960 as a 15<sup>th</sup> Intake Army Apprentice fitter & turner at AAS Balcombe. He served with 32 Small Ship Sqn, 2 Base Wksp. OCS Portsea, 22 Const Sqn, 1 Fd Sqn (Vietnam) 6 Const Gp, 21 Const Sqn, HQ 4 MD, 3 FER, Defence HQ and HQ 5MD.

On discharge, Peter worked a construction manager for a small home building company, manager of Wormald International and had his own building company.

Peter met Anita at Moorbank in 1963 and they married the following year. Sadly, Anita lost her battle with cancer in 2020. Peter has 2 sons and 4 grandchildren.

He retired in 1996 and is a volunteer with Australian NGO MiVAC in Laos and Vietnam He plans to return to Vietnam to work on projects over the next 3 years.

Peter currently lives in Dunsborough.



### Ian Murray OAM

Ian was born in West Midland in February 1930 and attended West Midland primary school and Christian Brothers high school in Highgate. He left school at the age of 14 and took up an apprenticeship as a jeweller.

Ian joined the CMF (ARes) in 1947 and the Regular Army in 1951. He served with 22 Const Sqn, CRE western Command, 17 Const Sqn Britcom Engr Regt in Japan (3 years) and Movement Control. He took discharge in 1957 and re-joined the CMF with Engr Stores until 1965.

After discharge, Ian worked for Charlie Carters, a travelling salesman and a prospector until he retired in 1991.

Ian met Anne in 1951 and they married in 1953. Sadly, Anne passed away in 2014. They had 2 children and Ian has 2 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

In his spare time, Ian does work for Hesperian Press writing about Goldfields History, researching ancient towns and settlements, prospecting in the goldfields and travelling throughout the state.

He was awarded an OAM in the 2021 Australia Day Honours.

Ian currently lives in Madeley.

## Lunch at Parkerville Tavern

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 29 members and wives/partners converged on the Parkerville Tavern for lunch, a couple of drinks and a chat. The tavern set us up in the main dining room which was good as we did not disrupt any of the other tavern patrons with our noise.

Those attending were : Fred & Ann Abbott, Jeanette Barankewitsch, Bob Brackenbury & Marina, Steve & Pam Bullard, David & Michelle Evans, Stewart Holmes, Bob Horrocks, Trevor Johnson, Ian & Colleen Johnston, Trevor Jones, Russell McEntyre, Steve McHenry, Tex McPherson & Kaye Dallas, Lynne & Peter Reynolds, Snake & Susanne Robinson, Geoff & Margaret Simpson, Jim & Ali Spink and Curly & Cathy Stark.





## **Next Luncheon**

Our first luncheon for 2022 is being planned for Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February at the RAAFA Club followed by a visit to their museum at a reduced entry fee for those attending the Association Luncheon.

More detailed information to come as we get into the new year

# Afghanistan memorial opening day



Cpl Ty Fergus, catafalque party commander and foreman of the volunteers from 6ESR who helped build the memorial garden, with Sean Mulqueen, 42 for 42 board president and former Army combat engineer, at the opening of the Afghanistan War Memorial Garden in Brisbane.

Five years of fund raising, digging, planting culminated on October 16 with the opening of the Afghanistan War Memorial Garden in Brisbane.

Veterans, families, current serving members and community members attended the opening ceremony.

The project started with a vision to honour the fallen and those feeling the effects of their service in Afghanistan.

An army of volunteers joined forces to create a sanctuary where everyone can be inspired by, and learn about, the selfless and courageous sacrifice of the fallen as well as find peace in the solitude at the memorial garden.

Forty-two plaques frame the edge of the garden – one for each of the 41 Australian service personnel who lost their lives during Operation Slipper, and an additional one representing those who have died since returning home, or who continue to carry post-war injuries.

Article courtesy Army News



## **NOTICES**

### **Next Meeting**

The first meeting for 2022 will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the Osborne Park RSL hall. The meeting will start at the usual time of 11.00am with a sausage sizzle to follow at the conclusion of the meeting.

### **RAE Number Plates**

The Ryan Club has informed the Association that there are 11 RAE plates left. The numbers are - RAE 03, 49, 54, 57, 58, 59, 72, 74, 79, 87 & 91.

If you would like to buy a plate, contact Ross Byron in the first instance. His contact details are – mobile 0415 271 506 and email – lamb\_shank84@hotmail.com

### **Membership**

For the five or so members who have not renewed their membership, as of the Sunday 19 December, your membership is cancelled, your names will be removed from all registers and mailing lists, and this will be your last Purple Circle from the Association.

### **Did You Know**

That John Newton, a renown slave trader in the 18th century, while sailing through a severe storm in his ship with its human cargo, prayed to God for his safety and the safety of his crew and cargo. All survived the storm and on returning to England. Newton repented his sins and became a preacher and writer of hymns. In 1772 he wrote a hymn called “Faith’s Review and Expectations. Today we know this hymn as the popular song “Amazing Grace”.

### **The Difference Between Men & Women**

A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase.

Wrinkles add character.

A married man will forget his mistakes, there’s no use in two people remembering the same thing.

A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he needs, a women will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn’t need but it is on sale.

Phone conversations are over in less than a minute.

