Logo

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**CESSNOCK**

A drawing of a person

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***Si vis pacem, para bellum,***

**RSL SUB-BRANCH**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 2 Issue 1 January – March 2022**

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**HANDY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**Department of Honours and Awards 1800 11 321**

**ANZAC HOUSE (02)9264 8188**

**RSL Defence Care (02)80880388**

**Department of Veteran Affairs 1800 555 254**

**Home Care (Cessnock) (02)40304706**

**Cessnock Council Community Services 49907247**

**DVA Home Care Services 1300 550 450**

**Royal District Nursing Service 1300 665 444**

**HACC Community Care Access Point 300 731 556**

**Hearing Services Australia 31 797**

**National Hearing Care Cessnock \_{02)9091 8613**

**Cessnock Police (02)49910199**

**Cessnock City Council (02)49934100**

**VVCS- Counselling Service 1800 011 046**

**Cessnock Hospital 4991 0555**

**Cessnock Taxi Service 4990 1111**

**EMERGENCY SERVICES 000**

**RSL Hall 4991 4141**

**SUB-BRANCH NEWS**

***Letter to Members from the Sub-Branch Executive***

. **Dear Sub-Branch member**

Greetings and a Happy New Year. Recent changes to the Constitution of RSL NSW mean that membership fees are no longer payable to remain an active member of your chosen Sub-Branch. All that is required now is for a member to indicate whether he or she wishes to remain an active member and we hope that all our current members will do so. To facilitate this, a member of the Sub-Branch executive will contact every member before the 2022 AGM on 1 March.

Additionally, we must encourage younger veterans from our Sub-Branch catchment area who are not currently members to join our Sub-Branch to ensure its survival and maintain services and support for all our veterans and their families.

To this end the RSL Hall is open every Thursday from 9am to 1pm for members and local veterans to join us for morning tea, perhaps a game of snooker, watch a video from our extensive library or just sit and chat and enjoy a coffee.

As a registered charity, we rely on fundraising and donations to maintain our operations and services and it is our intention to expand our fundraising efforts in the future to better provide services to our veterans and we hope, in the near future, to have our own trained advocates to assist members and veterans with welfare and pension matters.

We welcome any member suggestions relating to ways we can succeed in our mission of supporting and improving the lives of our local veteran community.

Max Lewis Lindsay Davis David Owens

President Vice President Secretary

& Treasurer

**Our Members Dinners for the year** for the year are as follows:

Wednesday 2nd March 2022 6.30pm for 7pm at the Caledonia Hotel

Wednesday 13th July 2022 12pm for 12.30pm at the RSL Hall

Tuesday 6th December 2022 6.30pm of 7pm at the TBA preceeded by the Dec meeting at 5.30pm

**Don’t forget every Thursday 9am to 1pm members social morning tea at the hall**

**RSL NSW NEWS**

**Circulars 1 to 5 of 22 have been issued and are on the RSL NSW website.**

**Australia Day honours for RSL members:**

**MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION**

**Mr Frederick Francis DENNY for service to veterans and their families. (Picton Thirlmere Bargo RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Edward Anthony HELM for service to veterans and their families. (Queanbeyan RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Edwin Robert HILL NSW for service to the community of Taree. (Taree RSL sub-Branch)**

**Major Kenneth John McKAY RFD (Retd) for service to veterans, and to history preservation. (City of Penrith RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Raymond John PEARSON for service to veterans and their families. (Huskisson RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mrs Ann Elizabeth PIORO for service to veterans and their families. (Woonona Bulli RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Peter PIORO for service to veterans and their families. (Woonona Bulli RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Brian Allan WHEELER for service to veterans and their families. (Batemans Bay RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Mervyn Stuart WHITING for service to veterans and their families, and to the community. (Forestville RSL sub-Branch)**

**Mr Robert Michael FRESHFIELD for service to veterans and their families. (Merrylands RSL sub-Branch)**

**Robert Paul McFARLANE for service to the community of Grafton. (Grafton RSL sub-Branch)**

**Terence Michael O’GRADY for service to the community through charitable organisations. (Woolgoolga RSL sub-Branch)**

**John Lochwood KENT for service to the community of Nambucca Heads. (Nambucca Heads sub-Branch)**

**Mr Wayne Leslie MASON for service to the community in a range of roles. (Stuarts Point RSL sub-Branch)**

**RSL NSW also wishes to congratulate OAM recipient Ms Alice Guay KANG, Director of Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway, for service to veterans, and to community health.**

**Circular 6/22 Congress Q&A update from RSL NSW CEO Jon Black. M**embers attention is drawn to this lengthy circular on RSLNSW website which explains in some detail some sub-branch management aspects of the Strategic Plan,

**HVDC NEWS**

Brian Boughton long serving President of the Hunter Valley District Council has resigned for family reasons. He has done an outstanding job as DC President and he will be missed. He has been replaced by our Sub-Branch President Max Lewis.

**THOUGHT FOR 2022:**

***Finally, Bitcoin explained in simple terms ! ! !***

*Good reading and perhaps good business.*

Not long ago a merchant found a lot of monkeys that lived near a certain Village.

 One day he came to the Village saying he wanted to buy these monkeys !

 He announced that he would buy the monkeys at $100 each.

The Villagers thought that this man must be crazy - How can somebody buy Stray Monkeys at $100 each ?

Still some People caught some monkeys and gave it to this merchant and he gave $100 for each monkey.

 This News spread like wildfire and People caught monkeys and sold them to the merchant.

 After a few days, the merchant announced that he will buy monkeys at $200 each.

The lazy villagers also ran around to catch the remaining monkeys!

 They sold the remaining monkeys at $200 each.

The merchant then announced that he will buy monkeys for $500 each!

The villagers start to lose sleep!.....They caught six or seven monkeys, which was all that was left and got $500 each.

 The Villagers were waiting anxiously for the next announcement.

 Then the merchant announced that he is going on Holiday for a week, but when he returns, he will buy monkeys at $1000 each!

 He also said that his employee will be in charge, and would take care of the monkeys he bought pending his return.

 The Merchant went on holiday!

 The Villagers were frantic and very sad as there were no more monkeys left for them to sell it at $1000 each as was promised by the Merchant.

Then the Merchant’s Employee contacted them and told them that he would secretly sell them some monkeys at $700 each.

 The news spread like wildfire. As the Merchant promised on his return that he would buy monkeys at $1000 each, they would achieve a $300 profit for each monkey.

 The next day The Villagers queued up near the Monkey Cage.

 The Employee sold all the monkeys at $700 each. The Rich bought monkeys in large lots. The poor borrowed money from money lenders and bought the rest of the monkeys!

 The Villagers took care of their monkeys & waited for the Merchant to return!

 However nobody came ! ..... Then they ran to Find the Employee ....However he was not to be found!

 The Villagers then realized that they have been duped buying the useless Stray monkeys at $700each, and were now unable to sell them!

This Monkey Business is now known as Bitcoin !

It will make a-lot of People bankrupt and a very few People filthy rich in this kind of Monkey Business.

***SOMETHING TO LIGHTEN YOUR DAY***

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**Man with no garden often looks forlorn!**

**Bird with no beak was born to succeed!**

**Man, who wants pretty nurse, must be patient.**

**Passionate kiss, like spider web, leads to undoing of fly.**

**Better to be pissed off than pissed on.**

**Lady who goes camping must beware of evil intent.**

**Squirrel who runs up woman’s leg will not find nuts.**

**Man who leaps off cliff jumps to conclusion.**

**Man who runs in front of car gets tired; man who runs behind car gets exhausted.**

**Man who eats many prunes gets good run for money.**

**War does not determine who is right, it determines who is left.**

**Men who fight with wife all day get no piece at night.**

**It takes many nails to build a crib, but one screw to fill it.**

**Man who drives like hell is bound to get there.**

**Man who stands on toilet is high on pot.**

**Man who lives in glasshouse should change clothes in basement.**

**Men who fish in other man’s well often catch crabs.**

**Finally CONFUCIUS SAY…**

**“ A lion will not cheat on his wife, but a Tiger Wood!”**

****

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**OUR SUB-BRANCH SPONSORS**

***The Businesses/Individuals on these pages are the sponsor supporters of our Sub-Branch. Their continued support is very important to the continued successful operation of our Sub-Branch. Please support them as they support us.***

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**A person in a suit and tie

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**JABOUR ACCOUNTANTS**

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**53 KING STREE NEWCASTLE**

**HISTORICAL FEATURE**

**LEST WE FORGET**

Operation Slipper[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan&action=edit&section=1)]

Operation Slipper began in late 2001 and ended on 31 December 2014.

**First phase**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan&action=edit&section=2)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:RAAF_EB-707_(33_Sqn)_refuelling_a_US_Navy_F-A-18_Hornet_(VFA-131).jpg)

A No. 33 Squadron Boeing 707 refuelling a US Navy F/A-18 in 2002

During the first phase of Operation Slipper, the [Australian Defence Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Defence_Force) (ADF) commitment to Afghanistan consisted of a [Special Forces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Special_Air_Service_Regiment) Task Group and two [Royal Australian Air Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Australian_Air_Force) (RAAF) [Boeing 707](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boeing_707) air-to-air refuelling aircraft from [No. 33 Squadron](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No._33_Squadron_RAAF). These aircraft and associated support personnel operated from [Manas Air Base](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manas_Air_Base) in [Kyrgyzstan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyrgyzstan) and provided support to coalition aircraft operating in Afghan airspace. Two RAAF [AP-3C Orion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AP-3C_Orion) aircraft flew maritime patrol missions in support of maritime interdiction operations in the [Persian Gulf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian_Gulf).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-2) These aircraft were temporarily retasked to [Operations Falconer and Catalyst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_contribution_to_the_2003_invasion_of_Iraq) in 2003.[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

RAAF [C-130 Hercules](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C-130_Hercules) transport aircraft were also involved in providing logistic support for deployed forces. The Special Forces were involved with the establishment of the US-led coalition's first Forward Operating Base ([Camp Rhino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Rhino)) southwest of [Kandahar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kandahar) in November 2001, followed by the capture of [Kandahar International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kandahar_International_Airport) in December 2001. The initial ADF commitment in Afghanistan concluded in December 2002 when the Special Air Service Task Group was withdrawn.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Neville_p30-3) Following this date until 2005 Australia's total contribution to efforts in Afghanistan were two officers attached to the United Nations and the Coalition land mine clearing force.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-4)

All three squadrons of the Australian [Special Air Service Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_Air_Service_Regiment) (SASR) were deployed to Afghanistan in 2001 and 2002. The dates of these deployments were:[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Neville_p29-5)

* 1 Squadron Group, SASR: (October 2001 – April 2002)
* 3 Squadron Group, SASR: (April 2002 – August 2002)
* 2 Squadron Group, SASR: (August 2002 – November 2002)

**Second phase**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan&action=edit&section=3)]

An Australian Special Forces Task Group was re-deployed to Afghanistan in August or September 2005. This Task Group consisted of elements from the [SASR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Special_Air_Service_Regiment), [4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4th_Battalion,_Royal_Australian_Regiment) (Commando), the [Incident Response Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incident_Response_Regiment) and logistic support personnel.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Neville_p30-3) As well as heavily modified Land Rovers, the Special Forces Task Group was also equipped with some [Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bushmaster_infantry_mobility_vehicle). A detachment of two [CH-47 Chinook](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CH-47_Chinook) helicopters from the [5th Aviation Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5th_Aviation_Regiment_(Australia)) was deployed to Afghanistan in March 2006 to support the Special Forces Task Group. The Australian Special Forces Task Group was withdrawn from Afghanistan in September 2006 and the helicopter detachment returned to Australia in April 2007.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-6)[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Army_news-7)[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-8)[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-9)

**Third phase**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan&action=edit&section=4)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Aust_US_engineers_Moqur_Bridge.jpg)

Australian and US Army engineers working on a bridge in Afghanistan in August 2008

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bushmaster_Afghanistan_snow_Jan_2010.jpg)

Australian Special Operations Task Group in Afghanistan's Uruzgan Province in January 2010

A Reconstruction Taskforce-based around the [1st Combat Engineer Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Combat_Engineer_Regiment_(Australia)) with protective elements from the [5th/7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5th/7th_Battalion,_Royal_Australian_Regiment), [6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6th_Battalion,_Royal_Australian_Regiment) and [2nd Cavalry Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_2nd_Cavalry_Regiment) began arriving in [Uruzgan Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urozgan_Province) in southern Afghanistan in early September 2006. The Australian Reconstruction Taskforce formed part of a [Dutch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netherlands)-led [Provincial Reconstruction Team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provincial_Reconstruction_Team), operating as part of the Dutch-led [Task Force Uruzgan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Force_Uruzgan) and based at Forward Operating Base Ripley, outside of [Tarin Kowt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarin_Kowt).[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-10)

A 300-strong Special Operations Task Group was deployed to support the Reconstruction Taskforce in April 2007, including a [Commando company-group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2nd_Commando_Regiment_(Australia)), elements of the SASR, and an integral combat service support team.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Army_news-7) In addition to radar crews, logistics and intelligence officers, and security personnel, this brought the number of Australian personnel in Afghanistan to 950 by mid-2007, with further small increases to 1,000 in mid-2008, 1,100 in early 2009[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-11) and 1,550 in mid-2009.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-GlobalOps-12) These increases occurred in spite of opinion polls indicating that public support for the deployment was decreasing, with a poll released in September 2008 finding that a majority of those surveyed were opposed to Australia's continued military involvement in the country.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-13)

In early 2009, a number of [Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operational_Mentoring_and_Liaison_Team) (OMLTs) were embedded into the [Afghan National Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afghan_National_Army) battalions serving in the 4th (ANA) Brigade, [205th Hero Corps](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/205th_Corps_(Afghanistan)), in Uruzgan as part of the Australian mission to mentor and partner the ANA within the province. Consequently, the RTF was renamed the Mentoring and Reconstruction Task Force.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-GlobalOps-12) On 16 January 2009, [Trooper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trooper_(rank)) [Mark Donaldson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Donaldson), a member of the [SASR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SASR), was awarded Australia's highest gallantry medal, the [Victoria Cross for Australia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Cross_for_Australia). Donaldson was awarded the medal for exposing himself to enemy fire to protect injured Australian troops and then rescuing an Afghan interpreter under heavy enemy fire during a contact on 2 September 2008.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-TheAustralian20090116-14)

A modest Australian force remained in Afghanistan over this period and was involved in [counter-insurgency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counter-insurgency) operations in Uruzgan province in conjunction with Dutch, US and other coalition forces. MRTF was again renamed to the Mentoring Task Force in early 2010. Based around a [combined arms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combined_arms) [battalion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battalion)-sized [battle group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battlegroup_(army)), it consisted of [motorised infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorised_infantry) and [cavalry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cavalry) force elements supported by [engineers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Engineers), as well as coalition enablers including [artillery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artillery) and [aviation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aviation) assets. The Rotary Wing Group flying [CH-47D Chinooks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CH-47), the Force Logistics Asset and an RAAF air surveillance radar unit were also based in [Kandahar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kandahar).[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-15)[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-16) A further 800 Australian logistic personnel were also based outside of Afghanistan, in locations in the Middle East.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-GlobalOps-12) Meanwhile, detachments of maritime patrol and transport aircraft continued to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, based out of [Al Minhad Air Base](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al_Minhad_Air_Base) in the [United Arab Emirates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Arab_Emirates).[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-Nautilus_Al_Minhad_Air_Base-17)

**Order of battle**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan&action=edit&section=5)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Australian_SOTG_patrol_Oct_2009.jpg)

A Special Operations Task Group patrol in October 2009

Over the course of the operation, as the size of Australia's contribution has fluctuated and the scope of operations undertaken has evolved, the number and type of units deployed has also changed. A snapshot of the order of battle from March 2011, when approximately 1,550 Australians were deployed to Afghanistan, is as follows:[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_Australia_during_the_War_in_Afghanistan#cite_note-18)

* National Command Element
  + Mentoring Task Force 2 (MTF-2)
    - Headquarters, [5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5th_Battalion,_Royal_Australian_Regiment) (5 RAR)
    - 4 x [Combat Teams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Company_(military)) including infantry, cavalry, engineers and offensive support
    - 5 x Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams
    - Force Communications Unit IV (1st Combat Signal Regiment)
    - Logistics and support units
  + Detachment, [20th Surveillance and Target Acquisition Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/20th_Surveillance_and_Target_Acquisition_Regiment,_Royal_Australian_Artillery) (operates [ScanEagle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boeing_ScanEagle) UAVs)
  + Special Operations Task Group
    - Elements of the [SASR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_Air_Service_Regiment), [2nd Commando Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2nd_Commando_Regiment_(Australia)), Reserve [1 Commando Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Commando_Regiment_(Australia)) and [Special Operations Engineer Regiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_Operations_Engineer_Regiment_(Australia))
  + Rotary Wing Group (including two CH-47D Chinooks helicopters).
  + Detachment, [1st Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Regiment,_Royal_Australian_Artillery) (16 gunners attached to the British Army)
  + RAAF Control and Reporting Centre ([Kandahar International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kandahar_International_Airport))
  + Two AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft and three C-130 Hercules transports
  + Personnel embedded with various coalition units
  + Force Level Logistic Asset (Kandahar International Airport)

***NEW BOOKS***

Hi

I'd just like to advise members of my new book- *Crucible: The Australians in Action in Vietnam'*which has just been published.

(See attached cover)

This is a unique, historical book in that it isn't about one person, or one unit, or one battle.

What it is, is a collection of 370 matters from the war- taken from unit histories, historical accounts, personal histories, and media accounts.

It is about the stories behind the facts.

For example, whereas the narratives might simply say; '2 KIA', I provide the detail..the how they died, what was happening at the time etc etc.

It is about the big battles, and the small in which great heroism was recognised- or sometimes not; it's about the tragedies, the misadventure, the contentions, and so on.

And it's not just about the army- but across all three Services, and sub-units.

**REVIEWS**

Here are just two reviews to date:

**- It is an amazing read Don. I cannot imagine the hours you must have spent trolling through countless military papers, personal diaries etc and then compiling it all into a printable, concise, readable history of Vietnam.- Don Greentree, Mortar Platoon, 5RAR**

**- 'Hi Don, love your book, presentation and format are great! Easy to read, so much information- very interesting! Stirs up emotions- compassion for the brave soldiers who passed, imagining the sadness and despair of their families when learning of their demise! Frustration at the corruption of men in high places and those in it for their own glory! Wow- a great read! Really opens up your eyes to the horrors of war and also to the absolute bravery, selflessness and sacrifice of so many young men! I just want to say Thank you to you and all the brave men for doing this for our country and thank you Don for all the time and effort you put into producing this wonderful resource!' - Lindy Ahearn (NSW teacher)**

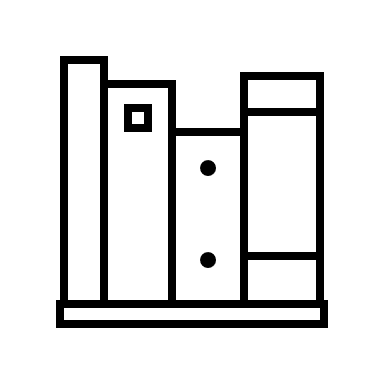
***Crucible* retails for $30- and can be purchased by :**

- purchasing via Paypal at: <https://py.pl/7pTVMGB0R8n>

- or simply arrange a direct debit by emailing me at:  [**WARVET\_69@YAHOO.COM**](mailto:WARVET_69@YAHOO.COM)

Best Regards to all

**Don Tate (ex 4RAR; ex-9RAR)**



**SUB-BRANCH EXECUTIVE**

**PATRON CHIEF INSPECTOR NICHAEL GORMAN**

**President: Max Lewis – m:0412901619, E:Annegret.lewis@bigpond.com**

**Vice-President: Lindsay Davis-E:lindsay\_davis@bigpond.com**

**Vice-President: Chris Lewis-0400921842**

**Treasurer: Lindsay Davis-m0417981529**

**Secretary David Owens-M0409915850, E:daveowens1944@gmail.com**

**Welfare Vacant**

**TRUSTEES Vacant-David Owens-John Schroeder**

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