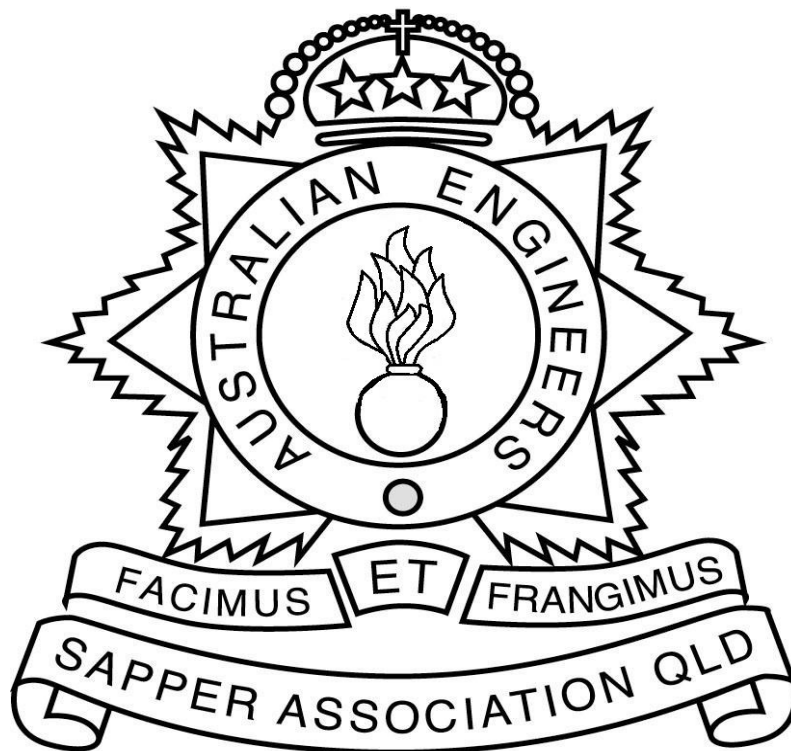


THE SAPPER
ASSOCIATION
QUEENSLAND
(INC.)

PATRON
HECTOR MACDONALD



NEWSLETTER 2/2023

BRISBANE
The Sapper Association Queensland (Inc.)
P.O. Box 5415
STAFFORD HEIGHTS
Queensland 4053
E-mail: sapper.association.qld@gmail.com

NORTH QUEENSLAND
The Sapper Association Queensland (Inc)
P.O. Box 1828
AITKENVALE,
Queensland 4814
E-mail: president@nqsappers.org

QUEENSLAND COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023

President:	Gordon Kratzmann	0419 647 568	gkratzmann@ozemail.com.au
Vice President:	Barry Low	0417 106 435	welfare@nqsappers.org
NQ Branch Rep:	Tony Kealley	0420 404 994	president@nqsappers.org
Secretary:	John Jesser	07 3356 9297	johnjesser@iinet.net.au
Asst Secretary:			
Treasurer:	Peter Campbell	0422 638 218	p.rcampbell@optusnet.com.au
Asst Treasurer:	Peter C Aylett	07 3298 5526	pca47@bigpond.com.au
Editor:			
Welfare North:	Peter Cairnes	0427 558 685	welfare.kwrs1@bigpond.com
South:	Harry Claassen	0422 525 575	harrycc@bigpond.net.au
Committee/ Social:	Blue Mackellar	07 3869 0834	pauline.mackellar@bigpond.com
	Ron Larsen	07 3822 3787	ralarsen@tpg.com.au
	Barry Lovelock	0421 980 386	bazlock@optusnet.com.au

NORTH QUEENSLAND BRANCH COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023

President:	Tony Kealley	0420404994	president@nqsappers.org
Vice President:	Cliff Kemp	0409 892 257	vpres@nqsappers.org
Membership:	Cliff Kemp	0409 892 257	vpres@nqsappers.org
Secretary:	Joe Walsh	0411 214 083	secretary@nqsappers.org
Asst Secretary:	Vacant		
Treasurer:	Gary Beveridge	0403 266 106	treasurer@nqsappers.org
Asst Treasurer:	Paul Jordan	0488 556 675	treasurer@nqsappers.org
Welfare:	Barry Low	0417 106 435	welfare@nqsappers.org
Social:	Jeremy Browne	0498 691 611	bull-frog4269@hotmail.com
Property:	Adrian Ross	0447 316 121	sapper28@bigpond.net.au
Member:	Pat Daley	0438 740 028	FRO@nqsappers.org
Member:	Joanne Daley	07 4774 0028	FRO@nqsappers.org
Member:	Terry McKeown	0458 377 801	tdmckeown@gmail.com
Member:	Greg Cottier	0488 228 949	gregcotts@gmail.com
Member:	Rodney Knight	0427 777 525	rod.knight63@gmail.com

Please do not hesitate to contact your committee should the need arise.

The Sapper Association, Queensland Inc. **Brisbane Branch**

Committee meetings will be:-

Saturday 30th Sep 2023, venue TBA

Saturday 3rd Feb 2024, venue TBA

AGM will be held on Sunday 06 Aug 2023

At Gaythorne RSL @ 10am

The Sapper Association, Queensland Inc. **NQ Branch**

Thuringowa RSL Club – 11am
1st Sunday of each month.

Check with your committee members regarding
meetings and when they will be held.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – JULY NEWSLETTER

It seems only a few weeks since I last sat down to prepare my message for the last Newsletter. Time is flying by. The weather here in Brisbane is not at its best with a few days of (much needed) rain due to hit us this week. These few months between ANZAC Day and the lead up to Remembrance Day are our quietest. SQ Branch conducted its branch meeting at Iron Bark Gully on 4 June and the Association committee conducted its most recent committee meeting on the same morning.

I was pleased to see the NQ Branch nominations for Life Memberships. These will be addressed at the next AGM.

The only formal event in this period is Reserve Forces Day. This involves a Lord Mayor's Reception on the morning of the 30th June and a Recognition Ceremony on the 1st July in ANZAC Square. The Past President Bob Crawford has agreed to represent the Association at these events as I'll be settling into Gayle's and my new home in McDowall.

We now know the dates of the next Sappers Reunion in Townsville next year. Anyone planning to attend the reunion should make their plans early so that the planning committee gets as much early information as possible on which to base its planning.

I was saddened to attend the funeral of Tim Slatterly in Ballina recently. Although a sad occasion the speakers shared insights with us that showed that you can take the man out of the Sappers but the Sapper always remains in the man. I also note that Dave Woods has recently passed away with his funeral details yet to be announced.

Here in South-East Queensland we are all looking to our Christmas in July at the Queensland Cruising Yacht Club in Shorncliffe on Saturday the 15th July.

The Sappers Lunch's kept running through the sponsorship of Jethro Thomson and Trevor Shelley continue to gain momentum. They have agreed to allow the Association to inject a tiny bit of protocol without making them in any way formal. I've mentioned to Jethro and Trevor that it would be good to introduce any visitors to the assembly as part of the process of making sure all visitors feel they belong here with their Sapper family. We now need to push its attendance to our new, younger members.

If you've not yet done it – Take a look at our Facebook Page. It continues to go from strength to strength and has already become a means for Sappers and their families to connect.

Lastly. A plug for the AGM in August. This is the most important meeting of all members in any year and I encourage you all to come along to the respective venues to hear what the issues are affecting our Association and give your feedback to your committee.

Take care,
Gordon Kratzmann
UBIQUE
President



17 CONST SQN REUNION SEPT 22 TO 24

As you may have heard 17 Const Sqn are having a reunion in Sydney over the weekend Sep 22 to 24. The plan is Friday night drinks and meet at Ingleburn RSL, from 1600 until late. Saturday morning meet at Holsworthy front gate at 0930—1000 (Note: all attending must register prior to the day, see 17 website), 1030 small Memorial Service at 17 Const Rock, just across the road from the Museum, this is followed by a tour of the Museum and new SME. There will be a BBQ at the Mick Mace Club SME, at a cost of \$15 a head. Saturday night is a Dinner at the Ingleburn RSL, must register on website.

The RSM has said they are unable to conduct a "Back To" but is happy to open up SME for anybody else who would like to check out the new home of the school. They can register with 17 on their website. Happy if anybody needs more info, they can send me an email, Graham Toll <grahamt@aapt.net.au>

PASSING PARADE

It is important that all members understand that we honour the memory of all Sappers who have passed away. Lest We Forget.

The following Sappers have passed away since the last newsletter.

CHRISTIAN Brian passed away 3/4/2023, Brian's funeral was held at 2pm on 28/4/2023, Townsville.

Mrs Smith Mother of member Derek Smith, passed away, 1/4/2023.

SLATTERY Timothy passed away 24/4/2023

BRICKNELL Raymond passed away 7/5/2023

FULLER Lionel passed 14/5/2023, his funeral was held 23/5/2023 at West Wyalong

COOK Robert Leslie passed away on 26/5/2023,

WOOD David Frederick passed away 25/6/2023, funeral a private family service

MORRISOM Granville (Val) passed away 15/6/2023, at Ozcare nursing home Glenvale Toowoomba, he was privately cremated

SWANSON Peter has passed away, his daughter posted it on RAE Sappers.

Our Condolences go to their families

QUEENSLAND (BRISBANE) MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

ELECTRONIC BANKING, ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

We have now introduced electronic banking so that members have the option of paying annual subs by this method. We ask that all who use this option make sure they identify each transaction as theirs, so our treasurer is able to keep the books of account correctly, as required by the Office of Fair Trading. This will also allow our nominal roll to be kept up to date. Annual Subs are due by 1st April each year. When the new Constitution comes into effect the Financial year will be the 1st July each year.

Ordinary membership \$20, Country membership \$10 (Over 100km from the Brisbane City Centre), Associate membership \$5.

BANK: BANK OF QUEENSLAND

NAME OF ACCOUNT: THE SAPPER ASSOCIATION QLD INC.

BSB NO.: 124021

ACCOUNT NO.: 21814271

PLEASE SHOW BOTH YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND YOUR SURNAME AS A REFERENCE

ATTENTION! INFORMATION FOR WIDOWS & MEMBERS

The Association has for some time been trying to get some information for Widows & Members, about what should happen when a loved one passes, and things the Member should put in place well before the event of his or her death.

The following are available on the internet from the Department of Veteran's Affairs:-

Planning ahead booklet – a guide to putting your affairs in order

Personal information sheet – D8729

Planning ahead – checklist - P00068

Medical details of Veteran – D8730

Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC) DFRDB - DB01: MSBS - MB02.

As we are all of that age and not forgetting younger Veterans, we should ALL leave our loved ones with information on "what to do" and "where to go".

First Stop your **Sub-branch RSL advocate** (not RSL service clubs), and DVA who can assist you. Also you should register with Legacy (07) 3029 5600 41 Merivale St Brisbane

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE NORTH QUEENSLAND BRANCH INC

Happenings from the Deep North 1/2023

By John Cotter Esq

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Tony Kealley leads the Sapper Association during Tuesday's ANZAC Day ceremony in Thuringowa; (inset) explosives disposal dog Bullseye

'AMAZING' RECOGNITION FOR SAPPERS

Daniel Shirkie

Thousands of Townsville residents braved the sun on Thursday morning to line the marching route to Thuringowa Cenotaph as veterans, serving defence members, their families, support and community services and schools conducted an Anzac Day march.

In the thick of the press was a delegation of the North Queensland branch of the Sappers Association, led by their president Tony Kealley, who walked alongside an explosives disposal dog, Bullseye. Holding shovels aloft and greeted by claps and cheers from the assembled crowd, the humble combat engineer has

been afforded a special level appreciation this year, as the nation looks back to their involvement, particularly in the Vietnamese theatre of war.

"It's an amazing feeling to see the recognition," Mr Kealley said. "Sappers have been to every war that's ever existed, they're always the first ones in and the last ones out."

G'day all,
Well, a couple of activities so far this year to report on, starting with another great ANZAC day. Dawn service at 3CER followed by the Dingo being opened afterwards for brekkie, games and the odd drink. Then on to Thuringowa, with a great turn out to march under the NQ Sappers' Banner. (This included the Branch members, featuring Bullseye our mascot, being photographed, yours truly being interviewed and an article in the Townsville Bulletin the next day). Then off to the Thuringowa RSL for our usual day of socialising.

Our Vice President Cliff has had us busy with sausage sizzles and raffles everywhere, keeping the fund raising ticking over. Well done to him and our amazing members for continually stepping up and volunteering their time for these.

Derek Smith, the Vice President, and I attended the Waterloo Dinner at 3CER and had a wonderful night. Thanks to CO, RSM, Officers and seniors for their hospitality.

There are a couple of activities coming up to put in our diaries. Firstly - the 3CER fishing comp; a big fundraiser for Legacy and always a good weekend that is to be held over the weekend 1-4 September. The other is the North Queensland Sappers Ball which is a country theme and will be held at Melville's Farm on 18th August; this is a must for all those who can make it. These have always been amazing nights, more to come on this as we get closer.

With the AGM taking place on the 6th August, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my current NQ Committee for being part of an amazing team for the last 15 months and I really hope we can keep the band together.

Preparation for Holdfast 2024 is moving along very well and will be on us sooner than we know. So watch this space and the Holdfast 2024 Facebook page for more info. For those not aware the reunion is the 26-29 April 2024 – why not come for ANZAC Day and stay for the reunion..?

Until next time I wish everyone all the very best

UBIQUE

Tony Kealley

☺

AROUND THE TRAPS

You may have noticed our new Logo at the Masthead? Our first logo Super Sapper, has served us well for the past 20 or so years and thanks go to the Commanding Officer of the School of Military Engineering for allowing us the use of Lex Van Blyenburg's art work. But with the Incorporation of the NQ Branch it was time for an update; the final design selected ties past, present and future sappers together and also acknowledges our ties to the Third Combat Engineer Regiment (3CER). The background is the RAE Corps Flag surrounded by a purple belt, the colour of the distinguishing colour patches of RAE units of both the First and Second Australian Imperial Force's and current RAE units. The crossed pick and shovel is an engineer/mining symbol used since antiquity and carried by the Branch on ceremonial occasions. The dingo paw print on the lower background acknowledges our relationship with 3CER. And of course our working title on the belt.

It appears that sappers do rise to exalted places. Did you know that Cpl/Lt Ninian Martin Stephen (later Sir Ninian Stephen, High Court Chief Justice and Governor General 1982- 1989) and Captain Nigel Hubert Bowen (later Sir Nigel Bowen, Cabinet Minister and Federal Court Chief Justice) both served with 43 Australian Landing Craft Coy along with Lt Frank Packer, later Sir Frank Packer. The company served in New Guinea waters for a period of 19 months and was the sole means of transportation between Aitape and But to Wewak.

It seems that with DVA having the sole say on the official training and qualifications of Compensation and Wellbeing Advocates, the prior learning and experiences of current advocates are not accepted as an exemption from the new DVA Advocacy Training and Development Program (ATDP) qualification courses. So it would seem that the present advocates with their hard won experiences and knowledge are being discarded unless they qualify on the course. The shooting of a DVA foot comes to mind, not at all helped by DVA's On-Line Claims submission system that by all reports leaves a great deal to be desired, reportedly even encouraging incomplete and frivolous claims. So anyone looking for assistance with a claims submission may need to ensure that their chosen advocate is ATDP qualified if they don't want to affect the DVA Building Excellence in Support and Training program payments to their Ex Service Organisation. The words of wisdom from our advocate is to always talk to an advocate, before doing anything with, or going anywhere near DVA. Good advice.

Still on the subject of DVA comes a warning from the Vietnam Veterans Federation of Australia's April magazine that an organisation in Queensland is charging returned and ex-service personnel for advice and assistance with the submission of their claims to DVA. Charges include a six page contract that requires the veteran to pay fees for service such as \$1,000.00 plus GST to submit a Freedom of Information request; a cost to the client of four pension payments for a pension increase; payment for the initial client interview; lump sum payments at 5% plus GST a 10% fee for late payments. The organisation is also not required to hold any formal qualifications for advising veterans.

The bottom line is that there are organisations in the ESO community who will look after people dealing with DVA without having to go anywhere near these type of organisations.

And talking about advocates, one Jye Christie has put his hand up to be the DVA advocate for the NQ Sappers. Jai does his thing at the Thuringowa Branch of the RSL and can be contacted on 0425 337 7890.

The Waterloo Dinner at 3CER was attended by three of our stalwarts who aren't averse to a good dining in night. Word is that a certain presidential type reckons he was nobbled when he realised that his memory was very definitely hazy about certain events during the night. Couldn't have been a case of mixing the good stuff with medications could it?

The annual National Service Memorial Service was again well attended by our members and there are hopes that it will continue to improve.



Following representations from our venerable resident Scotsman Mal Edmiston on behalf of the Townsville RSL Pipes and Drums Band, a Tartan was procured by the branch for presentation to the band. Then on 17 March, St Paddy's Day of course, the Tartan was presented to the band by President Tony accompanied by Mal in all his Sco Irish finery.

Confusing I know but it does get better. The event went off without a hitch at the Irish Finnegan's Hotel, where else on Paddy's Day, and no doubt the post presentation was enjoyed by all. *Left: Mal and Tony; Right: Tony presenting the Tartan.*

Good to see that the government has accepted the Defence Honours and Awards Ap-

The four UNISOM Australian Service Contingents – ASC I, ASC II, ASC III and ASC IV and the 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment Group, and HMAS Tobruk. ☺

AROUND AND ABOUT...Do You Remember FRED?



Back in 2006 when the Army Newspaper reported on the demise of FRED, they told of old soldiers and their younger colleagues being teary-eyed at the demise of a trusty old friend known as Fred, a comrade since the days long before Viet-Nam. Fred is the army-issue tin opener, bottle opener, spoon and screw driver; a shiny all in one implement manufactured in the gazillions and included in every one man ration pack issued to Australian soldiers since forever.

But in an age of ring-pull cans and heat-in-the-bag main meals, the Fred is no longer needed and his retirement prompted an outpouring of sorrow in recent letters to the Army Newspaper. "From opening tin cans to cleaning fingernails or personal assault weapons to a makeshift screwdriver, the humble Fred has served well," wrote Captain Brian Touhy of the Townsville based 3 Brigade. "It has never been decorated, Mentioned in Dispatches or given a Commanding Officer's Commendation. It has gone about its business serving the Australian soldier, sailor and airman in every conceivable country and operation in the world without the recognition it so rightly deserves."

Major Justin Bayley, a defence logistics manager and senior food inspector advised that the Fred was being dropped so funds could be diverted to new and better items. And Lt-Col Sean Ryan advised that it said it wasn't just a money issue rather the fact that the Fred is redundant in the modern ration pack and modern technology has meant that the army can take advantage of more innovative packaging solutions such as ring-pulls to give the soldier in the field greater culinary delights and simpler preparation.

Not all soldiers were convinced. Major K.T Cook, of Bandiana said he was moved to solemnly inter his Fred in his backyard. "A few words were said and tears glistened in my eyes as Fred had been my faithful companion for more than 30 years," he said, querying whether a ring-pull could ever serve as a screw driver, for fingernail cleaning or for scraping the mud off boots. Similarly, Private Raymond Khoo of the Defence Languages School said his Fred had always been an important tool in the field. "It was used widely. Including the opening of tins to importantly the cleaning of weapons and other things limited only by one's imagination," he said.

And for those who haven't worked it out Fred stands for "flaming ridiculous eating device."

Since this snippet appeared back in 2006 Fred was apparently reissued for it seems that the users of the can spanner had a different view to those at boffin HQ. And now of course the one day ration pack reportedly comes in a multitude of varieties for a plethora of preferences including halal, meat free, pork free, vegetarian and vegan.

Not sure what the spanner looks like now so maybe one of our serving sappers could enlighten us with a sample or two. ☺

COMING EVENTS

If members have any thoughts/ideas for functions please speak to Jeremy Browne the Social Coordinator. He would welcome your input.

Annual General Meeting: 11.00am 6 August 2023 at the Thuringowa RSL Club.

Vietnam Commemorative Service: 09.30am 18 August 2023 at the Thuringowa Cenotaph/RSL.

RAE Regimental Ball: 18 August 2023 a country theme at Melrose Farm. Timings TBA.

Mid-Year Function: To be advised and any ideas to Jeremy Browne please.

Thuringowa RSL Markets: 10.30am – 2.30pm on the last Saturday of the month.

3CER Fishing Competition: 1 – 4 September 2023 Details TBA.

HOLDFAST 2024 Reunion: 26 April to 29 April 2024 in Townsville.

For further details please see the Events Calendar. Remember that meetings are now back at the Thuringowa RSL Club. ☺



UNVEILING OF AFGHANISTAN PLAQUE

THURSDAY 6TH JULY 2023

A small group of Veterans gathered at Keith Payne VC Park, for the unveiling of a plaque for the four Afghanistan VC recipients. The plaque (below right) was unveiled by Cr Fiona Hammond and Mr Alec Morris OAM, DCM. This was followed by Padre Dan Kemp who dedicated the Memorial Plaque.

The group returned to the Kedron Wavell for another dedication by Padre Dan Kemp at VC room.

The four plinths in the picture on the left signify World War 1, World War 2, Korea and Vietnam.



MATES4MATES RELOCATION TO STAFFORD



Mates4Mates is relocating to a brand new centre in Stafford, Brisbane. The RSL Queensland Veteran & Family Wellbeing Centre will be state of the art, catering to veterans and the wider Defence community.

From Monday 28th August 2023, Mates4Mates will be opening its new centre to veterans and family members, continuing to provide high-quality support services currently available at our Milton centre.

The new centre is located at Level 1, 274 Stafford Rd, Stafford QLD 4053, will include a wide variety of consultation rooms for support services by Mates4Mates, psychologists, social workers, counsellors and exercise physiologists, a gym for physical health services, regular social connection activities by our liaison officers and a veterans lounge will also be available. The centre will also provide much easier access to other support services available to veterans and their family members.

This includes RSL Queensland, Legacy and the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF), with DVA and Open Arms located on the ground floor of the building.

ADAVALE
A short report by that intrepid reporter on the spot
Trevor Shelley

Well the last month has seen great additions and improvements out at Adavale.

Lyndal and I went out for a week for the delivery of the Kitchen and Dining Room.

Graham Cleary and his crew arrived and the buildings were set up in a couple of days.

It was great fun with Lyndal herding in Volunteers that may have been passing by and getting a days work out of them and they were great.. One bloke only had one leg but we made him slave all day.
(Jethro, we are coming for you next)

In addition there have been lots of donations of goods from the CWA at Mogill and a tractor with plenty of implements from Geoff Cook...RAEME from out at Mount Hallam which Alan Christie has already picked it up and transported to Adavale.

As we have plenty of Artesian water, it's a watermelon crop we are after.

We are like all veteran organisations.. we really need some help from the young diggers. We are all in our 70's with some volunteers OBE.... But we soldier on.

As we generally shop in Quilpie, where the butcher is outstanding, you will always find us with the best cuts of meat supported by Yabbies galore.

And Adavale has a tennis court, so social tennis is often on the cards.

We have our liquor licence now and just require our fencing completed and that will start up.

Everyone still has a few months to visit us before the place turns into a furnace.

Cheers
Trevor Shelley



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Dear Members,

We wish to advise that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Sapper Association Queensland Incorporated will be held on Sunday 6 August 2023 at the Gaythorne RSL & Thuringowa RSL, Townsville at 10am sharp.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING QLD SAPPERS ASSOCIATION INC

10.00 AM SUNDAY 6th AUG 2023

GAYTHORNE RSL AND THURINGOWA RSL

NOMINATION FOR OFFICE BEARERS (Association & Brisbane Branch)

<i>POSITION</i>	<i>NOMINEE</i>	<i>NOMINATOR</i>	<i>SECONDER</i>
<i>Patron (Assoc)</i>			
<i>President (Assoc)</i>			
<i>Vice President (Assoc)</i>			
<i>Secretary (Assoc & BB)</i>			
<i>Assistant Secretary (BB)</i>			
<i>Treasurer (Assoc & BB)</i>			
<i>Assistant Treasurer (BB)</i>			
<i>Property Member (BB)</i>			
<i>Welfare Officer (x2)</i>			
<i>Social Member (BB)</i>			
<i>Editor (Assoc & BB)</i>			
<i>Assistant Editor (BB)</i>			
<i>Auditor (Assoc)</i>			
<i>Solicitor/Legal Advisor (Assoc)</i>			
<i>Social & Committee (x3) (BB)</i>			

Proxy Voting Form - Queensland Sappers Association Inc

All Ordinary & Affiliated financial members and Life Members can vote at an Annual General Meeting. Those members who are unable to attend are eligible to vote via proxy or they can nominate a person to vote on their behalf by filling out the form below.

SAPPER ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC

I of
being a financial member of the above-named Association, hereby appoint:

..... of
or failing that person I nominate:

..... of

As my proxy vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on Sunday 7th Aug, 2022 at 10.00 am., at Gaythorne RSL and Thuringowa RSL and at any adjustment thereof.

Signed this Day Of2022

.....
Signature

This form is to used * in favour of * against the resolution

*Strike whichever is not desired

*Unless otherwise instructed the proxy may vote as he/she thinks fit.

Each instrument appointing a proxy must be given to the Secretary before the start of the Meeting, or adjourned meeting, at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote.

Received by Secretary

Date..... Signature

EDITOR'S JOTTINGS

ATTENTION! The Sapper Association QLD Inc is in need of an Editor. The newsletter is the only way our members have of keeping up with the goings on of the Association. PLEASE if you can help, submit your name to the Secretary by email or phone which are listed on page 2 of this newsletter

SICK PARADE

Best wishes for a full recovery to all those who are undergoing treatment at present. A special "Get Well" also to all those who may just be "feeling off their oats" right now. Of course, our thoughts are also with their often hard-pressed spouses and families.

Reldi Mansell has been in hospital for surgery, she is recovering and having treatment.

Tony Kealley has been in for surgery, and is doing well.

Albert Abdul-Rahman was in hospital and is back home resting and having treatment at home.

Brian Christian was in hospital but is now at home continuing treatment by the Doctors.

Pat Daley is home receiving treatment for a problem.

Peter Hallam is in St Andrews Hospital with cracked ribs Mob 0414 264 119

Trevor Leitch is in hospital and slowly improving.

Brian Bade Williams is in Redcliffe Hospital Mob 0499 871 520

Cliff Kemp is in TSV hospital

We wish them all a speedy recovery, if you know people who are not too well let your welfare people know so we can let you know.

NORTH QUEENSLAND (TOWNSVILLE) BRANCH.

Please note that fees are now \$25.00 for country members and \$30.00 for city members.

For those of you who are into electronic banking and would prefer to pay by that means our details are:

Bank: Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633-000

Account Number: 162988240

Account Name: Sapper Association Queensland Inc – North Queensland Branch

Please use your surname and initial to identify payment.

FEES DUE BY THE FIRST OF APRIL. IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note that, because of the pandemic and social distancing regulations, most future events have been put on hold at present. If you need answers to any questions, contact your local committee.

Christmas in July—15 July at Queensland Cruising Yacht Club, Shorncliffe

North Queensland

If members have any thoughts/ideas for functions please speak to Jeremy Browne the Social Coordinator. He would welcome your input.

Other NQ Upcoming Events can be found at the bottom of page 7 of this newsletter.

For further details please see the Events Calendar. Remember that meetings are now back at the Thuringowa RSL Club.

WELFARE & PENSIONS
THE SAPPER ASSOC., QLD

Any members seeking advice regarding DVA,
Pensions or Welfare

Can contact;
Peter (Fat Cat) Cairnes, Mobile: 0427 558 685
Or
Harry Claassen, Mobile: 0422 525 575
email: svp@sunnybankrsl.org

AATTVA (Qld BR) Inc
Pensions Officer/ Advocate

Mr John McDonagh

Mobile 0423 138 346,

email aattvqldbr@westnet.com.au

John is a vastly experienced Pensions Officer who has had many years with DVA and Brisbane Legacy. "DVA have discontinued funding for this service. However, he is willing to continue this service by working from his home. Association members who wish to contact John should call him via the mobile phone above.

SAPPERS' LUNCHESES, GAYTHORNE RSL

The next luncheon will be held at the Gaythorne RSL on **Thursday 7 September 2023** beginning at 11.30am, bring a mate. These luncheons are held the first Thursday of the month in March, June, September, and December. Mark them on your calendar.

Cheers Jethro

You can contact John (Jethro) Thompson for details on Mobile: 0488 680 360.

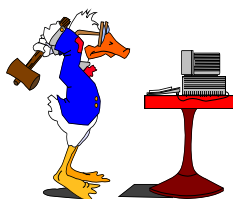
MEMORABILIA ITEMS FOR SALE, BRISBANE

The following items are for sale to members:

Lapel badges	\$8.00	Association Plaques	\$40.00
Engineer Belt Buckles	\$23.50	Embroidered cloth badges	\$7.00
Stubbie holders (tubes)	\$ 2.50	Stubbie holders (with Bases)	\$3.50
Polo Shirts	\$45.00 (incl P&H)		

Don't hesitate to contact the Committee if you wish to purchase an item.

Website & Email addresses of interest.



WANT TO RESEARCH A DIGGER RELATIVE?

For all the clues try:-

RAE CORPS SHOP

RAE ASSOCIATION – WA:

COCKSCOMB –

VETERAN HELP – Central Qld

WATER TRANSPORT ASSOC

MUSEUM OF MILITARY ENGINEERING

<http://www.dva.gov.au/help/digger.htm>

corpsshop@gmail.com

www.wasappers.com.au

<http://veteranretreat.tripod.com>

<http://talk.to/veteransupport>

www.32smallshipsgn.org.au

aame.mailbox@defence.gov.au

Please advise the Association Secretary either by email, phone or snail mail when you move to a new address or change your email.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of this association.