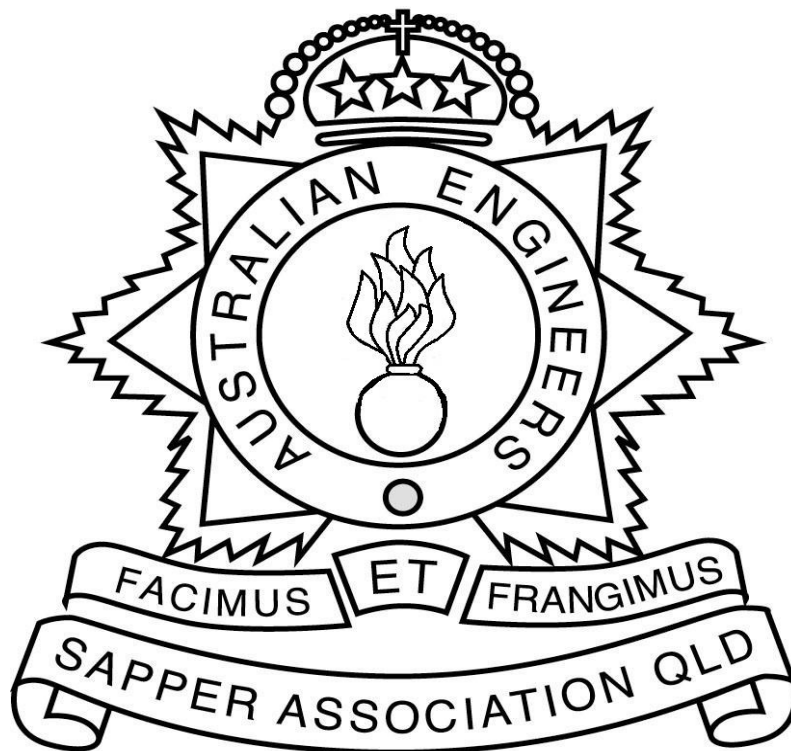


THE SAPPER
ASSOCIATION
QUEENSLAND
(INC.)

PATRON
HECTOR MACDONALD



NEWSLETTER 4/2023

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
V P Brisbane	Rory Osbourne	0427 975 798	rmosbourne@hotmail.com
Secretary:	John Jesser	07 3356 9297	johnjesser@iinet.net.au
Asst Secretary:	Geoff Taylor	0410 572 567	gtaybuild@gmail.com
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:	Glen Taylor	0407 741 350	glenlynt17@tpg.com.au
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:-
Thursday 1st Feb 2024, venue Veteran & Family
Wellbeing Centre, 274 Stafford Rd, Stafford
Thursday 4th Apr 2023, venue TBA
Monday 1st Jul 2023, venue TBA
Sunday 4th Aug 2023, AGM, venue TBA

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.

Sunday 4th Aug 2023, AGM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is a wrap up of the news of 2023

Having spent considerable time on the preparation of the new (revised) Association Constitution, it was presented at a Special Resolution meeting held at Redcliffe RSL. It was passed by all members present on Sunday 2 April 2023. The Office of Fair Trading/Liquor Gaming & Fair Trading/Dept Justice & Attorney General, were contacted and approval was granted on 17/11/2023.

I attended Jethro's Luncheon at Gaythorne RSL and was surprised by the numbers who attended, whilst they are informal gatherings, I feel that we should acknowledge some of the well known and noted members of the Corps, so members can mingle and talk to them.

The Reserve Forces Day was the only function in June/July, which I unfortunately could not attend, the Past President Bob Crawford filled in for me, Bob Bannan attended the Service in ANZAC Square, and laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.

The AGM was held at Gaythorne RSL on the 6 August 2023, and is the most important meeting in our calendar year. Members should attend and bring up any matters of concern. At the AGM I was pleased to see two members from Townsville put up for "Life Membership" being a reward for service to the Association over a ten-year period.

I have had a year where I have had to go into hospital for various operations which we all have as a matter of getting on in years or Service related.

I visited 6ESR at Amberley, on the occasion of their Birthday Parade, also the service for Remembrance Day at the ANZAC Cenotaph, where I laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. The passing parade continues, with people like Tim Slattery, at Ballina, David Woods and one of my best mates Brian O'Connell.

In the New Year I will be "Pushing the Wagon" for the formation of one Sapper Association, as I feel we may not be here in five years.

In closing, on behalf of Gayle and myself, I would like to wish all members of the Association a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Take care of yourselves and your mates.

Gordon Kratzmann

President

UBIQUE

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 correct, 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 July each year. It was decided by the Committee to raise the fees by \$5.00

Ordinary membership \$25, Affiliated membership \$25 Country membership \$15 (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

PASSING PARADE

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

181456 WILSON, Andrew Burn, passed away Friday 29 September 2023 after a battle with cancer. his funeral was held 20/10/2023, at Bridgeman Downs,

2781990 TIERNEY Peter John, passed away 1/10/23,

3475 McDONAGH John Francis, passed away 11/10/2023, his funeral was held 1/11/2023, in Matraville NSW,

44331, FREEMAN Robert (Bob) James, passed away 13/10/2023, his funeral was held 7/11/2023, in Dubbo NSW,

44518, MARRS David John, has passed away, his funeral was held 24/10/2023 at Mt Gravatt QLD,

313814, Chaplin SIMPSON John Barrie, passed away 21/10/2023, his funeral was held at St John's 27/10/2023, Brisbane,

1411343, LEITCH Trevor Ross, passed away 20/10/2023, his funeral was held 9/11/2023. Albany Creek QLD,

213828, OPIE John Paul, passed away 20/11/2023, his funeral was held 24/11/2023, in Hobart TAS,

48569, ANSPACH Dennis John, passed away 20/11/2023, his funeral was held 5/12/2023 Tweed Heads NSW, (Live Streamed)

216209 INGRAM Bryan John passed away 10/11/2023, Bryan was cremated 17/11/2023, no service as was Bryan's wishes,

14646, STINSON Willian (Bill) Mervyn, passed away 10/12/2023, after a short illness, his funeral details still to come

DI RIECROFT, Warwick, passed away 10/12/2023 in the arms of his wife Erin. The funeral service is at the Victory Church, 32 Carseldine Rd, Bridgeman Downs at 11am on 23/12/2023

Our Condolences go to their families

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



G'day all, well it's that time of the year again already and we are feeling the heat up here in the north. I would like to start with the sad news of the death of one of the Explosive Detection Dogs from the Third Combat Engineer Regiment, EDD 606 Pablo died on the 4th December and we held a memorial for him on the 5th, placing his name plaque on the memorial wall at 3CER. Our thoughts are with his handler, Cpl Chris Latimer and all our dog handlers. RIP Pablo, seek on.

The Vice President and I attended the dining out night to see many seniors of 3CER being farewelled including the RSM Mick Smith (*pictured top left being farewelled by the NQ Sappers*) and we wish all of them the very best in their next endeavors. And in mentioning RSMs we welcome Wo1 Dan Bell as the new RSM of the Regiment, welcome back Dan.

At our last meeting we had a change in Secretary's with Joe Walsh being posted to the school, and Jess Reid coming in to look after the old and bold. We thank Joe for the last year and wish him all the best in his next posting and congratulate him on his promotion to Captain. (*Pictured*



Bottom Left)

It has been a very busy year at 3CER from our fortnightly banjos and Dingo parades, to cooking for the many functions they held throughout the year. We had our final cook up for 2023 on the 7th December with the unit Christmas lunch, knocking out whatever we were asked to cook, washed down with a couple of cold beers of course, just to say Merry Christmas.

The last social event for the NQ branch this year will be our Christmas lunch which is being held on the 17th at the Thuringowa RSL Club. Looking forward to that one, should be a cracker!

Well, I will finish up by wishing you all a very merry Christmas, I hope you all get what you want from Santa and enjoy the New Year. We will see each other at the reunion in April.

Happy Days

Tony Kealley



AROUND THE TRAPS

Another reminder that Jye Christie is 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.

If the last American Civil War pension was paid in May 2020 to a dependant (daughter) of a serving CSA soldier; the last widow of a serving CSA soldier in 2008; and the last widow of a serving Union soldier in 2003, how long will the pensions for our current returned servicemen and women go for? Has anyone done the maths on this? I gave up when the wires on my abacus broke.

He's been at it again; it seems Derek Smith just can't stop digging holes for wells.

"Located at Kon Ron Village, Kon Tum Province, Vietnam the village is about 17 km from Kon Tum. Most of the people, particularly children, had not seen people looking like us with my son Michael (*pictured on far right*) being 6ft 5in and me (*pictured on far left*) being 6ft 1in, both with fair hair. We were something of a novelty and kids were not too keen to get too close.

Anyway, they drilled down 110 metres and found a good supply of water which is pumped up using an electric motor to a 2000 litre above ground tank. It is then filtered using reverse osmosis and out to taps so all the villagers have easy access.

End result is that clean, filtered water is

provided for about 2500 villagers. We are hearing that health of kids and elderly has improved, probably as a result of having clean, filtered water. We tried to get some statistics on numbers of folks presenting to doctors/hospital, but that was a bit of a mission. Still all the indicators are good. This was our 8th well. Villagers are keen to show their appreciation for such work. They have nothing to give of course. They are as poor as church mice. However they will share their 'jar wine'. The images attached speak for themselves.

I would like to sincerely thank our Association for their support with this project."

10 May next year will see the Third Combat Engineer Regiment exercising their Right of Freedom of Entry to the City of Bowen. They were bestowed this honour for the sterling work they did at Airlie Beach in the aftermath of cyclonic floods. Hopefully, God willing and the creeks don't rise; the event will proceed as planned.



Seems exciting times are ahead for all three of the Combat Engineer Regiments. Older hands of the field (combat engineer) squadrons might wonder at the massive improvement to capability and quality of equipment. And marvel at the varied roles of some squadrons within their lifetime; from the Pentropic Division of 1 Field Squadron where ALL field engineer equipment was carried by sappers to 18 Field Squadron's many iterations from Heavy to Light and everything in between to 7 Field Squadron who gave birth to 1 Field Squadron and 9 Field Squadron that had more resurrections than a whole tribe of Lazarus's. Armoured and motorised combat engineer (field) squadrons? Who would have thunk it.

Good to see that the Townsville RSL ANZAC Lodge is back in operation. The units are available to veterans and their families who require temporary accommodation in Townsville for medical and/or welfare assistance. Bookings can be made through the Sub Branch Secretary of the Townsville RSL on Ph. 07477599500.

The NQ Sappers awards for 3CER this year went to Spr Neil Stock for the Top Sapper Award and to Lt Jacob McLean for the Junior Officer Award. Both recipients are from 25 Support Squadron and Neil is an Operator Special Vehicles and Plant Operator. Well done to both recipients.



It seems you just can't disappear when on holidays, even abroad. Derek Smith bumped into our treasure Gary Beveridge in Saigon and of course tested the local brew for potability. And not a well in sight! Saigon of course is the jumping off place for Derek's well building projects and no doubt a place of useful contacts. Remember the film "ZULU"? Of course you do. And of course we all remember the Colour Sergeant that everyone reckoned was worthy of a Victoria Cross. What ever happened to him – does anyone know?

AROUND AND ABOUT

Many of our members have had a busy year supporting the many and varied activities of the NQ Sappers, which of course included fund raising. Pat and Joanne Daley and their helpers could usually be found at various activities and shopping centres around Townsville selling military themed merchandise. They do a terrific job which of course keeps our treasurer happy as does Barry Low and his band of merry off-siders at the Vale Hotel who inveigle the unsuspecting pub patrons into buying raffle tickets, knowing full well that most of them will do their dough.

The other major player in fund raising and supporting varied activities is our Vice President and chief cook Cliff Kemp. Cliff also looks after Membership and started his report by saying "Let me start off with saying we can't do

what we do without the full support of all our members. This year has had plenty of challengers with people in and out of hospital, me included. Membership has been on the incline even though we have had soldiers posted and sadly members pass away. February 2023, we started with 208 members and by December 2023 we have 220 members."

Cliff and his many helpers have been very busy with fund raising activities and supporting 3CER activities. Some of the events conducted included six raffles at the Cowboys League Club; nine raffles at the Thuringowa RSL Club; ten Banjo's (smoko) and ten free sausage sizzles at 3CER; four dining out nights at 3CER; five sausage sizzles at Bunnings; five sausage sizzles at King's Supa 4X4 Centre; and the 3CER Christmas Party sizzle.

Over the next few years the NQ Sapper Assoc Inc. expects to be busier as 3CER starts to expand with

greater numbers. VERY EXCITING and it is believed that hints have been dropped to the CO that a Special Senior Sapper Section should be put in place. (lol!) our venerable treasurer enters the frame. Gary Beveridge keeps a discerning eye on the fruits of the fund-raisers when not gazing at the sky line in some far off foreign city. (The city of sin somehow comes to mind.)

The year began with Assistant Treasurer Paul Jordan doing a sterling job taking the reins as our Treasurer disappeared on one of his frequent trips, this time to New Zealand. This situation was repeated in October when our senior bean counter enjoyed the delights of Vietnam, including a diversion in Saigon where he met up with Derek Smith for a quiet one or three.

The year began with Assistant Treasurer Paul Jordan doing a sterling job taking the reins as our Treasurer disappeared on one of his frequent trips, this time to New Zealand. This situation was repeated in October when our senior bean counter enjoyed the delights of Vietnam, including a diversion in Saigon where he met up with Derek Smith for a quiet one or three.





Pre-empting the change of financial year forecast in the now adopted Constitution, the financial year was extended by 3 months to the end of June and this meant that two ANZAC Day Campaigns were included, boosting our profits to a healthy \$23K. The new financial year in July saw the adoption of Xero, an accounting package which has eased the workload tremendously and by all reports has certainly made our accountant very happy. ☺

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Exercise Sapper Resign was conducted at High Range on Sunday 10 December 2006 with the aim of replacing the signs for Camps Engstrom and Guilfoyle. A number of members made the trip to High Range accompanied by three supervisors (who also provided the smoko) to erect the signs provided by Corporate Support Infrastructure- NQ (now Defence Support-NQ). Memories of playing in the dirt were re-kindled and

Hands were re-acquainted with the feel of shovels and crow bars; although for some it would appear that it had been quite a while. The exercise was coordinated by WO2 Greg Cottier who also organised and drove the bus. Many thanks to Greg for his foresight in getting the Exercise off the ground. The exercise concluded in traditional sapper style at the Hervey Range Heritage

Tea Rooms that now sits on the site of the old Eureka Hotel and of course has a liquor licence. All in all a most satisfactory day's work and thanks to all who participated. ☺

ON A MORE SOMBRE NOTE

Earlier this month 3CER had the melancholy duty of having one of their Explosive Detection Dogs euthanized on terminal medical grounds. Cpl Chris Latimer's EDD 606 Pablo died on Monday 4 December 2023 and a memorial service was conducted the next day at the unit. Pablo's name was added to the EDD Memorial Wall, joining EDD's Merlin, Nova and Hayley.



The EDD in the photo at the right has not been staged. EDD Ned of his own volition and after having a sniff around the memorial to his best mate, decided to lie down as shown. The hat and leash were added by a handler to complete the scene. Makes a strong statement about loyalty and mate-ship, don't you think.



Out and About with the Brisbane Sappers

Christmas Lunch at Manly Harbour Boat Club—Saturday 18 November 2023



Our social team chose the Manly Harbour Boat Club for our Xmas Function. Wine was provided for the ladies, a raffle & door prize were available, George Clatworthy won the raffle & Jan Norton took home the door prize.

BBQ Breakfast and Meetings at Ironbark Gully—Sunday 3 December 2023



This was the final meeting for 2023. A BBQ brekky was provided for all, with the usual fare cooked by over qualified cooks. The branch meeting was held first as Townsville were available at 9.30am. We voted Rory Osbourne in as the Vice President of Brisbane Branch. A phone hook up with Townsville at 9.30am, business flowed smoothly. Townsville requested a copy of the revised Constitution. Due to our President, Gordon Kratzmann, going to hospital for a medical procedure, our ex-officio President, Bob Crawford, chaired both meetings.



Jethro's lunch at Gaythorne RSL—Thursday 7 December 2023



Jethro and Trevor Shelley's luncheon at Gaythorne RSL was held upstairs due to renovations. As this was the final luncheon for 2023, it was well attended with many new faces. The President of the Aust Amer Association (a Sapper) Mike Harris attended with his partner Teresa, for the first time, and were impressed by the attendance of Sappers.

A group photo was taken, some faces you may know.

The snap on the right shows mates and ladies catching up with news and some wild stories of days when we served, where was so and so, etc.

These luncheons are held every quarter being March, June, Sept, and Dec, on the first Thursday of the month, beginning around 11.30am until they disperse.

The Association wish all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year. We also wish those in ill health and recuperating from operations all the best for a speedy recovery back to good health.



The shot to the left shows 2CER 's Mascot Digger at the unit Memorial rock.

As is the norm at the end of the year, all the Engineer units at Amberley, Enoggera and Townsville will enjoy a well earned break with their families, after a year training for what they do well, train for the next conflict, Peacekeeping or disaster relief to our neighbours within the region.

We wish them a very Merry Christmas, and a healthy Happy New Year, for those moving on posting, promotion, enjoy the challenge, for those who chose to Discharge, all the best with what you do, and to all our Defence Force personnel "Thank you for your Service".

For those who served in 2 Tp, 11Fd Sqn RE Butterworth
This is how it looks today



The ferry terminal (blue wharf) on Penang Island (Palau Pinang) is the building in the centre of the picture. The ferry is now only a small passenger boat as there is a bridge off the picture, to the left. The place across the strait is Butterworth..... no longer the days of nipa hut kampongs and temporary bars---now the 'ulu' is all built out with a lot of technical industries such as the Japanese alternator and spark plug manufacturer (I forgot the name).
Supplied by Jack Madden

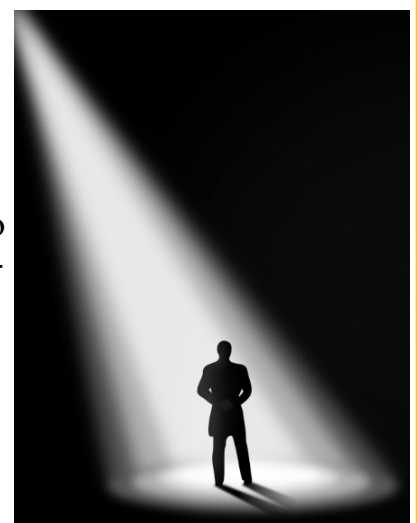
SPOTLIGHT ON A SAPPER!

Are you happy to have the spotlight on you? Do you want to share your story with other Sappers? Then this is just the thing for you.

We are looking for some willing participants to share a brief bio about their service, and any appropriate stories, as well as a picture of themselves to feature in upcoming Sapper Association newsletters.

Please send all submissions to the Editor c/o the Sapper Association email:

sapper.association.qld@gmail.com





HOLDFAST 2024

What's On

ANZAC DAY:

3CER DAWN SERVICE & BREKKY

THURINGOWA MARCH & SERVICE

THURINGOWA RSL FOR BEERS, NIBBLES,

2-UP AND CATCH-UPS

Friday 26th April - 3pm – 6pm

Meet & Greet

To be held at the Dingo Inn, 3CER with a static display of current Unit capabilities.

What's included: Buses from the city (with nominated stops) to 3CER and back again, Welcome pack, Nibbles and a free drink or 2, (further drinks may be purchased from Dingo Inn)

Dress: Neat Casual – no thongs or singlets.

Maximum Cost: \$30

Deposit Required: \$20

Saturday 27th April - 6pm til late

Formal Dinner

To be held at the Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Rd, Hermit Park

What's included: Buses from the city (with nominated stops) to RSL (please note there are NO return buses), Buffet Dinner, lucky door prizes, and a free drink or 2 (further drinks may be purchased on the night)

Dress: Smart Casual – no thongs or singlets.

Maximum Cost: \$70

Deposit Required: \$20

Sunday 28th April - 12pm – 2pm

Maritime Museum

Take a stroll through the Maritime Museum before heading to the Sunday Sesh – cost included in Sunday Sesh fee.

Sunday 28th April - 2pm – 6pm

Sunday Sesh

To be held at the Bayview Bar and Bistro (formally the Crown on Palmer) on Palmer St, South Townsville (diagonally across the road from the Maritime Museum).

What's included: Nibbles and a free drink or 2, (further drinks may be purchased from the bar)

Dress: Come as you are – but please wear footwear.

Maximum Cost: \$30

Deposit Required: \$20

Monday 29th April 8am – 11am

Farewell Breakfast

be held on the grassed area in front of the The Surf Club, at the southern end of Strand Park, with views across the water to Magnetic Island.

What's included: Bacon & Egg Burgers, coffee and/or tea.

Dress: Come as you are and reminisce one last time.

Maximum Cost: \$20

Deposit Required: \$10

Email any enquiries to holdfast2024@gmail.com

Please ONLY PAY THE DEPOSIT!

We are waiting to hear back from sponsors and grants and the maximum amount for each event may change as a consequence.

Any additional payments over and above the final amount for each event will not be refunded.

Can you please email the form and deposit to us before January 25th 2024 - and we will send out invoices for any

HOLDFAST 2024 BOOKING FORM



Surname:

First Name:

Email Address:

Contact Phone Number:

Postal Address:

State:

Post Code:

Nickname / Preferred Name:

(Required for ID Tags at Reunion)

Spouse/Partner's name:

(Required for ID Tags at Reunion)

Guest(s) Preferred Name(s):

(Required for ID Tags at Reunion)

Total Number of attendees:

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS: Please indicate whether you will be joining us for ANZAC Day – no cost

☐

3CER Dawn Service & Brekky

☐

Thuringowa ANZAC Day March

☐

Thuringowa RSL ANZAC Day

Specialised transport required for the March

YES / NO

(If you select YES, we will contact for further information and to make necessary transport arrangements.)

PLEASE SELECT THE ACTIVITIES YOU WILL BE ATTENDING.

DEPOSITS ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH EVENT YOU SELECT

DEPOSITS ARE PER PERSON - IF 2 ARE ATTENDING, 2 X THE DEPOSIT AMOUNT IS REQUIRED

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL 4pm – 7pm

No. Attending

Amnt Pd

☐

Meet & Greet - Dingo Inn, 3CER, Lavarack Bks (Max cost \$30pp)

Deposit \$20pp

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 6pm (for 6.30pm start)

☐

Dinner – Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Rd (Max cost \$70pp)

Deposit \$20pp

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 2pm – 6pm

☐

Maritime Museum & Sunday Sesh – Palmer St (Max cost \$30pp)

Deposit \$20pp

MONDAY 29TH APRIL 8am – 11am

☐

Farewell Breakfast, Strand Park (in front of SLC) (Max cost \$20pp)

Deposit \$10pp

Account Details:

Holdfast 2024 Reunion

BSB: 633 000

A/c: 166600684

(Please use surname as reference if paying via EFT)

TOTAL

Email enquiries and completed forms to: holdfast2024@gmail.com

Post cheques and completed forms to: Holdfast 2024, PO Box 1828 Aitkenvale, QLD 4814

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.

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:

City Members—Joining fee \$30, Annual fee \$20

Country Members—Joining fee \$25, Annual fee \$15

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.

HOLDFAST 2024 Reunion

26 April to 29 April 2024 in Townsville

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' LUNCHEES, GAYTHORNE RSL

The next luncheon will be held at the Gaythorne RSL on **Thursday 7 March 2024** 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.

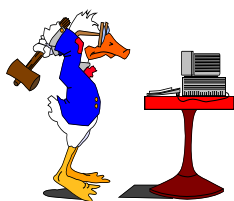
MEMORABILIA ITEMS FOR SALE, BRISBANE

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.32smallshipsqn.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.