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The Purple Circle

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Summer Edition 2025



Our President, Russell McEntyre, wishes all a Happy Christmas and a bright and safe New Year.

PASSING PARADE

Noel Maxwell Norton passed away on 18 March 2025 aged 82 years and 6 months. He served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam on AS3051 John Monash from April to May 1966 and again on AV1356 Clive Steele from September to November 1966.

John Gavin Carroll passed away on 23 March 2025 aged 76 years. He served in Vietnam from March 1968 to February 1969 with Detachment 55 Engineer works and Parks Squadron.

David James Evans passed away on 7 August 2025 aged 77 years. He served with 13 Field Squadron.

John Pulis passed away on 17 August 2025 aged 80 years 6 months. He served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam from June 1968 to January 1969 on AV1356 Clive Steele.

Roger Finn passed away on 5 October 2025 aged 80 years and 6 months. He served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam from January to June 1967 on AV1355 Vernon Sturdee.

Graeme James McKenzie passed away on 25 October 2025 aged 76 years and 6 months. He served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam from July to September 1970 on AV1356 Clive Steele.

Barry William Woods passed away on 2 November 2025 aged 84 years and 8 months. He served with 32 Small Ship Squadron and sailed to Vietnam from October 1967 to March 1968, May to June and November to December 1970 on AV1353 Harry Chauvel in January and June to September 1970 on AV1356 Clive Steele.

Wilhelm Jan (Bill) Cebula passed away on 8 November 2025 aged 82 years and 5 months. He served in Vietnam from March 1971 to March 1972 with 198 Works Section. Bill went to OCS Portsea in 1965.

Ray Stiv Erceg passed away on 18 November 2025 aged 79 years. Ray served with 22 Construction Squadron.

IN MEMORY OF

Trevor Martin Jones – Trevor was born in Hobart in December 1950 and joined the Army Reserve in 1976 where he served for 30 years, primarily as a Clerk Admin until retired in January 2006.

He served with the following units – 6 Field Force Group Intelligence Unit, 40 Independent Rifle Company, 12 Field Squadron, 6 Training Group: Headquarters 13 Brigade, 13 Field Squadron, 5 Training Group and Australian Army Band (Perth).

Trevor joined the Association in 2006 and was elected secretary at the 2017 AGM, a position he held with pride and professionalism until his passing.

Trevor passed away on 11 October 2025 aged 74 years and 10 months.

Gordon Fredrice Briglin was born in Barton-On-Humber, UK on 1 July 1919 and when 6 weeks old, immigrated to Australia with his parents. He left school at 15 years of age and trained as an electrician.

He joined the Army Reserve in 1941 and was posted to 5 Fortress Engineers, Searchlight Company on Rottneest Island. In 1942 he transferred to 5 Motor Ambulance Company, Fremantle before being transferred to 5 Amphibious Vehicle Increment sailing out of Morotai Island in support of the Australian troops assault on Borneo and surrounding islands in 1945.

Gordon passed away on 3 November 2025 aged 106 years and 4 months.

Gordon's father, Frederick served with 3 Field Company, Australian Engineers in Egypt, Gallipoli and on the Western Front during World War I.

Gordon was the last of the Royal Australian Engineer members in Western Australia to serve in World War II.

LEST WE FORGET

NEW SECRETARY

At the general meeting held on Sunday 23 November, John Williams put his hand up and was elected Secretary unopposed by the members present at the meeting, a position he will hold until the Annual General Meeting next year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Regimental Trust Fund of 13ER held the annual Oktober Feast at the Ryan Club on Saturday 15 November 2025, which I attended. A great time was had by all. Congratulations to the organising committee.

Saturday 6th December 2025 was St Barbara's Day, and a competition was organised between 13 ER and Artillery. Both corps celebrating St Barbara's Day.

Members are reminded of our Centenary Anniversary luncheon to be held on 22nd September 2026, at the Belmont RSL. Please confirm your intentions with a RSVP by Sunday 1 February 2026 as this will assist the organising committee.

A sad October month has rocked the committee, association members and the Corps as a whole, with the passing of our Secretary Trevor Jones. I have just realised the amount of work he undertook on our behalf, and I ask all members to continue your support for the Committee as we appreciate his work not only as Secretary, but also as merchandising member, web page organiser and support to the board staff.

He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered.

Should you have any matters for the Association please direct them to the President - Russell (Crab) McEntyre, raeassoc2024@gmail.com or 0408 901 841.

GENERAL

NEW EDITOR NEEDED

The current writer/editor of this newsletter will be retiring on 30 June 2026, so the Association is looking for a volunteer to take over the role as writer/editor and distributor of the Purple Circle from that date onward.

The current editor has been doing the job for the last 10 years and has run out of steam and his enthusiasm is starting to dwindle. So, if there is someone out there who would like to have a go, please get in touch with the President or the current writer/editor.

13 ENGINEER REGIMENT

13 ER held their End-of-Year Day on Saturday 6 December with a competition against the Artillery to celebrate St Barbara's Day. The Engineers came out on top.

After a lunch period, the promotions and awards were announced with –

Spr Jessica Daw named SPR of the Year, LCPL Richard Jeffcote named NCO of the Year and LT Boris Pesjak named Officer of the Year.

There were two promotions with LT Boris Pesjak promoted to CAPT and SGT Will Rickard promoted to LT via ASWOC.

It was not a good year for the Regiment as far as Officers and Senior NCO'S go with 18 of them being posted out of the Regiment.

The Officers departing are: - MAJ Kyle Bradley, CAPT's Lorraine Cheesewright, Leroy Cox, Jason Greenwell, Neil Hannaway, Mark Jakubowicz and Bradley Taylor, LT's Lily Nairn and Rowan Stokes.

SNCO's departing are: - RSM WO1 Ian Hallt, WO2's David Duckett, Andrew English, Mathew Mitten and Natham Woodrow, Sgt's Glenn Addicoat, Peter Janjis, Will Rickard and Matt Wiltshire.



13 Fd Coy/Sqn/Regt history line on the Crosscut Saw supported on two bridging jacks with the Engineer/Artillery competition trophy in front

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The Ravenswood Tavern was the venue for our last fellowship luncheon held on Tuesday 7 October was another success with an excellent turnout and a couple of new faces.

Prior to the luncheon, some of those attending visited the Pinjarra footbridge to see the restoration work carried out by the Shire of Murray. The restoration included new steel pylons, new decking and handrails, plus some other minor improvements.

Some of those who attended:



BIGGER THAN BIG

Anna Creek Station is the largest cattle station in the world, at 23,677 km², it is bigger than 49 different countries and is wider than Wales. The station is located 160km east of Coober Pedy and employs 11 staff - a manager, cook and 9 station hands who work on motorbikes.

Originally the station was a sheep station running 7,300 head of sheep but the loss of animals to constant dingo attacks forced the station to change to cattle, it now runs on average 17,000 cattle.

A Sign of the Times



DID YOU KNOW

There are only two words in the English language that uses all the vowels in order. They are;

Abstenious – sparing, moderate in food, drink

Facetious – giving of jokes, not meant seriously

JOKES

Apparently exercise helps you with decision-making. It's true. I went for a run this morning and decided I'm never doing that again.

I married my wife for her looks, not the ones I'm getting lately.

The dentist married the manicurist, they fight tooth and nail.

Carrots can be good for your eyes, but beer can double your vision

My wife went to the doctor's and said " Doctor, my husband constantly talks in his sleep. What do I do about it" Doctor replies, "Give him a chance to speak during the day".



GUNNEDAH High School cadet unit 1973.

Pick which one is our President