



Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Assn Inc South Australia

Volume 1, Issue 1

1st January 2007

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Wayne Alexander - President

Welcome to the first of many newsletters which I intend to keep our members here in South Australia abreast of what is happening within the organisation and in particular the veteran community in general.

It is my intention to provide valuable updates regarding pensions, welfare, DVA, Mil Comp, changes to law and more. But, firstly, let me introduce to you the Inaugural Committee of the Australian Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association Incorporation – South Australia (APPVS-SA).

The inaugural committee consists of:

President – Wayne Alexander, OAM

Vice-President – John Wyatt,

Secretary – Phil Giles and

Treasurer – Jo Alexander.

(their contact details can be found inside).

Our TIP trained and qualified Pensions staff consists of:

Wayne Alexander, Alan Harmer, Cathi Ramsden & Phil Giles.

A dedicated and hard working inaugural committee has been put in place to raise all the necessary documentation and coordination required to start a new Sub Branch.

This has included such work as raising

OPENING OF NEW ADELAIDE BRANCH

a Constitution, Business Registration, Incorporation and all the necessary financial requirements in order to do so.

As President, I have been invited to represent the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans here in Adelaide on the following veteran committees:

SATMOC - South Australian Treatment Monitoring Committee.

TIP Consultative Committee.

Veterans Mental Health Forum.

VVCS Consultative Committee.

AVADSC— Aust veterans & Defence Services Council.

Young Veterans.

We continue to seek donations of any kind but more importantly, electronic equipment and furniture for our new offices. We also seek any members with free time on their hands that may be interested in receiving TIP training at DVA, so that they can provide, a few hours a week as volunteer Pensions and Welfare Officers at our new offices.

Any assistance would be gratefully received.

As a new organisation we are not isolated and many thanks goes out to National Office committee who has provided answers to all the questions asked. Their assistance has been of enormous help in the raising of the Adelaide office.

I look forward to meeting all of you in time and should you have any questions or need assistance of any kind, please feel free to make contact with me anytime.

Wayne Alexander

Email: sapres@peacekeepers.asn.au

THE LAST SIX MONTHS

In September, I was invited to the Adelaide Transition Resettlement Seminar which was conducted at the Mawson Lakes Campus where I gave a presentation on the Aust Peacekeepers. It was so good to see and catch up with so many friends in the service, as I too have only just retired in June after nearly 27 years myself.

The response after the presentation was absolutely outstanding. As a direct result of that presentation we have a further 35 potential members and possible claims. To date I have compiled 7 of those applicants with a further 10 in progress.

I have also been invited to sit on a few committees namely:

TIP Consultative Committee where other Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs) review the training provided by DVA and the TIP. The other is **Young Veterans** where we discuss the need and

trends arising with the younger veterans returning from Timor, Solomon's, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Always seeking your thoughts on any of these subjects. Email me with your say:



My email: sapres@peacekeepers.asn.au
Adelaide Transition Resettlement Seminar at Mawson Lakes

NEW OFFICES IN ADELAIDE

Well, for a branch only starting out here in South Australia a short time ago, we have managed to establish ourselves as a leading Ex-Service Organisation (ESO).

We now have offices covering the entire Adelaide Metropolitan Area (AMA).

The **HQ of APPVA-SA**, is located in the city at:
**The Torrens Parade Ground
Victoria Drive, Adelaide. SA.**

The Principal Representative is:
Wayne Alexander, OAM
who can be contacted as follows:
Office: Ph: (08) 8232 9422
Fax: (08) 8232 9899
Email:
sapres@peacekeepers.asn.au

Office hours:
Mon-Wed 1000-1500hr



Our **Northern Suburbs** office is co-located with the Vietnam Veterans Assn of Aust-Northern Suburbs Sub Branch, which is located (WEF Feb 07) at:
Building 200, Edinburgh Parks,
directly opposite the main entrance to RAAF Base Edinburgh.

The Principal Representative is:
Alan Harmer
who can be contacted as follows:
Office: Ph: (08) 8252 8491
Fax: (08) 8252 8034
Email:
saadvocate@peacekeepers.asn.au

The primary role of this office is to examine eligibility, provide Pension and Compensation advice and assist in the preparation of primary claims.

Office hours:
Mon- Fri 1000-1500hr



Our **Southern Suburbs** office is collocated with the **RSL Plympton**, which is located at:
464 Marion Road, Plympton. SA.

The primary role of this office is to assist with the Welfare of Veterans and their families.

The Principal Representatives are:
Cathi Ramsden & Phil Giles who can be contacted as follows:
Office: Ph: (08) 8371 4008
Fax: (08) 8293 7911
Email:
sawelfare@peacekeepers.asn.au

Office hours:
Tues & Thurs – Fri 1000-1500hr

An **APPVA** office is also located at the **RAP**, at 16 Air Defence Regiment and is manned each Thursday for Pension & Compensation Claims.



Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Assn South Australian Team



State President — Wayne Alexander, OAM
Mobile: 0408 278 207
Email: sapres@peacekeepers.asn.au



State Vice-President — John Wyatt
Mobile: 0407 304 871
Email: savicepres@peacekeepers.asn.au



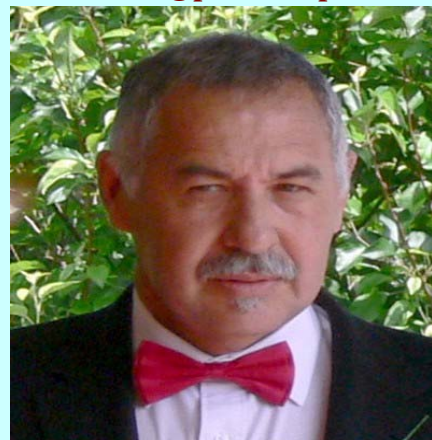
State Pensions — Alan Harmer
Mobile: 0407 603 568
Email: sasec@peacekeepers.asn.au



State Treasurer — Jo Alexander
Mobile: 0419 278 207
Email: satreas@peacekeepers.asn.au



State Welfare Officer — Cathi Ramsden
Mobile: 0413 528 422
Email: sawelfare@peacekeepers.asn.au



State Welfare Officer — Phil Giles
Mobile: 0402 712 803
Email: sawelfare@peacekeepers.asn.au

Pension or Welfare enquiries can be directed to:

The Pensions Officer,
APPVA-SA
PO Box 2024
SALISBURY DOWNS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 5108.
Phone: 0408 278 207
E-mail: saadvocate@peacekeepers.asn.au

All other correspondence can be directed to:

The Secretary,
APPVA-SA
PO Box 2024
SALISBURY DOWNS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 5108.
Phone: 0402 712 803
E-mail: sasec@peacekeepers.asn.au

All financial enquiries can be directed to:

The Treasurer, APPVA-SA
PO Box 2024
SALISBURY DOWNS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 5108.
Phone: 0419 278 207
E-mail: satreas@peacekeepers.asn.au

**Membership & Joining details
can be found at: Website:**
www.peacekeepers.asn.au

Where did it all start?

Australia's proud Peacekeeping and Peacemaking (enforcement) involvement, commenced in Indonesia on 14 September 1947, with four (4) Australian Military officers being the first world peacekeepers by deploying to the United Nations Good Offices Commission in Dutch East Indies (Indonesia). It has since involved the contribution of over 66,000 veterans, who have participated in 73 Operations to 64 different countries non-stop up to the present day with Iraq, Middle East, Afghanistan, Africa and The Solomon Islands. The roles recognized by our association include Warlike and Non-Warlike Operations including Peacekeeping, Peacemaking, United Nations Contingents, Military Observers, Truce Supervision, Emergency Forces, Special Commissions, Humanitarian Aid, Monitoring Forces, De-mining Teams and Training Teams – and any other Australian Defence Force (ADF), New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), or Australian Federal & State Police (AFP) Operations. We are now seeing more Defence members deployed with Peacekeeping and Peacemaking roles, internationally, than all Australians that deployed to Vietnam.

Official Opening of the South Australia Branch of the APPVA

On the evening of Saturday, 25th November 2006, at the combined Sergeants'/Officer Mess located at Keswick Barracks, here in Adelaide, we celebrated the official opening of the South Australia Branch of the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association Incorporated.

The evening started out with cocktails and bar drinks, where official guests, committee members, members and their families and friends were able to meet and socialize. This was then followed by the inaugural official Committee Meeting which the Minutes of, are freely available upon request. Our official guests, members and their families and friends then sat down to a lovely candle light dinner in the 'Victoria Cross' dining room of the Sergeants' Mess. Our Official guests from Victoria's National Executive included Paul Copeland, the National President and Founding member of the APPVA as well as Mick and Fiona Quinn, Mick being the National Executive Entitlements Officer. Paul Copeland gave a resounding speech and officially congratulated the new Committee and their efforts in raising the new office here in Adelaide.

A wonderful evening of good food, good wine and company was enjoyed by all. We all look forward to 2007.



Committee Members, Guest & Friends

'Looking After Our Own'

Paul Copeland – National President

MEMBER SURVEY

To help us serve you better, we are seeking your feedback about the information we have provided to you in this Newsletter relating to the APPVA here in South Australia.

The survey can be anonymous and none of the information you provide can or will be used to identify you, should you wish.

All information provided by you the member, will only be used by the APPVA-SA committee in an effort to better provide a service to its clientele here in South Australia.

Please mail the completed questionnaire to our office in Adelaide, utilizing the self addressed envelope included.

If you did not receive an envelope with this Newsletter, please mail the completed questionnaire to:

'MEMBER SURVEY'

c/- APPVA-SA

PO Box 2024

SALISBURY DOWNS.

SA. 5108.

MEMBER SURVEY— 2007

Q1. Are you still interested in being a member of the Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association Incorporated—South Australia (APPVA-SA)?

A1. YES **NO**

(If NO, can please let me know why.)

Q2. How do you think the APPVA-SA can better assist you as an individual?

A2. _____

Q3. How long has it been since your last pension / compensation review?

A3. _____

Q4. Has your injuries / diseases deteriorated further?

A4. _____

Q5. Are you interested in an interview to review your current entitlements / disabilities and/or Pension?

A5. YES **NO**

Q6. What type of member activities / events / information would you be interested in attending or receiving?

- A6.** **Guest Speakers in your area.**
 Regular updates on DVA / Mil Comp
 Veteran entitlements and news.
 Quarterly Newsletters.
 Other suggestions for events.

Q7. What are the best days/times to hold events? (Friday Nights, Saturdays, Afternoons, 6pm, 7pm, 8pm).

A7. _____

Q8. What timings do you believe we should avoid when planning events? (Public Holidays, End of financial year, Festive Season).

A8. _____

Q9. We are starting the new state office with very little funds. As a nonprofit organisation, we rely entirely on donations, grants, memberships and fund raising. Have you any ideas on how we can raise funds?

A9. _____

Q10. Are you interested in assisting us in fund-raising?

A10. YES NO

Q11. At present, APPVA-SA is utilizing the Keswick Barrack's Sergeants & Officers Mess for meetings, dinners and functions / briefings.

We would like to know what you and your family are interested in.

A11. Formal Events
 Informal Events

Q12. What sort of functions are you interested in?

A12. Seminars (Men's Health, etc)
 Entitlements Updates
 Informal Dinners
 Informal Family BBQs
 Formal Dinners
 Dances
 Trivia Nights
 Wine Tasting Nights

Q13. Are you interested in becoming any of the following?

A13. **Veteran Support::**
 Pensions Officer
 Welfare Officer

(Free courses & training can be arranged by AP-PVA-SA to prepare you for the above positions).

Committee Member:

- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistance Treasurer
- Social Member
- Assistant Social member

Fund Raising Committee:

- Chairperson
- Member

Q14. Please indicate your interest in helping with future activities in the following capacity:

(select as many as you think appropriate)

- A14. Being part of an organising committee.
 Organising Social events.
 Assisting on-site at events.
 Hosting a social function
 Being a Guest Speaker
 Volunteer Pensions Officer.
 Volunteer Welfare Officer.
 Volunteer Case Officer.
 Volunteer Advocate.
 Volunteer Administrative Staff.

(if Yes, which office location would you prefer)

State HQ Office

- Torrens Parade Grounds
Victoria Drive
ADELAIDE. SA. 5000.

Northern Suburbs Office

- Building 200
Edinburgh Parks
EDINBURGH. SA. 5111

Southern Suburbs Office

- RSL Plympton
464 Marion Road
PLYMPTON. SA. 5038.

Q16. We are very interested in what you as the member would like to see from us the Ex-Service Organisation (ESO). Please let us know.

A16.

The next section is Voluntary & should be completed if you want this office to follow up.

Your Name:

Your Mailing Address:

Phone Contact:

Email:

Miscellaneous

Websites of Interest:

Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Assn Inc - <http://www.peacekeepers.asn.au>

Australian War Memorial - <http://www.awm.gov.au>

Centrelink - <http://www.centrelink.gov.au>

Defence Service Homes - <http://www.dsh.gov.au>

DSH Insurance Scheme - http://www.dsh.gov.au/insurance/ins_main.htm

Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act - <http://www.mrcs.gov.au>

Veterans' Review Board - <http://www.vrb.gov.au>

WW2 Nominal Roll - <http://www.ww2roll.gov.au>

Veteran Health:

DVA Right Mix - <http://www.therightmix.gov.au/>

Veterans Counselling Service - <http://www.dva.gov.au/health/vvcs/index.htm>

DVA Training & Information Program Seminars 2007

Course attendance is booked through a registered Ex-Service Organisation (ESO) such as the **APPVA-SA**. Any member wishing to attend these courses are to register their intentions with the Secretary, APPVA-SA, seven (7) days prior to the application 'Closing Date' detailed in 'Blue' below.

Seminar	Dates	Closing Dates	Descriptions
Welfare Officer	19 -21 st Feb, 4-6 Jun, 7-9 Aug. 6-8 Nov	30 th Jan, 14 th May, 17 th Jul, 16 th Oct	An introductory course to orientate practitioners to Tip. Provides Welfare Officers with basic information on the range of services and programs available to Ex-Service Personnel and entitled spouses
Basic Pensions	13 – 15 th Mar	20 th Feb	An Introductory course for practitioners entering TIP. Provides VEA Pensions, Electronic Tools, Tools of Trade and VPAD. On completion, you should with some assistance, be able to assist a veteran, or veteran's dependents to lodge an application for compensation or other benefits.
VEA Pensions refresher	18 th Apr, 24 th Oct	28 th Mar, 3 rd Oct	A course for experienced practitioners designed to update Pensions Officers knowledge on topics covered under the VEA 1986. This course includes an in depth look at GARP, precedent court cases relating to SOPs, complex eligibility, and compensation offsetting.
Welfare Officer refresher	20 Mar, 17 Jul,	28 th Feb, 26 th Jun	A short course designed for practitioners with previous training in Welfare. Updates practitioners on changes of entitlement for veterans and entitled dependants.
Military Compensation	28 Feb, 23 May, 10 Oct	7 th Feb, 1 st May, 19 th Sep	An introductory course for those new to dealing with Military Compensation claims. Provides a broad overview of legislation and coverage. Covers how to lodge a claim, how it is investigated, what benefits are payable once a claim is accepted, including rehabilitation and what appeals rights are available. Covers Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004.
War Widow	3 Oct, 7 Nov	12 th Sep, 17 th Oct	Designed to train Pension and Welfare officers to assist a widow/er claim for the War Widows Pension by meeting the requirements of the VEA 1986. Course content includes interpreting death certificates, how to attribute death to eligible service and the links in the chain of causation by use of SOPs.

Calender Dates of Interest in 2007

Date	Day	Timings	Event	Location
19 Jan 07	Friday	0800-1500h	Sausage Sizzle (Fund Raiser)	John Street, Salisbury
20 Jan 07	Saturday	1800-2230h	Committee meeting/ QGM/ Social Guest Speaker: Tich Tyson, TIP Chairman SA/NT	Keswick Barracks SGTs/Offrs Mess
26 Jan 07	Friday	—————	AUSTRALIA DAY	—————
16 Feb 07	Friday	0800-1500h	Sausage Sizzle (Fund Raiser)	John Street, Salisbury
24 Feb 07	Saturday	1800-2230h	Committee meeting	Keswick Barracks SGTs/Offrs Mess
12 Mar 07	Monday	To Be Finalised	Adelaide Cup Day	Keswick Barracks Sergeants Mess
23 Mar 07	Friday	0800-1500h	Sausage Sizzle (Fund Raiser)	John Street, Salisbury
31 Mar 07	Saturday	1800-2230h	Committee meeting/ QGM/ Social Guest Speaker: Steve Larkin, President, RSL Peacemakers South Australia	Keswick Barracks SGTs/Offrs Mess
1 Apr 07	Saturday	—————	Next APPVA-SA Newslet- ter	—————
25 Apr 07	Wednesday	—————	ANZAC DAY	—————
27 Apr 07	Friday	0800-1500h	Sausage Sizzle (Fund Raiser)	John Street, Salisbury
28 Apr 07	Saturday	1800-2230h	Committee meeting/	Keswick Barracks SGTs/Offrs Mess

NB. More dates to be promulgated in the next Quarterly Newsletter, out 1 April 2007.