



QUEENSLAND TPI JOURNAL

December Edition 2019



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**“Disabled In Our Service,
United In Our Cause”**



**The Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated
Ex-Servicemen and Women (Queensland Branch) Incorporated.**

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Members please note that the State Office will be closed from 21 December 2019 to 7 January 2020 (inclusive).

HELLO IM FROM TELSTRA



HOW MAY I HELP YOU

From the Editor,



On Monday, 9 December 2019, DVA released the KPMG report into the TPI Federations submission for an increase in the T & PI payment. The report is approximately 89 pages and can be viewed on:

<http://www.dva.gov.au/consultation-and-grants/reviews/kpmg-review-tpi-benefits>.

The report is comprehensive and refers to a number of reviews that have been undertaken over a number of years including the most recent review conducted by the Productivity Commission. The conclusion reached is that we are well compensated and there is no need for an increase...c'est la vie or that's life!

The Association has discontinued with the production of the Member's Handbook. The reasons for this decision were that DVA Factsheets may change two or three times a year or companies that have supported the Association no longer wish to due to management changes or economic reasons, therefore the information contained in the publication in a number of cases is out of date. However, there are a number of web sites that detail up to date concessions and entitlements for the Veteran Community. These include:

- Veteran Benefits Australia— veteranbenefitsaustralia.com
- DVA Factsheets— dva.gov.au/home/aboutdva/factsheets
- Suppliers who advertise in the TPI Journal may offer discounts as well.
- Most recently with the introduction of the Veterans' Covenant the Federal Government has arranged for suppliers to give Veterans' discounts via Australian Partners of Defence (APOD). Membership to APOD is free if you have an existing DVA card. apod.com.au

And don't forget to support our advertisers where possible.

Finally, to all our Members and their families have a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year, stay in good health and, if travelling, be safe.

The Ed

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Federation President's Report

The TPI Federation thanks the Members of Parliament, DVA Minister Chester MP, the Hon Ben Morton MP, Philip Thompson OAM MP, and the Hon Andrew Wilkie MP and Senators, Jacqui Lambie, Eric Abetz, David Fawcett and Linda Reynolds CSC who gave of their valuable time to attend our recent National Congress and speak to, and listen to, our Directors.

Shayne Neumann MP was unavailable during the Congress but I have met with since the Congress and discussed the same issues with him as we did with the other politicians.

The National Congress's continue to grow in importance and value to all TPI/SRDPs due, in the main, to the number of politicians, and the Department, who view it as highly valuable to sit at our table and express their views and also listen to each and every State/Territory Director and their individual issues. The TPI Federation is able to show to them a united front of a major Ex-Service Organisation (ESO) that it is, and how together we can progress issues, major and minor, for the betterment of all TPI/SRDPs. United we stand ... I thank all Members for supporting your Directors in achieving and maintaining this objective.

The National Congress was very successful and we welcomed the two new Victorian Directors to the table. I hope they found it informative and productive. Each State and Territory Director will be providing you with their report on the Congress so I won't duplicate it here. Should you have any questions please contact your Director in the first instance or myself.

The Directors were able to discuss the frustration of all TPIs with regard to the long-awaited result of the Tune Review. You will recall the Prime Minister's election promise to review the TPI 'economic loss' Compensation. The Prime Minister did commence this review immediately upon being re-elected. The Terms of Reference for that review stated that the final report must be available as at 31st August. I am reliably informed that the report was on the Prime Minister's desk at 5pm on the 31st August. We have asked all the politicians that we spoke to at the National Congress to ask the Prime Minister to release that report and, hopefully, provide the nation's 28,000 TPI/SRDPs of his decision on the review. It is now October and still we wait. Prime Minister you promised the review which you have done, but you did not promise to advise the result. We ask that you consider the needs of all TPI/SRDPs and advise us of the result of this most important review.

The commencement of the contentious 12-Treatment Cycle requirements for DVA clients began on the 1st October. This means that Allied Health Providers, i.e. Occupa-

tional Therapists, Speech Therapists or Psychologists (TPIs have an exemption for Physiotherapy and Exercise Physiologists), must meet the new requirements. Therefore, after every 12 treatment sessions, or every 12 months (whichever happens first), the Allied Health Provider must write a report to the Veteran's GP. The GP then reviews that report and decides if a further referral should be extended to that provider or if a referral to a different provider should be made. This is not required for dental or optical providers. A number of ESOs have mounted campaigns to have this new requirement cancelled.

Should you have any issues regarding this new requirement, can you please let me know so that they can be addressed for you.

I take this opportunity to thank all those TPIs and TPI families who have contacted me over the last year and who have helped all TPIs with the many issues that have been put before DVA in the hope of obtaining a more wholesome and wellbeing life style for all of you. I wish every TPI and their family a happy Christmas and a Safe and Healthy New Year.

Finally, I revisit the hearing aid issue. The Veteran community seems to be slowly learning of their entitlements.

The hearing aid issue was mentioned to every politician who attended the national Congress. Senator Reynolds was able to say that she would investigate the issue. It was put to her that if the Defence personnel were able to obtain fully subsidised hearing aids for the ADF members then the Veteran community should also be able to utilise that system. The Senator's office has subsequently made an appointment in the coming weeks to discuss this.

Please pass this along to your Veteran and War Widow friends and families. They must know that they – NEVER, NEVER, EVER – pay for their hearing aids.

If there are any problems with obtaining fully subsidised hearing aids please contact me.

Ms Pat McCabe OAM

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Dear Members,

As you would see by my report to the State AGM, our Association is in a good position both financially and pleasingly with growing membership. The State Management Committee (SMC) has undergone some changes, with new members and the end of tenures for long term members: George Mialkowski and George Robinson. Although off committee, both will continue to support the State Office which is appreciated. As well, Beryl continues to provide her friendly and efficient member service as our Office Manager.

During my initial term as State President the SMC have set out to improve on communication with our membership state-wide. Our dated information technology and record keeping presented challenges and we still have some way to go. State Office also relies on Social Centre Secretaries to disseminate the information flow from State to their members. Hopefully, those on the unallocated list receive information directly to their recorded E mail address. If you're not getting regular E mail updates then please contact Beryl at office@qldtpi.org.au or give her a call. I was also pleased to see our State now has the lowest ordinary membership fees in Australia. I also endeavour to personally welcome new or rejoining members - when time permits. State now also writes to member's widows advising relevant information. As agreed at the AGM the Association will continue to support two AVCAT scholarships - the two present recipients are very appreciative of our support and are achieving good results.

Also, at the AGM, a motion was passed to waive any future fees for remaining financial World War 2 or Korean veterans as a sign of recognition for their generation's contribution. They gave much and asked for little in return. Lest We Forget.

Where possible, our Association has been represented on external veteran committees, various ESO forums and commemorations as well as providing two Federation Directors. I have been asked to be a Board Member of Qld War Widows which will lead to a better linkage between our organisations. Importantly too, we are now represented at Defence Transition Seminars allowing us to engage with veterans leaving the ADF. It is not so much about recruiting new members but to pass on information and tips to those transiting. Many of us had no such assistance when we left the service and know how difficult the transition process is both on members and families.

It is of the utmost importance our Association remains vigilant and proactive in the ESO community, especially when it seems every week sees a new inquiry, or government committee, is adjudicating on veteran matters. And every week a new ESO is formed and vying for a piece of the pie. These new ESOs start with great intentions but little do they realise how complex and time consuming it is to conduct an efficient ESO that meets its objectives for sound corporate governance under the ever watchful eye of the ANCC.

State Office is doing its very best to support our membership, with what we have, as are our 10 social centres. I do strongly encourage any members, living near social centres, to become actively involved. State is keen to see new or redundant social centres open and the next SMC will discuss strategies. However, if you feel there are enough (minimum 10) ordinary members who may wish to form a centre then please contact the State Secretary.

In closing, on behalf of all at the State Office, may I wish you and yours a safe and happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Cheers for now.

Chris Richards

PS And please remember now is the time to renew your membership.



Three men are sitting stiffly, side by side, on a long commercial flight. After they're airborne and the plane has levelled off, the man in the window seat abruptly says, distinctly and confidently, in a loud voice, "Admiral, Royal Navy, retired. Married, two sons, both surgeons." After a few minutes the man in the aisle seat states through a tight lipped smile, "Admiral, Fleet Air Arm, retired. Married, two sons, both Judges." After some thought, the fellow in the centre seat decides to introduce himself. With a twinkle in his eye he proclaims, "Petty Officer, Australian Navy, retired. Never married, two sons, both Admirals."

During training exercises, the Lieutenant who was driving down a muddy back road encountered another car stuck in the mud with a red-faced Colonel at the wheel. "Your jeep stuck, sir?" asked the Lieutenant as he pulled alongside. "Certainly not," replied the Colonel, coming over and handing him the keys, "Yours is."

Officer: "Soldier, do you have change for \$10?"

Soldier: "Sure, mate."

Officer: "That's no way to address an officer! Now let's try it again!"

Do you have change for \$10?"

Soldier: "No, SIR!"

Q: How do you know if there is a fighter pilot at your party?

A: He'll tell you.

A Sergeant and a General were sitting in the barber's. They were both just getting to the end of their shaves, when the barbers reached for some after-shave to slap on their faces

The General shouted, "Hey, don't put that smelly stuff on me! My wife will think I've been in a brothel!"

The Sergeant turned to his barber and said, "Go ahead and put it on me. My wife doesn't know what the inside of a brothel smells like."

"Well," snarled the tough old Navy boss to the bewildered sailor, "I suppose after you get discharged from the Navy, you'll just be waiting for me to die so you can come and piss on my grave."

"Not me, Sir!" the sailor replied. "Once I get out of the Navy, I'm never going to stand in a queue again!"



HISTORY OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT

The **Royal Australian Regiment (RAR)** is the parent administrative regiment for regular infantry battalions of the Australian Army and is the senior infantry regiment of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps. It was originally formed in 1948 as a three battalion regiment; however, since then its size has fluctuated as battalions have been raised, amalgamated or disbanded in accordance with the Australian government's strategic requirements. Currently, the regiment consists of seven battalions and has fulfilled various roles including those of light, parachute, motorised and mechanised infantry. Throughout its existence, units of the Royal Australian Regiment have deployed on operations in Japan, Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, Somalia, Rwanda, Cambodia, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Organisation

The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) is part of the Royal Australian Infantry Corps, along with the six state-based infantry regiments of the Australian Army Reserve. It is the most senior of the corps' regiments in the order of precedence and currently consists of seven Regular Army Infantry battalions:

- 1st Battalion (1 RAR) – motorised infantry
- 2nd Battalion (2 RAR) – amphibious light infantry
- 3rd Battalion (3 RAR) – mechanised infantry
- 5th Battalion (5 RAR) – motorised infantry
- 6th Battalion (6 RAR) – mechanised infantry
- 7th Battalion (7 RAR) – mechanised infantry
- 8th/9th Battalion (8/9 RAR) – motorised infantry.

The battalions of the regiment are capable of providing seven of the ten regular battle groups that the Australian Army has available for deployment. The current order of battle sees 5 and 7 RAR as part of the 1st Brigade based in Darwin and Adelaide; 1 and 3 RAR as part of the 3rd Brigade in Townsville, and 6 and 8/9 RAR as part of the 7th Brigade in Brisbane, 2 RAR in Townsville reports directly to 1st Division Headquarters.

Former Battalions

- 2nd/4th Battalion (1973–95), delinked to 2 RAR and 4 RAR
- 4th Battalion (1964–73 and 1995–2009), renamed as 2nd Commando Regiment
- 5th/7th Battalion (1973–2006), delinked to 5 RAR and 7 RAR
- 8th Battalion (1966–73), amalgamated to 8/9 RAR
- 9th Battalion (1967–73), amalgamated to 8/9 RAR
- 10th Independent Rifle Company (1974 – late 1990s), disbanded.

History

Formation, 1948

The origins of the Royal Australian Regiment lie in the decision made by the Australian government to raise a force for occupation duties in Japan at the end of the Second World War.



Troops from the 66th Battalion march through Saijo, Japan in 1946

The 34th Australian Infantry Brigade was raised in October 1945 from Second Australian Imperial Force (2nd AIF) personnel then serving in the South West Pacific Area, with the three battalions of the brigade designated as the 65th, 66th and 67th Australian Infantry Battalions of the AIF. The 65th Battalion was formed from volunteers from the 7th Division and the 2/40th Battalion. The 66th Battalion received volunteers from the 9th Division and 1st Australian Corps troops. The 67th Battalion was formed from the 3rd, 6th, and 11th Divisions. After concentrating on the island of Morotai, the 34th Brigade moved to Japan and joined the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) in February 1946.

The 34th Brigade became the basis of the post-war Regular Army in 1947, and when the decision was taken in 1948 to withdraw two of the battalions to Australia, attention turned to the status and designation of these units. Brigadier Ronald Hopkins, commander of the brigade, was concerned that despite the unit prestige and regimental spirit developed since October 1945, it would be undesirable to have the regular units the highest numbered, without battle honours or colours, and with precedence after Militia units. Consideration was given to whether the battalions might be designated as separate regiments. For example, the 65th Battalion might have become the 1st Infantry Battalion, City of Sydney's Own Regiment under one proposal or the 1st Battalion, King George VI's Australian Rifle Regiment under another. Instead, the decision was taken to number the units sequentially as part of one large regiment and so on 23 November 1948 the 65th, 66th and 67th Battalions became the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Australian Regiment. An application was made for a royal title, which was granted on 10 March 1949. The Royal Australian Regiment thus came into being as Australia's first regiment of regular infantry. Since formation the battalions of the regiment have competed against each other in an annual military skills competition known as the Gloucester Cup.

Early years: Japan and Australia, 1948–50

The formation of the regiment following the end of the Second World War was fundamentally important to the post-war Australian Army, forming a key component of the first "permanent, professional army, available in peace and war for any task the government might direct". Prior to this time the Australian Army had been substantially a part-time militia with a permanent cadre. A major influence in the raising of the regiment was Australia's desire to secure a prominent role in the occupation of Japan and the eventual peace settlement. After some delays the 65th, 66th and 67th Battalions arrived in Japan's Hiroshima Prefecture in February 1946. Subsequent employment "involved activities designed to reinforce upon the Japanese the lesson of their defeat", in addition to guard duty, patrolling and training. In December 1948 the Australian component of the BCOF was reduced from a brigade to one understrength battalion, with the 1st and 2nd Battalions returning to Australia, while the 3rd Battalion remained in Japan.

On return to Australia the 34th Brigade became the 1st Brigade. The 1st Battalion was subsequently based in Ingleburn, New South Wales, and the 2nd Battalion at Puckapunyal, Victoria. Both units were significantly understrength as many men discharged on returning to Australia, while others elected to remain in Japan with the 3rd Battalion. Alan Morrison, a former member of the regiment, later recalled that for the two battalions that returned to Australia "...the first eighteen months of the regiment's existence were harrowing times". Many men discharged due to frustration and discontent, while the battalions were not strong enough to undertake meaningful training activities and their barracks were in a state of disrepair. Yet from this experience came the core "...of dedicated soldiers destined to be the non-commissioned officers of the regiment in the Korean War and the outstanding warrant officers and sergeants of the battalions that served in Malaya and in the early part of the Vietnam campaign".

The regiment has provided units and individuals for virtually all Australian Army deployments and operations since its formation. The first period of sustained operational service began with the regiment's first deployment in Korea in 1950 and continued until the withdrawal of combat units from Vietnam in 1972. These 22 years were arguably the most significant for the regiment with between one and three battalions involved in combat operations in South-East Asia at any one time. A second lengthy period of operational service commenced with the intervention in East Timor in 1999, which became the first of many commitments for the regiment that have continued to the present day. Approximately 85,000 personnel have served in the RAR during this time, with casualties sustained by the regiment on operations including 693 killed and over 3,000 wounded.

Korean War, 1950–53

The Korean War was the first major test of the regiment. Following preparations in Japan, 3 RAR arrived in Pusan on 28 September 1950 and was attached to the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade. The initial invasion of South Korea by the North Korean People's Army (NKPA) had been broken by General Douglas MacArthur's amphibious landing at Inchon, and so, in what was a complicated war of manoeuvre, 3 RAR was involved in the pursuit of the NKPA back across the 38th parallel. On 21 October 1950, 3 RAR took part in the Battle of Yongju in an apple orchard north of Pyongyang, the first large-scale engagement fought by a battalion of the regiment. The farthest north 3 RAR would advance into North Korea was the Pakchon–Chongju area following the Battle of

Chongju, and it was near here that Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Green, the battalion's commanding officer, was mortally wounded on 30 October 1950. By November 1950, following the Chinese intervention, 3 RAR was withdrawing south along with the rest of the allied Eighth Army, fighting the Battle of Pakchon. However, following a UN counteroffensive a defensive line was established about 45 kilometres (28 mi) north of Seoul and it was here in April 1951 that 3 RAR, along with the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and supporting UN forces, fought a successful defensive action at the Battle of Kapyong. This battle proved to be the climactic point of the regiment's first year in Korea.



Soldiers from 3 RAR occupying Chinese trenches on 'Salmon', 16 April 1951.

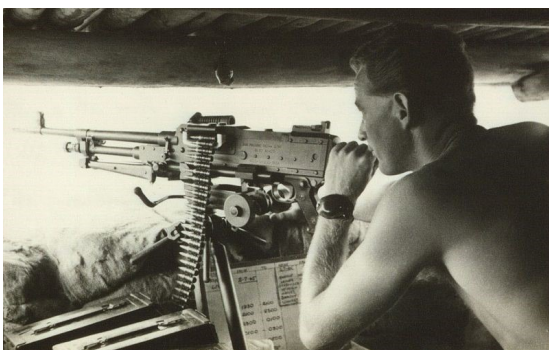
By June 1951, 3 RAR moved to a position on the Imjin River under the command of the US I Corps and it was here that the battalion would spend the next two years of the war. The major action fought by the regiment in the second half of 1951 was the Battle of Maryang San, where 3 RAR, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Frank Hassett, assaulted Hill 317 on 5 October 1951. Known as Operation Commando, Hill 317 was captured after five days of hard fighting. Following this action the war was defined by fixed defences of trenches, bunkers and wire, constant patrolling, and numerous clashes. In April 1952, 3 RAR was joined by 1 RAR and command of the 28th British Commonwealth Brigade, of which they were now a part, passed to an Australian officer as a result. Meanwhile, the expansion of the commitment in Korea to two battalions resulted in the establishment of a regimental depot at Ingleburn in 1952 to train and hold infantrymen for service in Korea. In April 1953, 1 RAR was replaced by 2 RAR on a system of unit rotation.

During this changeover a parade was held to mark the first occasion that all battalions of the regiment had been on parade together. 1 RAR served a year in Korea, 2 RAR for four months before the armistice, while 3 RAR served throughout the war, earning itself the nickname of "Old Faithful". The last major action of the war for the regiment was the Battle of the Samichon River fought by 2 RAR over 24–26 July 1953, repulsing a number of major Chinese assaults just hours before the Armistice Agreement was signed.

Following the armistice both sides withdrew and a demilitarised zone was created. The period that followed proved uneventful, yet the UN forces were required to maintain combat readiness and the ability to react quickly in case the North Koreans violated the ceasefire. In April 1954, 2 RAR returned to Australia and was replaced by 1 RAR which remained in South Korea until March 1956. 3 RAR finally returned to Australia in September 1954 after four years of continuous service in Korea and five years before that in Japan. Total Army casualties in Korea included 293 killed, 1,210 wounded and 23 captured, the majority being infantrymen of the Royal Australian Regiment. The fighting in Korea provided the regiment with valuable combat experience, establishing a foundation for its further development and marking the emergence of the Australian Regular Army. The Korean War remains the only large-scale, conventional war that the regiment has fought. During this time the Army developed the capability to maintain two battalions on major operations at the same time.

Malaya and Borneo, 1955–66

In April 1955 the Australian government had committed army, navy and air force elements to the Far East Strategic Reserve to assist in the defence of Malaya from internal and external security threats. While British Commonwealth forces had been operating against the communist terrorists since 1948, the battalions of the regiment came relatively late to the Malayan Emergency, and when 2 RAR arrived in theatre in October 1955 to join the 28th British Commonwealth Brigade, the war had been running for over seven years. 2 RAR was replaced by 3 RAR in 1957, which was in turn replaced by 1 RAR in 1959. During the Emergency the three battalions were involved in 45 contacts, killing 17 guerrillas for the loss of seven men killed in action. According to Jim Molan the attention to detail required of five years of infantry soldiering in Malaya exposed the regiment to jungle warfare skills developed by the British Army during its most successful counterinsurgency war. This experience later informed the development of its own doctrine, with the Malayan Emergency making a significant contribution to the professionalism of the regiment. Meanwhile, the regimental depot—which had been renamed 4 RAR soon after formation—was subsequently incorporated into the School of Infantry and renamed Depot Company, Royal Australian Regiment in 1960. Despite the end of the State of Emergency in Malaya, 1 RAR was employed on anti-terrorist operations along the Thai border in late 1960. 1 RAR was replaced in Malaya by 2 RAR in 1961, with the battalion involved in training and counter-terrorist operations. It was subsequently employed on operations along the Thai border for three months in mid-1962, and again in May and June 1963, being involved in a number of minor contacts. 2 RAR handed over to 3 RAR in August, and returned to Australia. 3 RAR was also committed to operations along the Thai border in early 1964.



An Australian soldier manning a machine gun position in Borneo, 1965

Between 1963 and 1966, Indonesia pursued a policy of *Konfrontasi*, or Confrontation, with Malaysia. 3 RAR, which was based at Camp Terendak in Malacca on mainland Malaysia, was subsequently used with British and New Zealand forces to mop up two small airborne and seaborne landings near Labis and Pontian in September and October 1964. On 13 February 1965, 3 RAR was warned for service in Sarawak on the island of Borneo, commencing in March. 3 RAR completed a four-month tour mounting numerous security patrols in its area of operations, including a number of sensitive cross-border patrols into the Indonesian regency of Sarawak as a part of Operation Claret, which resulted in actions at Sungei Koemba, Kindau and Babang, between late May and July. Operations on the Sarawak border "were a severe test of the skill, discipline and professionalism of the infantry, involving long periods in the jungle or in the company bases." Out of the 30 Claret operations conducted by 3 RAR, 12 were reconnaissance patrols, while the remainder were ambushes or fighting patrols, four of which resulted in contact with Indonesian forces. 4 RAR, having been reformed as a battalion the previous year, assumed responsibility from 3 RAR at Camp Terendak in October 1965. Deploying forward to Borneo in April 1966, it remained there until September and like its predecessor, conducted a demanding routine of internal security and cross-border patrols.

Expansion of the regiment, 1960s

The early 1960s were a period of strategic uncertainty and increasing commitments in South East Asia. Consequently, the Australian government re-introduced selective conscription in late-1964 and directed a significant increase in the strength of the Army. Yet unlike during the 1950s when National Servicemen bolstered the strength of CMF, under the new scheme they would serve for two years in the Regular Army instead. This substantial period of service for the regiment in Australia, Malaysia, and Vietnam saw the government direct the expansion of the regiment from four to nine battalions. By September 1965 the regiment consisted of seven battalions; by July 1966, eight; and by November 1967, nine. 4 RAR was formed in February 1964; 1 RAR abandoned the Pentropic Establishment (1,300 personnel) to revert to the Tropical Establishment (800 personnel), allowing 5 RAR to form in March 1965; 6 RAR was formed from a cadre drawn from 2 RAR in June 1965; 3 RAR assisted the formation of 7 RAR in September 1965; 8 RAR formed in August 1966; and 9 RAR was raised in November 1967.

Vietnam War, 1962–72

Although individual members of the regiment had served as advisors with the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV) since 1962, it was not until April 1965 that the government announced that a battalion would be deployed to Vietnam. Between June 1965 and March 1972 the units of the regiment would conduct sixteen rotations in Vietnam, with the first seven battalions completing two 12-month tours, while 8 and 9 RAR would each serve one. Consequently, following a period of hurried training and administration 1 RAR joined the US 173rd Airborne Brigade at Bien Hoa airbase outside of Saigon in June 1965. After initially defending the airbase, 1 RAR steadily increased the scope of its patrols. For example, in January 1966, 1 RAR assaulted a large Viet Cong headquarters complex in the Ho Bo Woods as a part of Operation Crimp; which the Americans hailed as the first strategic intelligence victory of the war. The battalion subsequently completed a 12-month-tour attached to US forces, during which it developed new tactics and techniques that later became standard for Australian battalions and supporting arms and services that would subsequently operate in Vietnam.



Australian soldiers from the Royal Australian Regiment arrive at Tan Son Nhut Airport, Saigon.

In March 1966, Prime Minister Harold Holt announced that Australia would increase its commitment to Vietnam. In May 1966 the newly raised 5 and 6 RAR arrived in theatre as a part of the 1st Australian Task Force (1 ATF) in Phuoc Tuy Province, establishing a base at Nui Dat. After two months of constant patrolling by both battalions, 6 RAR was engaged in the action that would become a defining part of the regiment's war in Vietnam; the Battle of Long Tan. Fought on 18 August 1966, 108 men from D Company, 6 RAR fought a ferocious meeting engagement with the Viet Cong 275th Regiment, possibly reinforced by at least one North Vietnamese battalion, and D445 Battalion (between 1,500 and 2,500 personnel). After fighting for two and a half hours, D Company was surrounded on three sides. However, with the assistance of strong artillery support they were able to hold their position until the timely arrival of a relief force of infantry and armoured personnel carriers (APCs) finally forced the Viet Cong to break. In the words of the official historian, Ian McNeill, "D Company had achieved a stunning victory".

In 1967, 2 and 7 RAR assumed responsibility in Phuoc Tuy from their predecessors and continued the extensive patrolling, and cordon and searches characteristic of this conflict. In August 1967, 7 RAR fought elements of the Viet Cong 3rd Battalion, 274th Regiment in the largely unheralded Battle of Suoi Chau Pha, where extensive artillery support again proved decisive. A third infantry battalion arrived in December 1967 as part of a significant expansion of 1 ATF. By the time of the Tet Offensive in 1968, 1 and 3 RAR were serving in theatre. During actions at Fire Support Base (FSB) Coral by 1 RAR and at FSB Balmoral by 3 RAR in May and June 1968, later known as the Battle of Coral-Balmoral, these two battalions of the regiment would fight battles with conventional attributes not seen since Kapyong. In June 1969, an infantry company from 5 RAR, then on its second tour, and supported by a troop of tanks and another of APCs fought a significant combined arms action against a battalion-sized force of North Vietnamese regulars and Viet Cong local force troops during the Battle of Binh Ba.

Following Binh Ba, the remainder of the regiment's commitment to Vietnam would be characterised largely by the policies of "Pacification" and "Vietnamization", with an emphasis on ambushing and patrolling to protect the local population and training South Vietnamese troops to increasingly replace US and allied forces. The withdrawal of Australian forces from South Vietnam began in November 1970 when 8 RAR completed its tour of duty and was not replaced. Where possible, the Australians still sought

to bring Viet Cong units to battle, such as during Operation North Ward, where V Company, 4 RAR/NZ fought elements of the Chau Duc and Ba Long guerrilla units in August and September 1971. On 18 August 1971, Prime Minister William McMahon announced that 1 ATF would cease operations in October, with the last combat elements of the regiment (D Company, 4 RAR) returning to Australia in February 1972. The regiment sustained losses of 325 killed and over 2,000 wounded in Vietnam.

Peacetime service, 1973–98

With the withdrawal of the battalion serving in Singapore as part of the Far East Strategic Reserve, 1973 finally saw all units of the regiment stationed in Australia for the first time. Thus began a period of peace-time soldiering of a sort not before seen in the regiment. The end of National Service significantly diminished the strength of the Army, and at this time the government directed that the number of battalions in the regiment be reduced to six, which was achieved by linking 2 and 4 RAR, 5 and 7 RAR, and 8 and 9 RAR. The strength of units and resources were also reduced, with a shift in strategic and tactical concepts from forward defence to defence of continental Australia. Regardless, from September 1973 the battalions of the regiment provided a company on three monthly rotations to Rifle Company Butterworth in Malaysia as part of the Five Power Defence Arrangements. Meanwhile, the 10th Independent Rifle Company, Royal Australian Regiment (10 IRC) was raised on 23 May 1974 to provide an opposing force for units training at the Jungle Training Centre at Canungra.

The 1980s saw the introduction of battalion specialisations—light, parachute, mechanised and motorised—in the regiment and the formation of a ready deployment force. The later concept was first tested during Operation Morris Dance, the contingency mounted in response to the 1987 Fiji coup. 5/7 RAR subsequently developed as a mechanised battalion equipped with M113 armoured personnel carriers, while 3 RAR re-roled as a parachute battalion. In 1988, during the Australian Bicentennial celebrations, a contingent drawn from the battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment under the command of Lieutenant Colonel John Salter of 1 RAR, supported by an Australian Army Band, was deployed as part of the bicentennial celebrations to mount public duties at Buckingham Palace Windsor Castle, St James's Palace and the Tower of London, the first Australian troops to do so since the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. In 1991, the two Brisbane-based battalions—6 RAR and 8/9 RAR—then part of the 6th Brigade, became Ready Reserve battalions. Following trials of the concept 6 RAR reequipped as a motorised battalion in 1992, while 8/9 RAR commenced conversion in 1996. Each battalion was initially issued modified 6x6 Land Rover Perenties until a purpose-built infantry mobility vehicle could be acquired.



1 RAR soldiers prepare to board a US Marine Corps helicopter in Somalia

Although individual members of the regiment served on deployment in such locations as the Sinai, the Balkans, Western Sahara and Bougainville, it was not until 1993 that the regiment conducted another formed-body deployment. On 15 December 1992 the government announced that 1 RAR would deploy as a part of the US-led and UN-sanctioned Operation Restore Hope in Somalia. The Australian commitment, known as Operation Solace, saw 1 RAR deployed for 17 weeks to a 17,000-square-kilometre (6,600 sq mi) Humanitarian Relief Sector (HRS) centred on the township of Baidoa. In the course of four months over 8,311 tonnes of humanitarian aid was delivered. 1 RAR also protected Baidoa airfield, provided security in the township, conducted in-depth patrolling of the HRS, as well as escorting aid convoys within it. 1 RAR was never seriously challenged by the Somali bandits, although there were a number of contacts which resulted in casualties on both sides. One Australian was accidentally killed during the deployment.

In May 1993, a detachment from 12 Platoon, D Company, 2/4 RAR was deployed to Cambodia to provide security to the Australian contribution to the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. Operating from Battambang airport in north-west Cambodia in support of the Army Aviation Group, they conducted static defensive tasks, patrolling and provided a ready reaction force. They joined another detachment of personnel from 5/7 RAR's Support Company, which had been deployed to undertake communications tasks as part of the Force Communications Unit. The deployment came to an end in November 1993. In 1994, the raising of a fifth battalion was approved, with 2/4 RAR de-linked the following year, and 4 RAR returning to the order of battle in its own right.

Between August 1994 and August 1995, two companies of the regiment, initially A Company, 2/4 RAR and then B Company, 2 RAR, served with the Australian contingent of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR). From 20 to 23 April 1995, a 50-member detachment, including infantrymen from 5 Platoon, B Company, 2 RAR were forced to witness the Kibeho massacre of around 4,000 Hutu refugees at the Kibeho camp by members of the Rwandan Patriotic Army. Vastly outnumbered and frustrated by a mandate that did not allow them to engage the perpetrators, the infantrymen were forced into a passive role during the massacre. Throughout the incident, however, they worked under fire attempting to assist wounded refugees. Meanwhile, 8/9 RAR was disbanded in 1997 after the discontinuation of the Ready Reserve scheme.

East Timor, Solomon Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan, 1999 – present

East Timor's ballot in favour of independence after 24 years of Indonesian occupation on 30 August 1999 resulted in a wave of violence by militia groups and pro-integration factions within the Indonesian military. 2, 3 and 5/7 RAR were subsequently deployed from 20 September 1999 as part of the UN-sanctioned International Force for East Timor (INTERFET), charged with restoring peace and overseeing the Indonesian departure. Despite minor clashes, including a contact at Motaain on the Indonesian border on 10 October 1999, control was quickly established and INTERFET handed over to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) in February 2000. At this time, 5/7 RAR became the first battalion of the regiment to serve under UN command since the Korean War. From 1999 to 2004, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5/7, and 6 RAR would all serve in East Timor twice, giving the regiment a wealth of operational experience. One soldier was acci-

dentally killed during these operations, while several more were wounded. Two years after being withdrawn, the deteriorating situation in the country—by then known as Timor Leste—again saw units of the regiment deployed to conduct stabilisation and security operations, this time under Operation Astute. In response to the initial crisis, 3 RAR was deployed along with special forces from 4 RAR (Commando) and the Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) in May 2006. It was replaced in early September by a combined Australian and New Zealand battle group based on 6 RAR, designated the ANZAC Battle Group. Subsequent rotations included elements of 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8/9 RAR in the years that followed. After a phased drawdown, the last elements were withdrawn in 2013. Events in East Timor largely overshadowed developments in Solomon Islands, where elements of the regiment also served periodically from 2003 onwards. One member of the regiment died during operations in the Solomon Islands.



Soldiers from 3 RAR on patrol in Tarin Kowt, August 2008

The regiment had only a minor role in the 2003 invasion of Iraq, providing a force element of about 40 Commandos from 4 RAR to support the Special Forces Task Group, which was based on an SASR Squadron. Following the invasion, the deteriorating security situation in Baghdad saw the deployment of a combined arms Security Detachment (SECDET), charged with protecting the Australian embassy and its personnel. Over a dozen companies of the regiment provided force elements to the various rotations. In February 2005 Prime Minister John Howard committed a battle group to southern Iraq to partially replace a Dutch unit that had been operating in the Governorate of Al Muthanna. The regiment's contribution to the first battle group, initially known as the Al Muthanna Task Group, was a rifle company, although the second and third rotations were led by 5/7 RAR and 2 RAR respectively. When Provincial Iraqi Control was declared in Al Muthanna in July 2006, AMTG 3, led by 2 RAR, was renamed the Overwatch Battle Group (West) (OBG(W)). The fifth battle group to serve in Iraq was based on 5 RAR, by which time OBG(W) was operating in both the Al Muthanna and Dhi Qar Governorates as a part of the British Multi-National Division South East (MND(SE)). (AMTG 1, OBG(W) 2 and OBG(W) 4 were all based on cavalry regiment headquarters). During this time elements of the regiment conducted counterinsurgency operations until withdrawn in mid-2008. Casualties in Iraq included one member of the regiment who was accidentally killed.

Meanwhile, a Reconstruction Taskforce (RTF) based around the 1st Combat Engineer Regiment with protective elements from the 5/7 RAR, 6 RAR and 2nd Cavalry Regiment began arriving in Uruzgan Province in southern Afghanistan in early September 2006 as part of Operation Slipper.

The RTF formed part of a Dutch-led Provincial Reconstruction Team, operating as part of Task Force Uruzgan and based at Forward Operating Base Ripley, outside of Tarin Kowt. However, as the Australian commitment expanded, by 2010 the task force had evolved into a combined arms battalion-sized battle group consisting of infantry, engineers, cavalry, artillery and logistic elements, usually based on a unit of the Royal Australian Regiment. Known as the Mentoring Task Force (MTF), it formed part of a multinational brigade known as Combined Team Uruzgan and was tasked with counter-insurgency operations in conjunction with United States and other coalition forces. Partnered with the 4th Brigade, 205th Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA), it operated throughout Uruzgan Province. While attached to MTF-1, soldiers from Combat Team Delta (based on D Company, 6 RAR) took part in heavy fighting during the Battle of Derapet in Deh Rahwod on 24 August 2010. Corporal Daniel Keighran was later awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia for his role in the battle, the first member of the Royal Australian Regiment to receive the award. The task force was withdrawn in late 2013 following the handover of the province to Afghan forces, although a small force protection element remains as part of the ongoing but reduced Australian training and advisory mission. Twelve members of the regiment have been killed in Afghanistan.

Special Operations

The Special Air Service Regiment owes its heritage to the RAR. Originally formed as the 1st SAS Company in 1957, in 1960 it became an independent company of the RAR and was tasked with providing the army's special operations capability. The SASR became a regiment in its own right on 20 August 1964, severing the link with the RAR at this time. Re-raised as a commando battalion from 1997, 4 RAR (Commando) served in East Timor as a conventional light-role battalion in 2001, before focusing on the development of its special operations capability. In this role the battalion was designed to be a flexible, self-contained force element able to deploy at short notice to undertake offensive operations in support of Australia's national interests. Once full operational capability was reached, elements of 4 RAR (Commando) would serve in Timor Leste, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as providing a domestic counter terrorism capability as part of Tactical assault group (East). In 2009, 4 RAR (Commando) was renamed the 2nd Commando Regiment, and as such is no longer part of the RAR. Rather than being formally disbanded, 4 RAR remained on the Army's order of battle with its colours and traditions maintained and protected, ready to be re-raised in the future if required.

Reorganisation, 2005–17

In 2005, the Australian Army began planning for a reorganisation as part of an initiative known as "Hardening the Army". The key impact of this plan on the regiment was that 3 RAR would surrender its parachute role, moving from Sydney to Adelaide to become the Army's second mechanised battalion. However, in August 2006 the government announced that the regiment would expand from five to seven battalions, with the initiative retitled "Hardening and Networking the Army". As such, 5/7 RAR conducted a de-linking parade on 3 December 2006, reforming as 5 RAR and 7 RAR. 5 RAR reformed in a largely mature state and included a company serving on operations in Iraq, while 7 RAR reformed with a company on operations in Afghanistan. Both battalions remained in the mechanised role. Meanwhile, the regiment marked its 60th Birthday on 23 November 2008 with a parade at Victoria Barracks, Sydney, including a Queens Guard provided by 3 RAR and the Colours of

the Regiment. Achieving operational status in 2009, 7 RAR relocated to Adelaide in 2011. Under the new scheme 3 RAR relinquished the parachute role, becoming a light infantry battalion. It subsequently relocated to Townsville in 2012. 8/9 RAR reformed as a motorised battalion at Enoggera on 31 October 2007 in the last element of the Enhanced Land Force, and was equipped with Bushmaster PMVs. It subsequently served on operations in Timor Leste and Afghanistan.



Soldiers from 3 RAR jump from a C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft in 2005

In 2009, the reorganisation was again re-titled, this time as the "Adaptive Army" which sought to re-balance the Army and shape it to become an adaptive, learning organisation. Under the Plan Beersheba element of the Adaptive Army reforms announced in 2011 and confirmed in the 2013 Defence White Paper, the three Regular Army brigades will be restructured between 2014 and 2017 into three Combat Brigades with a similar structure and capabilities, each consisting of: a Brigade Headquarters, an Armoured Cavalry Regiment, two Light Infantry Battalions, an Artillery Regiment, a Combat Engineer Regiment, a Combat Service Support Battalion and a Combat Signals Regiment. With the establishment of the Armoured Cavalry Regiments, 5 and 7 RAR gave up their M113 armoured personnel carriers and re-roled as light infantry. Meanwhile, the motorised battalions also re-roled as light infantry with a transport squadron being established in each Combat Service Support Battalion equipped with Bushmaster PMVs to provide protected mobility. 2 RAR was selected to specialise in amphibious warfare.

In 2017 further changes to the Beersheba Combat Brigade construct were announced with the PMVs and M113s again planned to go back to the infantry battalions, with each brigade to include one motorised infantry battalion and one mechanised infantry battalion. Under this plan in 1st Brigade 5 RAR will receive PMVs and 7 RAR will be equipped with M113s, in 3rd Brigade PMVs will go to 1 RAR and M113s to 3 RAR, while in the 7th Brigade 8/9 RAR will receive PMVs and 6 RAR will get M113s. 2 RAR will continue to specialise in amphibious operations.

Battle Honours

Korean War:

- Sariwon, Yongyu, Chongju, Pakchon, Uijeongbu, Chuamni, Maehwa-San, Kapyong, Kowang-San, Maryang-San, The Samichon, Korea 1950–53.

Vietnam War:

- Long Tan, Bien Hoa, Coral–Balmoral, Hat Dich, Binh Ba, Vietnam 1965–72.

Note: Not all battle and theatre honours are displayed on battalion colours.

4 RAR (Commando) was presented with a Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) on 26 October 2007 for operations in Afghanistan. D Company, 6 RAR was belatedly also awarded a UCG on 18 August 2011 for its actions at the Battle of Long Tan. In 2018, all the units who participated in the Battle of Coral-Balmoral were awarded the UCG; this included both 1 and 3 RAR.



Regimental Colours of 1 RAR

Foreign military decorations

1, 3 and 6 RAR have all been awarded American military decorations for service alongside US troops. 1 RAR received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for its service in Vietnam. 3 RAR received the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation and United States Presidential Unit Citation (formerly the Distinguished Unit Citation) following the Battle of Kapyong during the Korean War (honours it shares with the 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry). D Company 6 RAR also received the Distinguished Unit Citation for its actions during the Battle of Long Tan in Vietnam. Although the respective battle honours are borne by the whole regiment, the three citations awarded by the United States are held solely by the battalions that received them, and are displayed as streamers on the regimental colours of those battalions. 8 RAR was awarded the South Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation for its service during the Vietnam War.

Music

The Royal Australian Regiment has a wide variety of regimental music. In addition to regimental quick and slow marches, each battalion has its own set of marches:

- Royal Australian Regiment – Quick: *El Alamein* (Band); Slow: *Infantry Song*
- 1st Battalion – *Waltzing Matilda*
- 2nd Battalion – *Ringo* (Band); *Back in Black* (Pipes and Drums)
- 3rd Battalion – *Our Director* (Band); *Hielan' Laddie* (Pipes

and Drums)

- 4th Battalion – *Inverbrackie*
- 5th Battalion – *Dominique*
- 6th Battalion – *Spirit of Youth* (Band); *The Crusaders* (Pipes and Drums)
- 7th Battalion – *Australaise* (Band); *Cock o' the North* (Pipes and Drums)
- 8th/9th Battalion – *Black Bear* (Pipes and Drums)



Soldiers of the 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment on Anzac Day in Darwin, Northern Territory, 2013.

Lanyards

Each battalion of the regiment is identified by a different coloured lanyard worn on the left shoulder:

- 1st Battalion – Garter blue
- 2nd Battalion – Black
- 3rd Battalion – Rifle green
- 4th Battalion – Scarlet
- 5th Battalion – Gold
- 6th Battalion – Khaki
- 7th Battalion – Maroon
- 8th/9th Battalion – Slate grey and beech brown (braided)

Alliances

The Royal Australian Regiment is allied with the following regiments:

- Canada – Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
- New Zealand – 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
- Malaysia – Royal Malay Regiment
- United Kingdom – Brigade of Gurkhas
- United Kingdom – Grenadier Guards (1 RAR)
- United Kingdom – Coldstream Guards (2 RAR)
- United Kingdom – Scots Guards (3 RAR)
- United Kingdom – The Queen's Royal Hussars (Queen's Own and Royal Irish) (3 RAR)
- United Kingdom – Irish Guards (4 RAR)
- United Kingdom – Welsh Guards (5 RAR)
- United Kingdom – The Highlanders (7 RAR)



HISTORY OF THE RAR BADGE "SKIPPY"

Upon the establishment of the Australian Regiment a regimental badge and motto were required. Despite the badge being created for the Regiment, much of its inspiration came from the vision of soldiers and officers of the 1st Battalion. Suggestions for a regimental badge were tendered to the then Director of Infantry, Brigadier I.R. Campbell, in early 1949. The favoured design was drawn up by Sergeant E.J. O'Sullivan of Intelligence Section 1 RAR and was originally intended solely for 1 RAR. The design featured a kangaroo, which gave the badge its affectionate moniker, the 'Skippy Badge'. It also featured a wattle wreath creating a distinctly Australian character, coupled with the boomerang, which had been used in the tactical symbology of the 2nd AIF from which the original units of the 34th Brigade (which comprised if the 65th Bn (1 RAR), 66th Bn (2 RAR) and 67th Bn (3 RAR)). were raised. The crossed rifles were chosen to signify the personal weapon of the infantryman. Finally, the badge was surmounted with a crown because of the Royal title bestowed upon the Regiment.

Three Badges were then made by pioneer platoon, 3 RAR. They were presented to the original battalions of the Regiment in 1952. This original, 'Skippy Badge' which is surmounting 1 RAR's gates shows its longevity by featuring the King's crown rather than the Queen's as the current regimental badge now displays.

Aside from graphic adornments, the badge is emblazoned with the simple yet highly appropriate motto, 'Duty First'. The motto was suggested by Major K.B. Thomas MC, who was also serving within 1 RAR. The badge did not begin to be issued in place of the rising sun badge until 1954, however it was appearing on regimental Christmas cards as early as 1949 (Horner).

In early 1949, the Director of Infantry, Brigadier I.R. Campbell DSO wrote to the battalions of the Regiment asking for suggested designs for a Regimental Badge. Several designs were submitted and the one eventually accepted was that submitted by 1RAR, then serving at Ingleburn, NSW. In the early stages of the preparation of a design, it was intended to be the badge for the 1st Battalion only, but subsequently it was decided that one badge would be worn by all battalions of the Regiment. On the 10 Mar 49 it was announced that "His Majesty King George VI had been graciously pleased to give his approval to the prefix "Royal" being appended to the title of the Australian Regiment". In the final form of the badge was the combination of many suggestions put forward by several persons. Those involved in 1RAR 's design were LTCOL J.K.A. Kelly DSO Commanding Officer of 1RAR, MAJ T.E. Archer,

MAJ K.B. Thomas MC, and SGT E.J. O'Sullivan, the Intelligence Sergeant. The Intelligence Section of the Battalion prepared sketches and assisted in the design. In deciding upon the various heraldic devices for inclusion in the motif of the badge, an early intention was to incorporate the identification signs of the AIF Divisions, which contributed personnel to the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade for the occupation forces in Japan. This proved impracticable because the Sixth Division had a kangaroo, the Seventh Division a kookaburra, and the Ninth Division a platypus, all surmounting a boomerang. At this stage it was decided that it should be a regimental and not a battalion badge so it was decided to adopt an animal typically Australian, but differing somewhat from those of the Divisional Signs. A kangaroo was selected, and the heraldic posture of the beast was to be standing (the Sixth Division kangaroo was leaping) to prevent a direct connection with a divisional tactical sign.

The devices in the badge have the following meaning: the kangaroo, uniquely native fauna and universally accepted as an Australian symbol. The original sketch showed the kangaroo with its forepaws relaxed, but in the badge its forepaws are outstretched. This occurred because the die casters could not achieve proper definition with the paws hanging. The boomerang, a weapon closely associated with our Aboriginal peoples and also related to the tactical signs of the 2nd AIF from which the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade was formed. The wattle wreath, a symbolic Australian flora in bloom, and variation of the laurel wreath which is part of many British and Australian Badges. The Crossed Rifles, this was to signify the personal weapon of the Infantryman. The rifle was the .303 inch, Short Magazine, Lee Enfield, Number 1, Mark 3. The Royal Crown, it is a representation of the Saint Edward's or King Edward the Confessor's Crown and has been used in the Regimental Badge since new issues became available following the accession of Her Majesty the Queen. Previously a representation of The Imperial Crown was used. A motto for the Regiment was called for and it had to be original, short, and in English. "Duty First" seemed appropriate and was selected because, "The unhesitating and unquestioning performance of his duty is the fundamental requirement of a soldier". The Regimental Badge was reproduced on Christmas Cards in 1949, but was not issued as a hat badge until early 1954 when the new badges were issued to 2 RAR in Korea, replacing the Rising Sun. In June 1950, 3 RAR then serving in Japan, had four large badges cast out of spent brass shell cases by members of the Assault Pioneer Platoon. One of these badges was sent to each of the three battalions and the fourth to 1 Infantry Brigade Headquarters.

State Management Committee Annual Reports 2019

STATE PRESIDENT

Delegates; thank you for attending the AGM and representing your respective centres. A great deal of effort goes into organising this meeting with commensurate arrangements and gives delegates, and the SMC an opportunity to share information for the benefit of members.

I'm pleased to report that the Association is in good stead financially and meeting the requirements of the ACNC by adhering to the principles good corporate governance. As well, membership is increasing due, in the main, to the DVA initiative (suggested by Federation) to alert TPis to the existence of our Association and allowing the Federation to espouse the benefits of membership. This, combined with our previous initiative of broadening the Associate Membership criteria, place us in a good position going forward.

As I have stated previously, it is imperative that, for our Association to remain active and relevant in an ever evolving Ex-Service community vying for a piece of the pie, we must embrace change and plan for the future. TPis are not a dying breed - as some may have you believe. All current DVA Acts allow for TPis and we have members joining who are in the thirties - so it is important they can access proper representation - as our forebears did. Without a strong voice, it goes without saying hard-earned entitlements, that have been gained since before WW2 will be in danger of being lost or eroded. The challenge for State, and I dare say Social Centres, is to garner the support from members to ensure our functions can continue. Members must put their hand up and volunteer for roles or face the consequences of diminished representation.

In that light, the SMC for the forthcoming tenures, is being strengthened by the addition of new blood which hopefully ensures state office can maintain its charter of support for our membership. The management of an ESO can be complex and challenging and I thank the past SMC for their efforts and I would particularly like to acknowledge George Robinson, who is standing down as Secretary after several years of service, including being a Federation Director. Sadly, we lost Helen Cook who passed on this year. Helen epitomised a veteran who gave back with professionalism and care for her members. She will be missed at all levels.

This year we had a member leave his estate to the Association. Although he was by no means well off, this member saw fit to remember his 'other' family which says a lot about the hidden bonds that unite all who have served. His contribution will help fund our two AVCAT Scholarships which have proven to be very successful. Our two present recipients have excelled in their studies and have written expressing their enduring gratitude for the financial support the Association has provided. It will be recommended to this AGM that at least two scholarships continue to be funded for relatives of our TPI membership (ordinary or life members).

Federation has continued to lobby hard for an increase in TPI compensation payments but to date have had little success.

Queensland will continue to strongly represent our members at Federation. Our major concerns are the issues around Aged Care for veterans and the entitlement disparity between operational and non-operational TPis. Our view is a 'TPI is a TPI' and no distinction should be drawn on entitlements. Government is very quick to farm out inquires to consultants and commissions to delay decision making and credit must be given to Federation for driving our legitimate concerns to the highest levels.

I have represented the Association at State level at DVA and as a member or QVAC and commemorative occasions. I also maintain our Twitter account @QldTPI which has again proved useful in communicating with key players in the veteran community, Unfortunately, DVA senior staff have been seconded for relieving for lengthy periods. It is hoped senior management stability returns soon as ESOs rely on DVA to quickly respond to issues and disseminate information quickly. State Government is in the final stages of implementing an 'Office for Veterans'. This new 'Ipswich Based' office will have a major role to play for the state veteran community. Through QVAC I have had some input into its formation (not location) but the wheels of bureaucracy turn ever so slowly, and much patience is needed, especially in the quest for concessions - particularly for licenses etc as enjoyed by other states. Hopefully, this new office can help in the lobbying process for concessions and grants as Queensland does lag behind other jurisdictions and become an important part of the veteran community.

As this completes my initial tenure as President, I thank the SMC for their support during this time. I have indicated a willingness to continue, in the interests of maintaining stability on the SMC, especially during this period of membership growth. As a Federation Director I'm keen that Queensland's views are aired particularly with the prospect of major changes to veteran entitlements emanating from the various reviews conducted by government.

We must remain ever vigilant!

Thank you, if there are no questions - I move my report to the AGM.



The room was full of pregnant women with their husbands.

The instructor said, "Ladies, remember that exercise is good for you. Walking is especially beneficial - strengthens the pelvic muscles and will make delivery that much easier.

Just pace yourself, make plenty of stops and try to stay on a soft surface, like a grass path.

"Gentlemen, remember -- you're in this together. It wouldn't hurt you to go walking with her.

In fact, that shared experience would be good for you both."

The room suddenly became very quiet as the men absorbed this information. After a few moments a man, name unknown, at the back of the room, slowly raised his hand.

"Yes?" said the Instructor.

"I was just wondering if it would be all right, if she carries a golf bag?

Brings a tear to your eye, doesn't it?

State Management Committee Annual Reports 2019

STATE SECRETARY

This year again we have more changes. Our numbers are increasing mainly due to the DVA Mail out. The DVA secretary has advised this mail out will be done annually. We followed up with 200 letters to prospective members and received 91 new memberships.

At our last AGM it was decided to change our Life Membership rules, which has been done, but no members have been nominated. I also introduced a new Life Membership card which all Life Members now have been issued.

Nominations were called for President, Secretary, and Treasurer from Social Centres as all tenures expire this year. No nominations were received.

The website is updated regularly and is an important source of TPI information to keep members regularly informed. Each Social Centre has their own page, If you wish to have your newsletters added just send to the secretary preferably in pdf format.

Beryl Murray our Office Manager handles most phone queries. For the times when office unattended, we have an excellent voicemail message system. Beryl also looks after comprehensive list of TPI Merchandise. Remember the State Office is closed from 20 December 2019 to 08 January 2020.

This year we have sent out 16 new car letters for fleet discount.


This is my final report as Secretary as we have a new member who wishes to take up the position. I also will finish up as State Director.

Sadly there were 18 deceased members.

George Robinson
State Secretary


Social Centre	2018			2019		
	Ordinary	Associate	Life	Ordinary	Associate	Life
Beenleigh	36	0	1	31	0	1
Bundaberg	37	1	0	34	1	0
Central Qld	44	0	0	45	2	0
Far North Qld	78	9	2	68	9	2
Gold Coast	59	2	2	84	6	0
Ipswich	34	0	3	49	2	3
Moreton Bay	18	0	2	14	1	1
Redcliffe	86	65	5	73	52	3
Sunshine Coast	89	16	2	74	17	2
Toowoomba	57	4	2	56	4	2
Unallocated	206	4	4	282	8	4
Total	744	101	23	810	102	18

Did you know?




If you're coughing uncontrollably, raise your hands above your head and it will stop!

DID YOU KNOW?
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SNIFF THIS HERB...




A study found that sniffing rosemary can increase memory by 75%

DID YOU KNOW?



Eating pistachios before bed helps with sleep as they are one of the most melatonin rich foods!

DID YOU KNOW?
When you eat just 3 carrots...



3 carrots give you enough energy to walk 3 miles, and they were first grown as a medicine, not food.

State Management Committee Annual Reports 2019

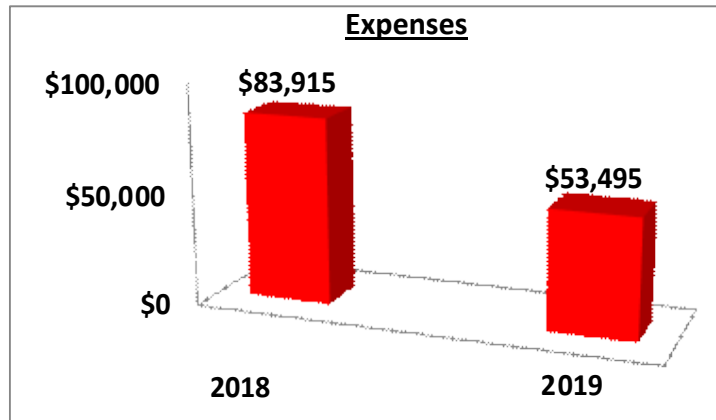
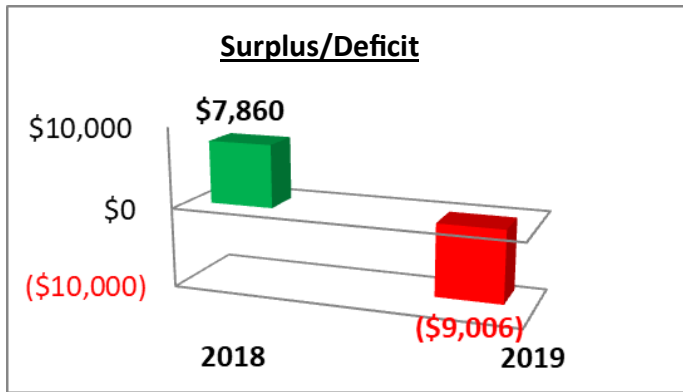
TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Members,

I am pleased to present my annual report.

This year the Association achieved a Deficit of \$9,006 as opposed to a Surplus \$7,860 last year.

- Federation Directors expenses decreased by \$2,253
- Printing & Stationery increased by \$679
- Superannuation \$1,143 previously included in wages shown as a separate line item
- Unexpended Grant monies refunded \$1,910



Our Income compared to last year decreased by \$45,375. This was mainly due to the Association not obtaining any grants this year (\$38,391 in 2018). Other significant income items included:

The remainder of Operating Expenses were in line with last years.

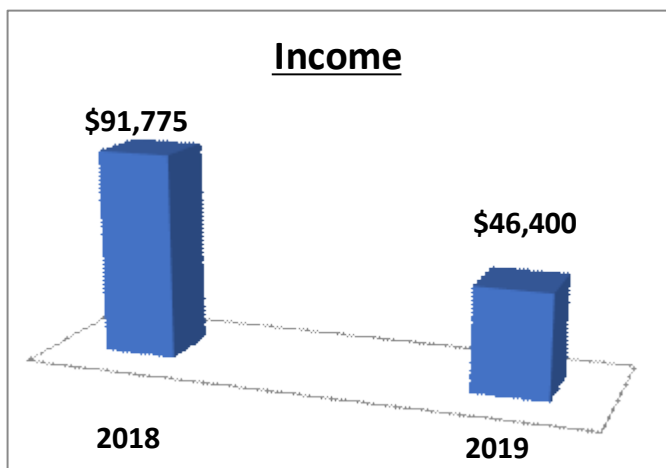
- Management decreased by \$1,564.
- Interest received increased by \$6,715.
- Membership fees decreased by \$8,676, due to State Branch decreasing it's portion of Membership Fees by \$12 per Ordinary Member.
- Sundry income decreased by \$1,658.
- Rent received increased by \$439.

Total Assets are \$831,457 of which \$821,565 was held in cash, while Total Liabilities are \$8,339. Members' funds are \$823,119 as opposed to \$832,124 last year.

Once again I can report that our Association is in a strong financial position. As per previous reports I must stress that the future financial viability of the Association will be determined by prudent financial decisions made by the State Management Committee (SMC).

This will be my final report and I would like to thank the SMC, our Office Manager, Beryl Murray and Members for their friendship and assistance during my term as State Treasurer.

I commend my report to the meeting.



George Mialkowski

George Mialkowski

Expenses this year decreased by \$30,420. Significant decreases were:

- Annual General Meeting costs increased by \$578
- Computer & Website expenses decreased by \$2,440
- Depreciation increased by \$1,173
- Donations decreased by \$ 5,234





ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2020

Keeping a strong and proactive TPI Association in Queensland will ensure that our members are represented at all levels. If posting subscription please include a stamped self-addressed envelope and include your Membership Card for updating.

Where ever possible please pay subscriptions to your Sub-branch/Social Centre.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

1 January to 31 December 2020

Enclosed is a: Cheque Money Order Credit Card
(Please tick box)

Ordinary \$17 Associate \$13 Donation \$

Total: \$

Surname: Initials:

Badge No: Ordinary/Associate *(delete as required)*

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Post Code: Phone:

Signature: Date:

Credit Card Details:

Please debit	\$	To my Credit Card.	MasterCard	Visa
(Please tick the appropriate box.)				
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Expiry date:		Name of Cardholder:		
Signature:			Date:	

**TPI Association Qld. Branch Inc.
P.O. Box 3161, Newmarket Qld 4051.**

Welcome



New Members

We have great pleasure in welcoming the following New Members & Associate Members to Qld TPI Inc., and thank them for coming on board and becoming part of our community.

New Ordinary Members

Ackermann, Ralph Ernest	Guyer, Albert Ernest	Pobar, Paul Anthony
Adams, Joseph Edward	Haling, Lawrence Maxwell	Preston, Graham Alexander
Akers, Allan James	Hambridge, Gregory John	Prime, Richard
Allen, Bernard Martin	Hanna, Nicholas George	Pyne, Raymond Rodney
Ansford, Susan Lilian	Harradine, Peter Joseph	Quazer, Robert
Ardley, Martin Bruce	Harris, Paul Graham	Ransome, Leslie John
Argent, Russell John	Harrison, Ralph Edgar	Reeves, Frederick Thomas
Ashton, Henry Lawrence	Harrison, Richard Paul	Richards, Phillip Maxwell
Ballantyne, Ross Arthur	Heath, John Terence	Richardson, Dennis
Banks, Terrence Timothy	Heggie, Robert Thomas	Richardson, Paul William
Barrett, Vincent Paul	Holden, Robert George	Rogers, Neil Arthur
Bassett, Geoffrey James	Holder, Gary James	Roy, Timothy
Bear, Terence Leonard	Holmes, Harold	Ruska, Edward
Billsborough, Clinton James	Hooper, Philip Albert	Ryan, Martin Donald
Blazely, Desmond John	Howard, Michael John	Sandford, Raymond
Brett, Robert Anthony	Hoyes, John Laurence	Sawrey, Gregory Boyd
Briese, Raymond Thomas	Hutchinson, Kevin Douglas	Scott, Peter Russell
Bull, Alfred James	Johnson, Ronald Edward	Simpson, Mark John
Bundy, Matthew Charles	Johnston, Paul Vernon	Simson, Paul Richard
Bundy, Tamara Lee	Jones, Edward Alan	Smith, Douglas Raymond
Burgess, Gregory John	Jones, Paul Lynton	Snape, William George
Burnett, Glen James	Jurd, Brendon Joseph	Stephenson, Ralph John
Byers, Ronald George	Hall, Keith Richard	Stevenson, Allen James
Byrne, Sean Graham	Kirkman, Denis William	Taylor, John Anthony
Campbell, Lee	Lobb, Rodney Wayne	Teunissen, Ronald
Chapman, Richard William	Maccoll, Duncan	Thompson, Kevin Alan
Commons-Fidge Kevin Richard	Maisey, Robert George	Thomson, Leonard James
Cook, Peter John	Manfield, David Michael	Tobin, Jeffrey Thomas
Cunningham, Laurence Vince	Manteufel, Trevor Ian	Trail, Glen Alexander
Doolan, Mark Gregory	Martin, Reginald Walter	Trinder, Glenn Phillip
Dowling, Terence John	Martlew, Jonathon George	Vautin, John Stafford
Evans, Raymond Thomas	McCartin, Bernard	Voysey, Garry Reginald
Fairley, Noel Allan	McGinley, Kevin John	Walker, Henry Charles
Fairweather, Angelina Maree	McLean, Walter Scott	Welch, Raymond Ernes
Faulkner, Robert	Moon, Kevin John	Whittaker, Robert
Fenech, John	Moran, Stuart Joseph	Williams, Shane Peter
Ferguson, David Michael	Moynham, Lyndsay	Winkel, Daniel David
Fisher, John Frank	Muller, Barry James	Winn, Eric Kenneth
Forsyth, Stuart Graham	Murphy, Anthony James	Winters, Warwick Noel
Fox, James	Nielsen, Allan Noel	Wolfenden, Robert John
Fox, Stephen Edward	Nipperess, Graham Peter	
Friday, Garry Robert	Olney, Kenneth James	
Garson, Terence	O'Neill Michael David	
Gates, Joseph William	Palmer, Arthur William	
Giffin, Robert John	Pearse, Keith	
Gordon, Trevor James	Baker, Phillip Wayne	

New Associate Members

Baker, Judith Louise	Holder, Wendy	McGregor, Helen
Cook, Shristine	McCartin, Ruth Lynette	McIntyre, Gregory Michael

Corporal Dan Keighran, VC

6 RAR



Australian Army soldier Corporal Dan Keighran is the third Victoria Cross for Australia recipient and the first soldier from the Royal Australian Regiment to be awarded a Victoria Cross.

Corporal Dan Keighran, VC, joined the Australian Army on 5 December 2000 and, after completing recruit and initial employment training, he was posted to 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR).

While serving at 6 RAR, Corporal Keighran (pronounced: "Kear-ran") deployed to Rifle Company Butterworth, Malaysia, in 2001 and 2004; Timor-Leste (East Timor) in 2003–04; Iraq in 2006; and Afghanistan in 2007 and 2010.

On 24 August 2010, during his second Afghanistan deployment, Corporal Keighran was part of an Afghan and Australian fighting patrol engaged by a numerically superior and coordinated enemy force near the village of Derapet, Uruzgan province, Afghanistan. For his actions on this day, Corporal Keighran was subsequently awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia. Corporal Keighran's citation reads:

"For the most conspicuous acts of gallantry and extreme devotion to duty in action in circumstances of great peril at Derapet, Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, as part of the Mentoring Task Force One on Operation SLIPPER."

On 1 November 2012, Corporal Keighran was invested with the Victoria Cross for Australia by the Governor-General in Canberra, becoming the third Australian to receive the award during the Afghanistan War.

Today, Corporal Keighran continues to serve in the Australian Army as a reservist.

Corporal Keighran has received the following honours and awards:

- Victoria Cross for Australia
- Australian Active Service Medal with 'Iraq 2003' and 'International Coalition Against Terrorism (ICAT)' clasps
- Afghanistan Medal
- Iraq Medal
- Australian Service Medal with 'East Timor' clasp

- Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
 - Australian Defence Medal
 - United Nations Assistance Mission in East Timor Medal
 - NATO Non-Article 5 Medal with 'International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)' clasp
 - Meritorious Unit Citation – Mentoring Task Force One, Afghanistan
 - Meritorious Unit Citation – Task Force 66 (Special Operations Task Group), Afghanistan
 - Infantry Combat Badge
- Returned from Active Service Badge

WEAPONS OF THE ADF



The Heckler and Koch USP (universal self-loading pistol) 9mm is the preferred side-arm for Australian special forces.

The USP was specifically designed and developed in the early 1990s with the US SF, law-enforcement and commercial markets in mind and comes in several variants, including 9mm, .40 calibre and .45 calibre. The USP9 in the 'tactical' variant is 194mm long with a 108mm barrel and weighs 748grams without the magazine while the 'compact' USP9 weighs 80g less, but is 21mm shorter (and with a shorter hand grip) and 17mm less in barrel length.

It's a recoil-operated semi-automatic pistol with a 13 round magazine.

SNIPER RIFLE



The AW50F 'anti-materiel rifle' (AMR) is a bolt-operated, magazine-fed weapon that fires several types of 12.7mm (.50 cal) ammunition with the capability of engaging targets to a range of 1500m. It has an adjustable bipod and third leg at the rear that can be adjusted to fit soldiers' personal and tactical requirements.

It may be fitted with telescopic or iron sights.

Ammunition types include ball F1, tracer, armour piercing, armour-piercing incendiary and multipurpose, fed from a five-round box magazine.



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DECEASED MEMBERS



<u>Date of Passing</u>	<u>Social Centre</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Given Names</u>
12/06/2019	Beenleigh	Welsh	Thomas
16/06/2019	Sunshine Coast	Mackenzie	John William
29/07/2019	Sunshine Coast	Cook	Patricia Helen
12/08/2019	Toowoomba	Mackay	Terrence Michael
22/08/2019	Unallocated	Greaves	Ian James
04/09/2019	Gold Coast	Wakefield	Maurice J
07/09/2019	Ipswich	Brown	Sydney James
17/09/2019	Toowoomba	Findlay	James Gregory
19/09/2019	Central Qld	Walton	Kevin John

LESS WE FORGET