

Members,

I hope you and yours are all coping reasonably well during these uncertain times. Now we have the capability of emailing our complete membership base we will endeavour to put out regular updates. Should you **not wish** to receive E mails then please advise Beryl or the State Secretary.

Malaya and Borneo Veterans

Many of our members served during the Malaya and Borneo conflicts with some then serving in Vietnam. Their contribution was remembered on 31 August and is significant as one of Australia's longest conflicts. Lest We Forget

VP Day Commemoration

I had the distinct honour to lay a wreath on behalf of the Association at the Anzac Square Cenotaph to commemorate VP Day. Ten WW 2 veterans were present along with other dignitaries including the Governor and Premier. Sadly, we are of the belief the Association recently lost its last WW2 member Charles John Rice. This generation gave so much and asked for little in return. Lest We Forget

TPI Federation

Victoria has now left the TPI Federation due to an ongoing conflict over certain issues. This is very regrettable and strikes a serious blow to our unified voice. Qld remains a Federation member but has made it patently clear that we will not entertain spending any funds on legal issues emanating from the Victorian action. Our firm view is for remaining states to move on in the interests of ensuring TPIs maintain hard-earned entitlements during these uncertain economic times. This will be reinforced during the forthcoming 'virtual' Federation AGM by myself and our other Qld Director Ian Hurlock.

DVA

During my near 10 years on the State Executive I have never experienced a time when Qld DVA has been so inert. Very little consultation has occurred with local ESOs and perhaps it is because many DVA staff are working from home? I have had issues with the Veteran Home Assist Program and will be raising my concerns at the Federation AGM. I am also bitterly disappointed that DVA will no longer write to SRDP recipients to highlight available ESOs. Many of our newer members joined our Association, due to these DVA mail outs, and are now aware of entitlements that would have otherwise been unclaimed. The only reason I have heard for the discontinuation of the mail outs is that some ESOs were not privy to the mail outs and complained - so DVA, in their infinite wisdom, ceased the initiative!

State Office (SMC) Vacancy

The State Secretary is going to be absent for some time receiving medical treatment. In that regard, State Office has a continuing vacancy for an **Assistant Secretary** and such a role would be invaluable during times like this. So, if any member who lives in the Brisbane environs has the time and skill set to volunteer then please contact me:

president@qldtpi.org.au to discuss coming on board the State Office Team. The SMC is wholly made up of volunteers, who put in their own time to support the membership and if volunteers don't come forward then State Office cannot operate. As I have stated before

there is a lot to learn in running an ESO and unless we succession plan then the operation of the Association will be jeopardised.

Possible New Social Centres

Caboolture: Any members who live in the general Caboolture/ Kilcoy area are and are interested in forming a Social Centre then please E mail Darryl Schipp. Darryl has kindly offered Remembrance House as a possible venue for a renewed Caboolture Social Centre. At least 10 members are required for a Centre. Social centres can offer camaraderie and welfare support as well as social activities and can nominate 2 delegates to our State AGM. Darryl's E mail is:

Fraser Coast: Any member in the Maryborough/Hervey Bay area who would like to be a contact for a possible new centre please let me know. There are a number of members located in this growing area.

Welfare/Concessions. Remember we have State Welfare Officers (Ken and Peter) who can be contacted by E mail welfare@qldtpi.org.au who can assist in organising respite accommodation etc. Also, any questions on concessions or DVA entitlements then contact our State Concessions Officer, Ron Marsh; concessionsofficer@qldtpi.org.au

AVCAT

Applications are now open for AVCAT scholarships here is the link:[Scholarships](#) Our Association sponsors two of these scholarships preferably for dependants of our financial members. The selection and administration of the scheme is the responsibility of AVCAT. Inquire with AVCAT if you have any questions.

War Widows

Our collaboration with War Widows is proving mutually beneficial. Remember Associate Membership is available to partners or members which qualifies the member for a range of support services including social and lifestyle support. Active service is not a prerequisite for membership as general Defence service is accepted. Remembering also that when a TPI passes on their partner is eligible for the War Widows pension and can benefit from having a dedicated organisation looking after their interests. Here is the link [War Widows](#)

Membership Fees

Our fees are the lowest in the Federation and now is the time to think about paying dues. It is possible to pay up to 5 years in advance. If you're unsure on your membership status please contact Beryl at State Office or your Social Centre Secretary. If you know of any fellow TPIs please ensure they are aware of our Association.

Keep Well

Chris Richards
State President
www.qldtpi.org.au

DISABLED IN OUR SERVICE - UNITED IN OUR CAUSE

