APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER



AEME/RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

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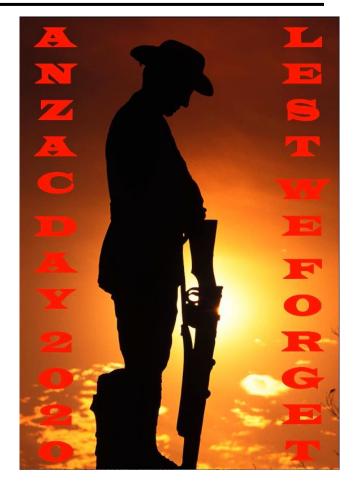
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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS EDITION

ANZAC Activities (Cancellations)	Page 2
President's Message	Page 3
Diary Dates and Vales	Page 4
Crossword	Page 7
March Luncheon Report	Page 11
Membership	Page 12

ANZAC ACTIVITIES 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE RSL

G'day all,

As a result of the coronavirus restrictions put in place by the police commissioner, we have had to severely curtail the number of attendees at Adelaide Dawn Service, and unfortunately, we are now unable to include representatives of exservice organisations. Kindred Organisation representatives are also excluded. This is deeply regrettable, and I know that this will cause significant upset among your members. However, in these circumstances, we have no choice but to stay within the restrictions.

If the Governor is your patron, you can assure your members that His Excellency will be placing his tribute on behalf of all your organisations as well as on his own behalf. Cheryl will be placing a tribute on behalf of all ex-service personnel. The flag orderly (Navy), commander of the catafalque party (Army), and padre (RAAF) will be placing tributes on behalf of the three services, as we have not even been able to invite the service chiefs.

You may like to place a tribute at the Memorial or your local memorial at a later time on Anzac Day.

Just to confirm, all other Adelaide Anzac Day events have been cancelled. It is the first time the March has been cancelled since 1971, when it was cancelled at very short notice due to a terrible storm. All members of the Anzac Day Committee are gutted that we cannot go ahead with our usual suite of commemorations in the city and are very mindful that their cancellation will have a significant impact on the veteran community. We are very fortunate that the Premier and police commissioner have given us approval to conduct Dawn Service, albeit with severe restrictions. Several other states have not been permitted to conduct a state Dawn Service at all. The Premier has been very supportive throughout our planning, adamant that Dawn Service should go ahead.

You and your members are encouraged to participate in the Light Up the Dawn ceremony at the end of your driveway or on your balcony at 05:55, then watch the Dawn Service live on local ABC TV or listen on ABC891 from 06:00.

I hope you are all keeping well and staying sane in isolation!

Regards,

Ian Smith Chair RSL (SA) Anzac Day Committee Torrens Training Depot Anzac House Victoria Drive ADELAIDE SA 5000 Mob: 0413 909 080



You are encouraged to participate in the Light Up the Dawn ceremony at the end of your driveway or on your balcony at 05:55, then watch the Dawn Service live on local ABC TV or listen on ABC891 from 06:00.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the April 2020 newsletter. The April newsletter is normally full of information in preparation for Anzac functions, and of course Anzac Day itself, the march, form up points etc. Sadly, we will be acknowledging Anzac Day very differently this year, but more on that a bit later.



I start all my reports with a comment such as "I hope everyone is well" and I always mean it. I sincerely hope all our members, family and friends are well. This time my interest in members health is no less than always, but definitely expressed with more concern. The last few months have been extremely interesting, challenging and worrying as we are experiencing something completely new across the globe.

I will not attempt to provide advice or come up with a phrase that we have already heard many times, but it is not possible to stress enough the importance of following the guidance on distancing, hygiene and restrictions on travel to name a few.

Most of our members are in the age group that is politely called "vulnerable", so I do hope that we are all staying well and coping in these strange times.

We are all aware of events being cancelled and this will be the case for quite a while. I have no doubt that Easter was very different for all of us with having to stay at home, little family gatherings and probably no parties with friends to name a few.

It is probably not well known among the membership that the association has 2 insurance policies that provide Pubic Liability Insurance and Volunteers Cover for our members. These 2 policies cost us over \$1000 per year, definitely our greatest annual expense. As a result of all events and fundraising being cancelled, the Executive Committee have decided to not renew the insurance policies until such a time we hold events or participate in activities that place us in a position of risk. As a minimum this decision will at least defer the annual payment, or it could save us the whole amount if the current restrictions are not lifted.

If any of you have memberships to services or facilities that are currently unavailable it could be worth investigating cancelling or suspending payments until such a time the services return to normal. This is a basic consumer right and most organisations would have a policy in place to make this possible for the customers.

Since the February newsletter we have sadly lost 2 members of the association. MAJ Alfred Lee and MAJ Roger Burzacott both passed away in March. Both AJJ and Roger joined as army apprentices, 6th and 14th intakes respectively and served for many years.

Alfred Lee was known to all of us as AJJ (pronounced like ADJ as in Adjutant) because of his initials, AJJ for Alfred John James. AJJ was a great supporter of the Association functions and had on occasions led the RAEME Vietnam Veterans contingent on Anzac Day. AJJ joined, in 1951 and served until 1978 when he retired as a Major.

Roger Burzacott also joined in 1959 and served both fulltime and part time in CMF/Army Reserve until retiring also as a Major. Somewhere during his career Roger transferred to the dark side, no not Officer, (well he did that too, but something more sinister, he transferred to Armoured Corps! Anyway we still talked to him and he never forgot where he started his career.

As mentioned earlier in the report, Anzac Day will be very different this year. There is no getting around the current restrictions and therefore the association is unable to arrange any sort of event or ceremony, so I encourage everyone to do something that suits them.

You would have already seen on page 2 the RSL information regarding Anzac Day and in particular the "Light Up the Dawn" initiative that people are being asked to participate in. To put it simply, the idea is to hold you own ceremony in your home, yard or similar and make that your way of commemorating Anzac Day 2020. More information can be found at http://rslsa.org.au/light-up-the-dawn/ The website also has links to the Last Post, Reveille/Rouse and National Anthem.

In closing, stay healthy, safe, and look out for each other and I look forward to catching up at the next function when we are able to hold them.

Arte et Marte Richard Moyses President

RAEME Association of SA DIARY DATES 2020

Activity/Function

- 2020 RAEME Mixed ANZAC Reunion Plympton/Glenelg RSL
- 2020 ANZAC Day March
- Committee of Management Meeting
- RAEME Luncheon (Avoca Hotel)
- Committee of Management Meeting
- RAEME and other Log Association's Combined Function
- Annual General Meeting
- RAEME Birthday Family Function

<u>Date</u>

CANCELLED CANCELLED

Wednesday 17th June Tuesday 1st September Wednesday 16th September Friday 30th October Saturday 28th November (4pm) Saturday 28^h November (evening)

DATES IN ITALICS TO BE CONFIRMED (depending on CORONAVIRUS restrictions)



25th April WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

MAJ Alf J.J. (AJJ) LEE

Army Apprentice (Fitter Elec - 6th Intake) CAPT with 1 Armd Regt LAD in Vietnam (1968/69) OC of Adelaide Workshop Coy 1976/78 Longstanding AEME/RAEME Assn Member **Passed away 2nd March 2020**

MAJ Michael Roger (Buzz) BURZACOTT

Army Apprentice (Fitter Elec - 14th Intake) **ARA** CFN with 111 LAA Bty LAD in Malaysia (1964/66) **CMF RAEME** - OC 13 Fd Regt and A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse LADs **ARes RAAC -** OC A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse (SAMR) Longstanding AEME/RAEME Assn Member **Passed away 26th March 2020**

VALE – Lest We Forget

Online lists of recent RAEME members Deaths and Illnesses are always available at:

http://www.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/vale-alt http://www.sa.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/vale-report

AJJ leading the ANZAC March

VALE Major Alf J.J. (AJJ) LEE

MAJ Alf J.J. (AJJ) Lee passed away on Monday 2nd March and his funeral was held on Thursday 12th March at Partridge House at Glenelg.

AJJ (ADJ) started his military career as an Army Apprentice (Fitter Elec - 6th Class) and went on to serve in several workshops and other units including:

- Eastern Command Workshop
- Army Guided Weapons Trial Unit
- Newcastle Area Workshop
- 101 Infantry Workshop
- RAEME Training Centre
- Puckapunyal Area Workshop
- Liverpool Area Workshop

He continued to progress "through the ranks" and was promoted Captain and posted to Army HQ (Melbourne) before being posted as OC C Sqn 1 Armoured Regiment Light Aid Detachment (LAD) and served in this role in Vietnam (1968/69).

His subsequent postings included:

- Tasmania Command Workshop
- 4 Base Workshop
- 31 Supply Battalion

His final posting before retirement was as OC of Adelaide Workshop Coy (1976/78).

After his retirement from the Army he was an active member in the AEME/RAEME Association of SA and along with his good friend WO1 Frank Owen was a key instigator in creating the RAEME Vietnam Group in the ANZAC March. Also, he led this group in the ANZAC Day March on a number of occasions. (see pictures)

AJJ with his good friend Frank Owen







VALE - Major M. Roger (Buzz) BURZACOTT

Prepared by good friend CAPT Trevor Parrott (Retd) - 48588 Michael Roger Burzacott

Anyone who associated with Roger (otherwise known as Buzz) would be aware of his pride in his military service and of his military heritage.

Roger's father (Lt Louis Burzacott) was killed at Balikpapan shortly before the end of WW2. He was a member of the 2/3 Commando Squadron and had survived conflict along the Black Track in New Guinea. Although Buzz never knew his father, he was greatly influenced in his choice of career by the little he did know.

Buzz applied for and was selected for enlistment in the Australian Army as an Army Apprentice. He was, at 15, a boy-soldier and his service officially began on 9 Jan 1959 as a member of the 14th Intake of Army Apprentices. His trade training was to be as an Electrical Fitter.

Being an Apprentice, he signed on for 9 years. This began with 3 years at the Apprentices School. The school was at Balcombe on the Mornington Peninsula (Vic). He became highly competent in his trade and this knowledge base held him in good stead for the rest of his life.

On graduation from the Apprentices School, Buzz was corps assigned to RAEME and posted to Central Command Wksp, Keswick for the final year of his apprenticeship. Buzz's entry into the "real" Australian Army began with his posting in Jan 1963 to 101 Infantry Workshop, Ingleburn and this was a posting he really enjoyed. His next posting was to 111 Light Anti-Aircraft Battery LAD in preparation for service in Malaya.

In Malaya, apart from his operational responsibilities he was also able to take the opportunity to learn to fly and gained his private pilot's license; and generally had a fantastic experience. While there, he also learned to appreciate curries – and those that know him have probably experienced some of his specialty dishes (and his numerous "tales").

On return to Australia, he was once again posted to Central Command Workshop, now Warradale and promoted L/Cpl, but like many well-qualified regular soldiers of the time, he saw that promotions and career advancement was biased towards members of the National Service and opted to take his discharge on 8 Jan 1968. He enlisted in the CMF the next day as a CPL in the Corps of RAEME.

After a short time in the CMF he was recommended for Officer Training and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1970 and was posted to 107 Fd Wksps, Keswick. As one of many young officers in the unit he held a number of postings within the unit. He was then promoted CAPT holding a variety of postings on HQ Staff and as OC LAD at both 13 Fd Regt and A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse (SAMR) (twice). It was on his second posting to A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse (SAMR) LAD that during the annual field exercise at Holowiliena he sent all RAEME units and his friends a strange signal "the horse is dead, and the Magpie has landed".

It was then we learnt that he was transferring to Royal Australian Armoured Corps. Learning more about his father's early service in 3/9 SAMR had influenced Buzz in seeking to corps transfer to Armour and his decision to do so was obviously never regretted. He held several postings within A Sqn and was then promoted to Major at 4th Training Group prior to his posting as OC A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse (SAMR).

After retiring from the Army he continued his involvement within the military circles joining several military organizations including the AEME/RAEME Association of SA, the South Australian Mounted Rifles Association, he was Chairman of the Army Museum of SA Foundation (AMOSAF) and a member and committee member of the Naval and Military Club of SA.

After being retired for a couple of years he was asked by the Armoured Corps if he would like to take up the honorary position of Honorary Colonel for 3/9 SAMR which is a great honour. He held this position for several years (See Picture)



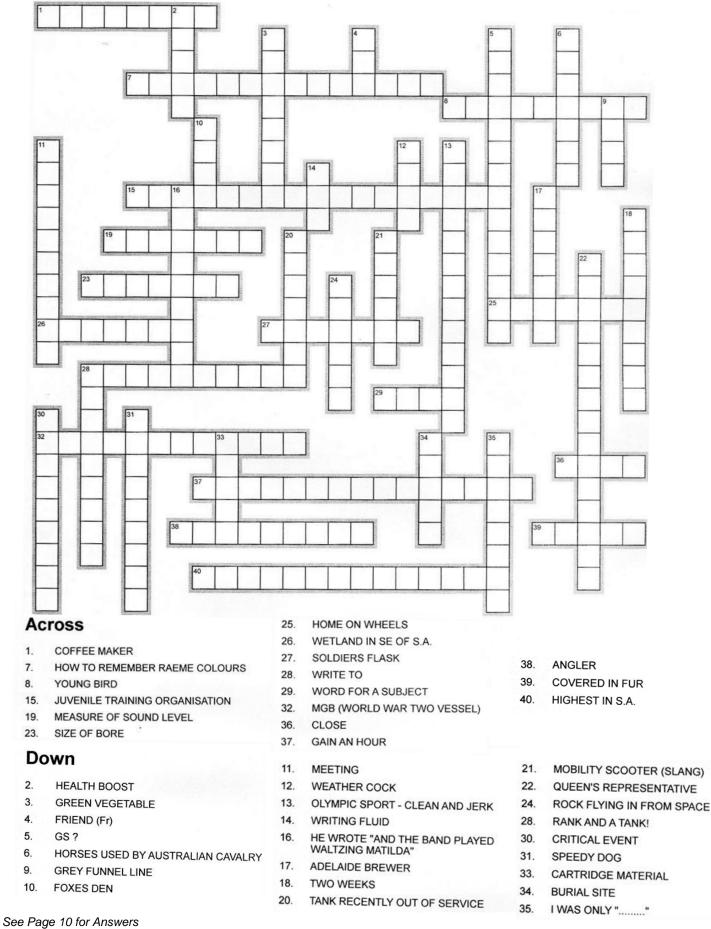
Buzz would count among his greatest achievements: appointment as OC A Sqn 3/9 Light Horse (SAMR), appointment as HONCOL 3/9 SAMR, and finding and visiting his father's grave.

Roger passed away on Thursday 26th March after a stroke. Unfortunately, Coronavirus restrictions meant the family had to have a private funeral (cremation) on Friday 3rd April. At this stage a Memorial Service/wake is planned for after the virus restrictions have been lifted.



Our Latest Crossword

Many thanks to Geoff Parker for preparing these crosswords



Page 7

A lot of folk are wondering why Veterans aren't panicking about COVID-19, well

The current events have made me realise that my present life and my previous life in the military hold a number of similarities.....

- * Never any toilet paper
- * Lots of tinned food
- * Being told what to do all the time
- * Ordered into groups or defined size of groups
- * Watching others panic
- * Constant instructions which are always changing
- * Information which is out of date by the time you receive it.
- * Being told what to do in your free time
- * Standing in long queues to get food
- * Carrying a mask around all the time
- * Weekend plans all buggered up
- * Your favourite bars are off limits
- * Living under a permanent curfew
- * Constant travel restrictions

That was recruit course and then it got worse

What do you do all day??

A man came home from work and found his three children outside, still in their pyjamas, playing in the mud, with empty food boxes and 20 wrappers strewn all around the front yard.

The door of his wife's car was open, and so was the front door to the house and there was no sign of the dog. Proceeding into the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall.

In the front room the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing.

In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, the fridge door was open wide, dog food was spilled on the floor a broken glass lay under the table, and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door. He quickly headed up the stairs, stepping over toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife. He was worried she might be ill, or that something serious had happened

He was met with a small trickle of water as it made its way out the bathroom door.

As he peered inside, he found wet towels, scummy soap and more toys strewn over the floor. Miles of toilet paper lay in a heap and toothpaste had been smeared over the mirror and walls.

As he rushed to the bedroom, he found his wife still curled up in the bed in her pyjamas, reading a book.

She looked up at him, smiled, and asked how his day went.

He looked at her bewildered and asked, 'What happened here today?'

She again smiled and answered, 'You know every day when you come home from work and you ask me what in the world I do all day?'

'Yes,' was his incredulous reply.

She answered, 'Well, today I didn't do it.

A Dog's Life

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of.

He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.

An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour.

This continued off and on for several weeks...

Curious I pinned a note to his collar:

'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful, sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar:

'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 - he's trying to catch up on his sleep.

Can I come with him tomorrow?'

Remember our Query in the February Newsletter about these 2 Vehicles



We had several replies and I have replied to all the emails received. Emails were forwarded to Geoff Parker as well and we all think that the email from Snowy Gibbins ex 101 Fd Wksp is most likely correct.

The consensus is the 1st truck is definitely a Blitz probably a Ford. The 2nd is a Ward la France Kenworth Wrecker M1A1. Snowy's dad drove one during WW2 and a report on his Father's activities can be viewed using the link in his email shown below.



Snowy's dad and one of the Kenworth wreckers

Hi Greg:

The 1st truck is definitely a Blitz probably Ford the 2nd is a Ward la France Kenworth Wrecker M1A1. Apparently only 3 came to Australia under Lend Lease & they would not be something to run into head on.

One can tell by the pictured truck's front fenders. These were unique to this marque in WW2 but later adopted for all US heavy type trucks.

Link or Cut & paste into browser if link doesn't work <u>http://users.tpg.com.au/agnet/kwm1.html</u>

Snowy GIBBINS ex 101 Fd Wksp

Thanks Snowy Ed

The Great Lockdown Self-Care

Bingo Challenge



Take care of yourself during the next 4 weeks and complete the self-care bingo challenge.

Complete a line a day/ the entire grid it is completely up to you! Challenge your family and your friends.

Come up with your own bingo challenge and share it with others.

TOOK A SHOWER	GOT DRESSED	CAUGHT UP WITH FRENDS ONLINE / VIA THE PHONE	READ FOR AN HOUR	SAID SOMETHING KIND TO SOMEONE
TRED A NEW RECIPE	WAVED AND SMILED TO SOMEONE	USTENED TO SOMETHING INTERESTING	WATCHED SOMETHING THAT MADE ME LAUGH	ASKED SOMEONE IF THEY WERE OK. ONLINE / VIA THE PHONE
WENT FOR A WALK AROUND THE BLOCK	DRANK WATER	MADE A HEALTHY MEAL	TOOK A SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK	TREATED MYSELF
USTENED TO SOME MUSIC	OOT 8 HOURS OF SLEEP	TOOK STEPS TO TAME NEGATIVE THOUGHTS	HUOGED SOMEONE / OR A TREE IF YOU LIVE ALONE	PRACTISED DEEP BREATHING FOR 10 MINUTES
WROTE DOWN TEN THINGS I AM GRATEFUL FOR	SPENT TIME WITH NATURE	DECLUTTERED A SPACE	PRACTISED A SKLL IVE BEEN WANTING TO IMPROVE	PLAYED A GAME ONLINE / AN OLD SCHOOL CARD GAME

KEEP SAFE AND WELL DURING THE RESTRICTIONS

RAEME Luncheon Report 3rd March 2020

Numbers were up on our usual attendance and ex WO2 Dave Buckland and his partner Sue joined us again. Dave is originally from Victoria and he has now joined our Association. Our President MAJ Richard Moyses was also able to join us for this lunch.

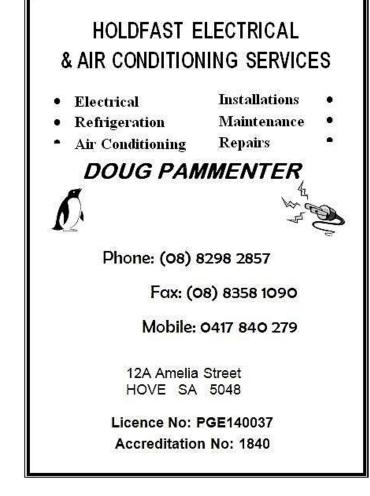
We all had a great time and a great meal, so we are looking forward to seeing lots more of you at the next luncheon on 1st September (Coronavirus restrictions permitting) at the Avoca Hotel, South Road, EDWARDSTOWN.

Bob Killoran is the contact if you need any more information (mobile 0412 060 315)

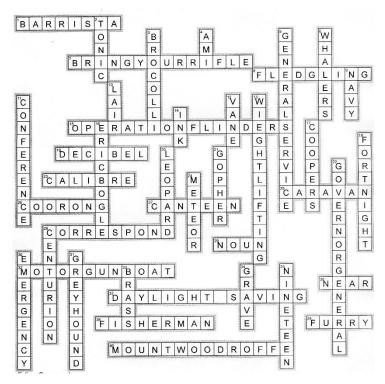


Ex WO2 Dave Buckland and Sue

The adult version of "head, shoulders, knees and toes" is "wallet, glasses, keys and phone."



Crossword Results



Hope you got them all correct. Thanks again Geoff

MEMBERSHIP

Subs are due on 1 July in the year your membership is current until. If the date on your membership card (and the list below) shows 2019 (or before) then your subs are due NOW

Subs are \$10 per year with a maximum forward payment of 5 years eg \$50 for five years.

All subs are to be forwarded to the Membership Member, Bob Matthew (40 Ashbourne Ave KINGSWOOD SA 5062 Mobile 0409 962 208). Please provide details of your date of birth if you wish to claim the free "over 75 year rule" membership.

Contact Bob Matthew for details if you want to use Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

According to the records, the following persons are financial members of the Association:

Honorary Life Members

Mike Culley, Bob Killoran, Grant Kuchel, David Turner, Greg Rosser, Richard Moyses, Don Harvy.

Current Members

Wally Ade (2015), Milton Ahrens (2023), Frank Aldous (Over 75), Graham Amos (2019), Kurt Andersen (2016), Heath Arblaster (2013), Graham Arthy (2014), Joe Barton (Over 75), Paul Berk (2022), Wayne Birch (2020), John Black (2021), James Boulton (2022), Helmut Bohn (2013), David Brand (2025), Warren Brazil (2020), Kent Brown (2024), David Buckland (2021), Shane Buckley (2017), Robert Butler (2020), Robert Castle (2019), Trevor Clerke (2020), Geoff Coat (2018), Brian Cogan (2018), Don Collins (2020), George Cooke (2022), Phillip Coppin (2017), Ian Coulter (Over 75), Brian Cowell (2020), Peter Cox (2020), George Craig (2018), Bob Davis (2021), Joe Dennis (2023), Chris Duffield (2022), Nick Ebbs (2014), Len Edwards (2008), Mick Ellis (2014), Kym Everett (2013), Andew Ferguson (2021), Jim Fisher (2013), Scott Fishlock (2019), Brian Flavel (2024), Rodney Fletcher (2014), Jan Gancarz (2025), Charlie Gauci (2018), Nick Gogilis (Over 75), Steve Gough (2015), Bob Gourley (2021), Tony Gow (2015), Stephen Green (2018), Gary Green (2021), Robert Hansford (2013), Anthony Harriden (2021), Arthur Hasse (2013), Greg Hay (2015), Colin Haynes (2022), Tony Hinton (2022), Brian Holmes (2025), John Howard (Over 75), Gary Howell (2018), Rodney Hussey (2013), Graham Janz (2021), Juris Jaudzems (2024), Ian Jeisman (2020), Jeff Johns (2021), Lindsay Johnson (2013), Mark Johnson(2015), Kain Neale (2017), Eric Kelly (2021), Bob King (Over 75), Arron Kinleyside (2020), Geoff Kohler (2020), Colin Kuchel (2014), Warrick Lee (2021), Adam Leer (2013), Lou Leeuwrik (2021), Greg Lowe (2023), Chris Macintosh (2036), Tony Mackay (2019), Alan Marks (Over 75), Trevor Martin

(2021), Bob Matthew (2020), Bob Mathews (2020), Fred McInerney (2020), Gavin McMahon (2021), Buzz Meakes (2020), Terry Monten (2022), Ian Moody (2016), Ron Moran (2022), Barry Naulty (2013), Kain Neale (2016), Ian Nicholls (2022), Gary Nicolescu (2020), Troy Oakes (2021), Peter Oliver (2014), Justin Olliffe (2021), Alex Oschmanns (2013), John Owen (2022), Doug Pammenter (2020), Nick Papanikolaou (2020), Geoff Parker (2020), Trevor Parrott (Over 75), Roger Parsons (2014), David Pearce (2021), Greg Penno (2014), Rex Perry (2019), John Prince(2024), John Raftery (Over 75), Chris Rajasingham (2022), Hank Ramm (Over 75), Mick Reeve (2013), Pete Reynolds (2020), Antonio Riezzo (2019), Greg Robinson (2016), Stephen Rogers (2017), Dennis Rowlands (2028), Ray Ryan (2022), Perry Sangster (2014), Barra Schmidke (2013), Bob Silcock (2024),(Victor Sobotnik (2019), Walter Soroka (2019), Max Sparrow (2017), Ian Starick (2014), Murray Stock (Over 75), Penny Stone (2012), Donald Sutherland (Over 75), James Szpunar (2017), Michael Tamassy (2020), Ian Taylor (Over 75), Bob Temby (Over 75), Graham Terry (2013), Simon Thomas (2021), Robert Thompson (Over 75), Michael Thompson (2024), Dick Tischer (2017), Ken Treloar (2014), Brian Tuohy (2024), Graham Tweeddale (2018), Damien Van De Velde (2022), Mark Van Oostveen (2020), Eugene Wasilenia (2021, Bruce Watson (2020), Graham West OAM (2024), Robert Whaite (2016), Brett Wilkeson (2013), Craig Williams (2021), Brett Williams (2020), John Wilson (2017), Betty Winstanley (2019), Pat Wright (Over 75), Brian Yelds (2020), John Zander (2022), Pete Zander OAM(2022)

Associate Members

Marg Culley (2020), Anne-Michelle Howell (2021), Christine Kuchel (2024), Joan Lorraine (Over 75), Judy Moyses (2018), Janet Thompson (2024),

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please inform the Secretary, Bob Matthew, or a member of the Committee of Management of any change of postal address or email address. Please note changes in the Committee – including contact detail changes.

Disclaimer

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those held by the individual writers and contributors, and are not necessarily those of the President, the committee, the Association members, or the Editor. The spelling of names, groups and places are as given to the editor and the editor apologizes if they are in any way incorrect.