



Skills creation - the wealth of a Nation



THE APPRENTICE ABOUT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INC.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED (ACT Incorporation No A04404)
PO BOX 4091, KOGARAH BAY, NSW 2217, www.austarmyapprentice.org
Patron: Major General Andrew Mathewson, AM

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Notice of meeting

The AGM for the AAAA will be held on Saturday 22nd October 2016 at the Bulimba Bowls Club, Thynne Rd, Balmoral, Qld 4171 – details on page 5.

From the President

By Harry Hoger 20th Radio Mech, President AAAA
president@austarmyapprentice.org

From your requests (the membership) this year's AGM will be held at Bulimba Bowls Club, Sat 22nd Oct 2016 at 11.00am. The agenda will be posted on the Association Website. This will be followed by a BBQ lunch provided for all in attendance. Our SE Qld rep Brian Daley will be the contact person – our appreciation for his support.

There is an Association keyring being launched and available for purchase – details on page 3.

We welcome Kevin Noon, 14.5th and Keith Lowe, 22nd to the Committee. Thank you for your support.

This Association now has Facebook and a YouTube channel, managed by our social media Committee member. The Website has a visitor counter to give us much needed feedback. The Committee is active in making practical improvements, take a look. Come and meet and greet at the AGM.

Vale Brigadier John Dean

By Harry Cole 7th VM, Heritage Officer
heritage@austarmyapprentice.org

On learning of the passing of ex-RAEME Corps Director General, Brigadier John Dean, on 7th June 2016, Harry Cole related this personal observation.

I remember well in 1963 when I graduated from OTG/OCTU and then Brig Dean found out that two of his ex-RAEME Army Apprentices (the other was the late Keith Cottome, 3rd Intake Electrician) had graduated as Infantry officers (that we wanted). I was requested to report to the then E Comd Military Secretary (Bert Barker) at Vic Bks Sydney who told me then and there that Brig Dean mentioned to him that no Army Apprentice, who had had lots of money spent on his training over the previous nine years, would be going to be an Infantry officer so, about two weeks later, I changed my shoulder flashes back to RAEME and was posted to 103 Fd Wksp as Veh Pl Comd with Harry Harrison/Roly Wiltshire as the OCs. Graham Burgess was also at the Wksp during that time. In retrospect, it was a good suggestion and I thank Brig John Dean for his decision, as I had a wonderful career in RAEME until my retirement. I also had the pleasure of meeting Brig Dean a few times later on.

Great memories indeed. Harry Cole

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the President	1	Association keyring auction	3
Vale Brigadier John Dean	1	SPAASSM	4
YouTube channel.....	2	Event reports.....	4
Walking Across the UK Soldier On Funding Platform – The End	2	Upcoming events	5
Membership matters	2	Memorial Sub-committee report.....	6
Association merchandise	2	Washing Day at the AAS Balcombe	6
Model maker	3	Website review – NZ Army Careers	7
Pipe Majors of military Pipes & Drums	3	AAAA Website	8
Brickie Appies rule!	3	AAAA Committee	8



YouTube channel

The Association has opened a YouTube channel – here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGcrL-Vhwn5PbRlhZVFTJcQ> and you are encouraged to share any appropriate videos of Apprentices old and new. If you need assistance, please contact our Social Media Administrator, Joanne Cornelius, 43rd VM socialmedia@austarmyapprentice.org.

Walking Across the UK | Soldier On Funding Platform – The End

In the last TAA, it was reported that Dave McGahey, 27th VM and Phil Edwards, 27th ET were to embark on an adventure to raise funds for Soldier On to help veterans who have, and continue to, put their lives on the line to serve their country and now need help.

They completed their 309 km (192 miles) Coast to Coast (or Wainwright's) Walk, across the UK from St Bees Head to Robin Hood's Bay, on 8th June 2016. Visit their blog at www.walkingacrossuk.wordpress.com

As at 20th July 2016, they have raised \$25,605 and you can still make a tax-deductible donation at <https://soldieron.giveeasy.org/campaigns/walking-across-the-uk/>.

Membership matters

By Craig Malcolm, 31st ET, Membership Secretary, membership@austarmyapprentice.org

Current membership status:

Financial members (as at 14th July 2016):

• Ordinary Members	283
• Retired Members	292
• Life Members	3
• Associates	9
• Total	587

This is an increase of 19 *members* since the last Newsletter and an increase of 126 compared to this time last year. The next renewal date is 1st September and renewals for 101 *members* and 142 lapsed *members* have been sent out on 1st August.

At the July Committee meeting, it was proposed (and accepted) that a new initiative be introduced in the future and, from this renewal period, *members* now have the option to sign up for five (5) years. As an incentive to take up this offer, *members* will receive a

discount of one year's membership. Ordinary 5 Year Membership will be \$100 and Retired/Associate 5 Year Membership will be \$80.

I would also like to draw everyone's attention to the different classes of membership as there appears to be some confusion between an Ordinary and a Retired Member. According to our Constitution:

- **Ordinary Member:** Any person who enlisted into the Australian Army, with the rank of Apprentice and was allocated a class intake number, and attended the Army Apprentices School at Balcombe or Bonegilla or the Army College of TAFE at Bonegilla.
- **Retired Member:** Any person satisfying the above requirement for *member* who is now no longer working full time or is drawing a DVA, Age or TPI pension. Special cases shall be considered by the Office-bearers of the Association.

Please take this into account when renewing.

Keep up the good work in referring ex-Appies to the Association; it is great to see the numbers increase and, at the current rate, we will soon have Membership Number 1000 – which will be a significant milestone, considering we only have access to just over 9000 possible *members*. Regards

Newsletter contributions

If you have any items of news or other suitable material for inclusion in **The Apprentice About**, please email the Editor, moderator@austarmyapprentice.org or contact a member of the Committee.

Association merchandise

Contact Richard Pike, 21st VM, Merchandise Officer merchandise@austarmyapprentice.org

The Association has the following items for sale. Order form and contact details are on the Association Website: <http://www.austarmyapprentice.org>

• Polo shirts (AAS badge, M,L,XL)	\$35.00	+\$9.50 P&H
• Association tie	\$25.00	+\$7.50 P&H
• Lapel badge	\$10.00	+\$1.00 P&H
• Car sticker	\$5.00	+\$1.00 P&H
• Plaque	\$45.00	+\$10.00 P&H
• Baseball cap	\$12.50	+\$7.50 P&H
• Key ring	\$5.00	+\$1.00 P&H
• AAS flag	\$175.00	+\$9.50 P&H
• DVDs:		
60 th Anniversary (2008)	\$10.00	+\$7.50 P&H
Balcombe Commemoration (2013)	\$15.00	+\$7.50 P&H
SPAASSM Collection	\$25.00	+\$7.50 P&H



Model maker

By Kevin Forster, 28th VM, NT Regional Rep,
ntregrep@austarmyapprentice.org

I was particularly interested in the section in the last TAA on model building. I am not a master model maker but I do make them. A suggestion, and it is only a suggestion, if someone wants a particular model made (if it is available) to remind them of a certain time in their military career, I will make it. It will not be professional but it will be the best I can do. The costs for the person who wants the model will be for the initial model plus postage. On completion, the costs will be for postage and very careful packaging costs. Depending on what model, what size, my costs will be for glue and paint and may I suggest the receiver makes a donation to the AAAA Inc. I will make up a sample list of prices and forward to the Secretary/Treasurer for the Committee's consideration. I do not want any payment, I get the enjoyment out of making the model and, once again, there is income going to the AAAA via the 'donation'.

Pipe Majors of military Pipes & Drums

Aad Boode, Livingston, Scotland aad@blueyonder.co.uk

Dear Madam/Sir

I am compiling a list of Pipe Majors of military Pipes & Drums worldwide (regular and volunteer) and have, at the moment, details of around 2500 P/Ms. For the Army Apprentices Schools in Balcombe and Bonegilla, I have the following names: Thoresen, Norcott, Spironac and Drummond. Do you have more information about the Pipe Majors? Your help will be appreciated. Thanks and regards.

Brickie Appies rule!

From John (Jack) Gamble, 4th Intake C&J

We have all read from time to time about brickies holding positions of prominence at our old school especially the 1st Apprentice BSM, being a brickie; that was Bob Scott, 1st Intake (Ridgy Scott to us later intakes). He was a great bloke – very level headed.

And not forgetting Ken Gillespie, 23rd Brickie who held a very significant position of prominence after AAS (ie: Chief of Army). (Ed)

But who has heard much about our first bricklaying instructor, one WO2 Bluey Anderson. A veteran from WW2, Tobruk, his heroism was never widely known. He also coached the Aussie Rules, swimming and

water polo teams, in that he knew every trick in the pool. But my story really starts here.

The Sgts' Mess kitchen stove was burnt out and a new one was obtained. It was decided by a committee that, when most were home or away for the weekend, the new stove would go in. Bluey was to do the job with a couple of assistants. So all the gear was prepared and readied, cement, sand and a bag of lime made up the requirements for a good mortar. An early breakfast, then the stove was allowed to cool down before removal. It was decided to open the bar early and have the radio on for a footy grand final from the MCG. The cook and Blue didn't see eye on who to follow – which teams.

The day wore on, the stove cooled down and was pulled out. After a couple more Castlemaines, Blue started to mix the mortar. Unbeknownst to him, the cook had swapped over the lime for a bag of plain flour. Bluey mixed and mixed and finished up with something more like a paste rather than a mortar. He finally jerried (realised) something was amiss, and was eventually told. Apparently hair flew!

He never lived it down especially when asked if there was any DOUGH in "brickieng".

"Old brickies never die; they just throw in the trowel!" (Ed)



Association keyring auction

The AAAA is conducting a major fund-raising project, involving purchase and sale (initially by auction) of 1000 numbered, AAAA badge keyrings. After the auction, they will sell at \$20.00 each plus postage.

All keyrings will be included in the initial auction, as many numbers will have significant interest to members and all Apprentices (eg representing Intakes 1 to 49, 50 for the "first non-Intake" number, 100 for "Crab Day", 101 for former 101 Fd Wksp personnel, 907 for the "Tac sign", birth year, enlistment year, graduation year, etc).



The auction will commence in August on issue of this Newsletter and finish at the AGM on 22nd October



2016. Joanne Cornelius, 43rd VM, Social Media Administrator (socialmedia@austarmyapprentice.org) is managing the auction.

The auction will be a blind (or silent) auction – another term is “sealed bid” – in which bidders simultaneously submit bids to the auctioneer without knowledge of the amount bid by other participants. In this case, the highest bidder for each numbered keyring will win that keyring. If there are more than one winning bids for any number, the names of those bidders will be put in a hat and drawn at the AGM.

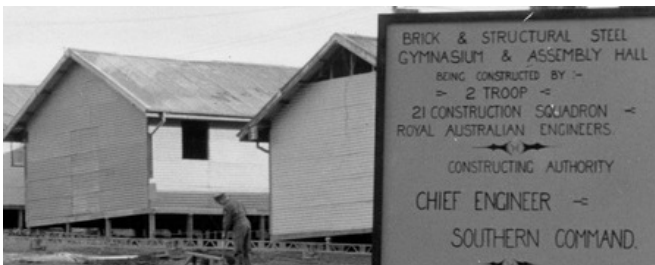
Bids may now be sent to Joanne by email or post via the address on the cover. Please ensure you include your name, contact details and **MOST IMPORTANT**, the number of the keyring you are bidding for. Successful bidders will be contacted with details of payment, after which they will be sent their prizes.

SPAASSM

By Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Editor, moderator@austarmyapprentice.org

May 2016 Newsletter competition – what was the building?

Congratulations to Mal Edmiston, 12th Intake C&J, who correctly identified the Gymnasium at Balcombe. Mal’s SPAASSM DVD has been mailed to him.



Aug 2016 competition



In this edition, the question is, “What’s wrong with the above photo from the SPAASSM collection?” **The**

first person who emails me with the correct answer receives a copy of the SPAASSM DVD. No clues this time! As usual, Committee members may not enter.

Event reports

Celebrating 68 years of Army Apprentices – 1948-2016, Brisbane 4th June 2016

From Brian Daley, 14th VM bjdaley14@gmail.com

Unfortunately, the weather on Saturday 4th June 2016 marred the reunion but still about a hundred Apprentices turned up and enjoyed the day. It was held again at the Bulimba Bowls Club.



Canberra Region lunch – 22nd June 2016

By Frank Poole, 10th Architectural Draughtsman memorial@austarmyapprentice.org

Our last lunch (our 16th) on 22nd June was attended by 20 Apprentices and two ladies. The lunch was preceded by a short briefing of Association and regional matters followed by a raffle. A small surplus has been forwarded as a Memorial donation. The presence of Sydney Apprentices was welcome.

Maroochydore Surf Club get-together, 21st Intake + one, 8th June 2016

Photo from Gerry Dunn, 21st Radio Mech



Above, enjoying a lunch at the Maroochydore Surf Club are (clockwise left to right), Peter Byrne (28th Elec Mech), Gerry Dunn (21st Radio Mech), John Byrne (21st Elec Fitter and Peter’s brother), Geoff Tindale (21st Elec Fitter) and Steve Allen (21st Radio Mech).



Gerry wrote, "We decided not to let the momentum of the (21st Intake) 50th reunion (in February 2016) go and will continue the lunches. If you are on the Sunshine Coast at any time, contact us and you are definitely invited." Contact me and I will pass your details on - moderator@austarmyapprentice.org (Ed)

SE Qld 22nd "Black Trades" meet and greet, 8th July 2016

Photo supplied by Richard Pike, 21st VM, Treasurer and Merchandise Officer treasurer@austarmyapprentice.org



(L to R) Wayne Avery (F&T); Jon Welch (F&T); Gary Lancaster (F&T); Marilyn Avery; John (F&T) & Jane Morrison, Dallas (F&T) & Sandra Schofield, Chris (Blacksmith) & Joanne Waller; Pam Welch; Mary Lancaster; John Carpenter (F&T); & Bill Blake (F&T)

More photos from the gathering are on the Website <http://austarmyapprentice.org/photos/22nd-intake/nggallery/22nd-intake/22nd-intake-wayne-avery>

Upcoming events

AAAA AGM – Sat, 22nd October 2016, Bulimba Bowls Club, Qld, 1030 for 1100hrs

The 2016 AGM will be held in Brisbane on Saturday, 22nd October at the Bulimba Bowls Club, Thynne Rd (access off Quinn St), Balmoral, Qld 4171. To entice you to come along, there will be a BBQ lunch, and all the usual trimmings provided by Brian Daley and his magnificent team, who run the annual Apprentices get together on the Queen's Birthday long weekend. Members attending are asked to arrive at 1030hrs to have their names recorded and to be seated by 1100hrs. The Notice of Meeting and Agenda are included with your copy of this Newsletter and will also be on the Association Website at <http://austarmyapprentice.org/minutes-of-meetings/>

Constitution revision

Also at the AGM, we will present the revised Constitution for approval. Changes are essentially minor: 1) eligibility for *Life Membership* will now require at least six (6) years membership of the Association; 2) SOPs will be developed and

maintained by the Committee to reduce administrative effort in changing the Constitution any time minor changes occur to internal procedures; 3) addition of assistants to each of the Committee positions; 4) minor change to the role of the Welfare Officer; and 5) remove Annex C, SOPs for the Army Apprentices Memorial as per 2) above.

Canberra Region

By Frank Poole, 10th Architectural Draughtsman memorial@austarmyapprentice.org

September lunch, Thursday 22nd September

The next lunch will be at a venue to be advised. For a one time change, this lunch will be on a Thursday to cater for those who have not been able to attend of a Wednesday and it will be on the north side.

All Service Apprentices from any nation or Service are welcome. If you are not a member of the Association or if you are from outside Canberra, and would like to join us, please email me so I can let you know details.

Family Sunday BBQ, Sunday 13th November

A family BBQ will be held at the RMC Sergeants Mess, starting at 1630hrs with food on at 1700hrs. Same as luncheons, any Apprentices and their families are most welcome – I just need your contact details if you are not an Association *member*, or if you are a *member* but live outside the ACT/Queanbeyan area.

The Mess is an ideal venue, offering both outside and inside BBQ areas, car parking, bar facilities, children's play room, and games room with TV, DVDs, Xbox and video games. The Sergeants Mess itself contains many historical items, and I thank the PMC for making it available. I will contact all within the next six weeks with full information.

10th Intake Reunion, 23-25 April 2017

The 10th Intake will hold a reunion in Auckland NZ over the period 23-25 April 2017. Activities will include involvement with the Auckland Anzac Day Memorial Service. For more details, contact Brian Eardley-Wilmot at brian@datarecovery.co.nz.

Public liability insurance coverage for reunions and other events

Please remember that individual Intake reunions – indeed any reunion related to the Association – can be covered for public liability under the Association's policy. All that is needed is to inform the Association Secretary (secretary@austarmyapprentice.org) prior to the event, to have it minuted at a Committee



meeting. Reunion events are often arranged between Committee meetings, so early notice is preferred, but this should not deter you. If you're organising a reunion, let the Secretary know who, where, when etc, and you should be covered.

22nd AAS Intake - 50 Year Reunion - 27th - 28th January 2017

Contacts Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T

keith_lowe@optusnet.com.au, mobile 0416 765 921 or Nobby Clarke, 22nd VM bob@clarkecoaches.com.au, mobile 0407 941 366

There WILL be a 50th anniversary enlistment reunion of the 22nd Intake. All members and families are invited. Please contact any other 22nd Intake Appies you know who might be interested. Bob attended the 21st Intake's 50th anniversary last February and clued himself up on what to do to make sure the 22nd reunion goes off at least as well.

Memorial Sub-committee report

By Frank Poole, 10th Architectural Draughtsman
memorial@austarmyapprentice.org

Memorial and Museum access

Access to the Memorial and Museum at Bandiana hasn't changed and it would appear there is little possibility of improving the situation. Visits may occur on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10.00 to 2.00. Bookings must be made 24 hours in advance; call Sharon on 02 6055 2525. Closed: Sundays, Easter Fri and Mon, Anzac Day, and Christmas Eve to New Year's Day (incl). Costs: \$10 family (2 adults, 3 children under 16); \$5 adult; \$2 senior, pensioner, disabled; \$2 each for groups of 10 or more. You need to notify Sharon that you would like to visit our Memorial and then not on Saturday.

Intake pathway

I have written to the Commandant ALTC requesting permission to construct the pathway, which will be incorporated as a component of our Memorial. Outline specifications and significance have been explained and we are awaiting a reply. If favourable, we can proceed with planning.

Plaques and Pavers

A Remembrance Plaque has been ordered for Mal Campbell and will be mounted on receipt on the Balcombe wall. His family has declined an invitation to attend and for a service. A photo will be sent to them when the Plaque has been mounted.

There have been no Pavers ordered since my last report.

The cost of Plaques (\$500) has always been a concern and was determined primarily by the cost of the Plaque plus cartage, minor mounting costs, photo, frame and postage. There is a minor profit built in to ensure unforeseen expenses are not borne by Association funds. I am pleased to announce that we have a new foundry provider for Plaques and we are reducing the cost of a Remembrance Plaque to \$400. My thanks again go to Jim and Greg for their invaluable help.

Washing Day at the AAS Balcombe

By Harry Cole, 7th VM heritage@austarmyapprentice.org

How did Army Apprentices keep their clothes clean, week after week, during the early days of our training at Balcombe? I am writing about the period from 1948 to early 1954, which included the 1st to the 9th Intakes. It was pretty basic and pretty primitive compared to the facilities available later on. There were no washing machines nor proper laundry blocks in that period.

Constant technical and military training produced the usual sweat and grime, so it was always necessary to wear clean, tidy clothing or face the severe consequences of CB. It was a shock to realise that you were on your own when it came to washing your own clothes after it was usually done by your mother before you came to Balcombe.

At this time, the Korean War was still going on and the Chinese had just entered the conflict. We were warned of the possibility of a third world war starting up. History described the camp was originally built for the men of the 1st Division US Marines either going to or returning from the War in the Pacific not so many years before. We Apprentices slept in the very same huts as did those young Marines who went ashore at Guadalcanal and fought the Japanese in WW2.

In the 1952/53 period, and even before this, we used to boil everything clean in the rows of about eight old WW2 Soya Stoves -- wood burning aluminium tubs that sat in something like an upturned 44 gal drum with a fire grate and a chimney on it. Wood had to be scrounged from around the trees on the Nepean Highway or leftovers from the carpenters' shop.

Washing was done on weekends and you had to get in early, and I mean early, to be at the head of the queue, or you could be waiting for hours. Everything went in together - KDs, white shirt & loose collar,



pyjamas, undies and socks. How everything got really clean still amazes me. Only your battle dress, great coat, blues and “poof suit” ever graced the canteen dry cleaners.

I can recall many Apprentices using the galvanised fire buckets at the end of the huts with an electrical immersion heater coil stuck in it to heat the water to boiling and attempting to wash their items with varying success achieved.

Drying the wet items was another problem, overcome by stringing ropes along the rafters inside and between the huts. This could only be done at weekends before the usual weekday hut inspections.

A funny incident as mentioned by Baden Jeffrey (7th) was that he was charged for an offence he did not commit ...

“I went up to building wing to get some off-cuts and commenced my washing. My good mate from my hut, Laurie Hancock, asked if he could share the copper with me to which I readily agreed. I asked him to watch the copper and the fire while I went to get my washing from the hut.

At this time there was a lot of old wooden furniture and wardrobes awaiting a Board of Survey nearby that was taboo to touch and, as I was returning with my washing, I saw my friend rushing back to the hut saying “I’ll be back soon”.

When I got back to my copper, there were several long pieces of timber protruding from the fire grate. At that very moment, the dreaded Maj Handby (Adjutant) arrived and inquired was that my copper? Of course - the usual routine name rank and serial number for destroying government property although it was due to be destroyed.

The next day I was paraded before the OC B Coy Capt George Horsefall then to LtCol Cec Ives for the obligatory £5 fine and 14 days CB. This amounted to almost a fortnight’s pay then. I never ever received an apology from Laurie.”

The charges imposed on Apprentices for using the Board of Survey furniture continued for many months during 1953 because any fallen tree timber was difficult to find and I believe it was also an excuse to get those personnel on CB to work as a dixie basher in the kitchen in the evenings and on weekends.

In the 1954 period, there were some attempts at actually modernising the laundry facilities. There was some reasonable sort of laundry & SAL built between the ends of the huts and new boiler buildings were constructed to service these facilities with hot water for the very first time.

Lightburn washing machines were also made available. These were always white and looked like small cement mixers but did a good job and had a spin dryer that worked reasonably well, but there was still no dedicated drying area or lines provided.

I would like to thank those Apprentices from the period of the story who forwarded anecdotes to get this story written, in particular, David Barton, Baden Jeffrey, Arthur Newman, Tony Spruzen, Kevin (KT) Graham, Slim Passmore, Jim Hislop and Ross Bland.

A question on the AAS hat badge

Many readers will be aware that, over the years, Apprentices wore three different hat badges (and add to these the badge for the Army College of TAFE at Bonegilla from 1985), described in an article on the AAAA Web site: (http://austarmyapprentice.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Apprentice-Hat-Badge_21Jan2016.pdf). From the beginning, there was the Rising Sun, then the “King’s Crown” badge and then the “Queen’s Crown”. The article states that the change from Rising Sun to King’s Crown occurred in 1951. Harry Cole, our esteemed Heritage Officer, has raised doubt on this at the last Committee meeting, presenting a photo of himself wearing a beret with the Rising Sun badge. “So what?” you might ask. Well Harry, 7th Intake VM, was at the Army Apprentices School from January 1952 to December 1954, the photo being taken in July 1952. So he wore a Rising Sun badge well after the new badge was introduced in 1951.

The question then is, does anyone have any evidence about the change from Rising Sun to King’s Crown? All comment is welcome. Send responses to moderator@austarmyapprentice.org.

Website review – NZ Army Careers

Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Editor and Website Forum Moderator moderator@austarmyapprentice.org

There has been recent comment on whether or not the Association should be pushing the Government to reinstate Army (or Service) apprenticeships. Readers will be aware that the Australian Army Apprentice Scheme ceased in 1995, the 20th Anniversary of which was commemorated in Albury/Wodonga in October 2015. In this article, I have no intention of arguing the case for this in either way.

The Australian Army still offers numerous trade careers, training for many of which is conducted at Bonegilla and Bandiana at the Army Logistic Training Centre (ALTC). But none of these are classified as



apprenticeships. That is, the concept of Australian apprenticeships operating on the basis of a formal training agreement between an employer and an apprentice is no longer used in the Army.

So, what's the point? The point is that the New Zealand Army **DOES** still offer apprenticeships! This Website explains which NZ Army trades are apprenticeships and which are traineeships <http://www.defencecareers.mil.nz/army/jobs>

The other reason for mentioning this site (and this associated site - <http://army.mil.nz/about-us/who-we-are/our-ranks-and-corps/default.htm>) is the news that the NZDF is about to celebrate 20 years since the three logistics Corps (RNZEME, RNZAOC and RNZCT) were combined into one Regiment, the Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment (RNZLAR).

And for those of you who remember fondly the Australian Army's stable belts, the NZ Army still has those too! <http://army.mil.nz/downloads/pdf/public-docs/2013/corp-belts.pdf>

AAAA Website

Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Editor and Website Forum Moderator moderator@austarmyapprentice.org

While on the subject, this is a reminder that our Association Website provides a ready reference to numerous resources. There are links to the Constitution, Membership List, names and contact details for the Committee, Vale and Eulogies pages, social media links, information on recent and upcoming events, detailed Memorial information, lists of sponsors and supporters, agenda and minutes of meetings, the Newsletter, Association forms, photographs, and the discussion Forum http://austarmyapprentice.org/forum_phpBB3/index.php

The [Forum](#) is a bulletin board, providing a simple, quickly updated resource area for the Association. Our Moderator (*yours truly*) manages the Forum and can insert posts under the following main areas:

- Breaking news
- Jobs wanted and job opportunities
- Upcoming reunions and get-togethers
- "Looking for"
- Wanted and for sale.

But Members can also provide input and post topics and responses, so have a look. You've nothing to lose!

AAAA Committee

Lucas McGann, 35th Elec Fitter and Past President has stepped down from the Committee for business reasons. Lucas will stay on as Vic Metro Regional Rep. Thank you Lucas; the door is always open. Taking Lucas' place is Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T. Welcome Keith. Thank you both for your commitment.

Management Sub-committee, comprising:

Office Bearers:

President - Harry Hoger, 20th Radio Mech
Vice President - Greg Haggett, 40th Plumber & Gasfitter
Secretary - Neil Bennett, 13th VM
Treasurer (and Merchandise Officer) - Richard Pike, 21st VM

And:

Membership Secretary - Craig Malcolm, 31st ET
Public Officer - Ray Wilson, 15th Plumber
Welfare Officer - Damien Tyrrell, 40th ET
Events Manager - Otto Aberle, 21st Veh Mech
Memorial Sub-committee Chair - Frank Poole, 10th Arch Draughtsman - Life Member

Other Committee Members:

Heritage Officer - Harry Cole, 7th VM
Webmaster - Ian Morris, 12th Radio Mech - Life Member
Member (and Social Media Administrator) - Joanne Cornelius, 43rd VM
Member (and Newsletter Editor and Forum Moderator) - Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech
Member (and Assistant Secretary) - Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T
Member - Frank Maloney, 13th VM
Member - Barry Minster, 20th Radio Mech
Member - Kevin Noon, 14.5th Musician

Appointees:

Honorary Trustee - Jim Hislop, 9th F&T
Chaplain - Rev Alan Kelb, OAM, 25th F&T
Chaplain - Rev Craig Potter, 38th F&T
Auditor - Michael Farrar, 17th VM
Legal Adviser - **Vacant**

Regional Representatives:

NT - Kevin Forster, 28th VM
NQLd - David Young, 30th Fitter Maint
SQld - Brian Daley, 14th VM - Life Member
NSW - Richard Pike, 21st VM
ACT - Frank Poole, 10th Arch Draughtsman - Life Member
Northern Vic - Jim Hislop, 9th F&T
Southern Vic - Matt Bouma, 30th C&J
Central Vic - Mark Ryan, 33rd Motor Mech
SE Vic - Neil Bennett, 13th VM
Vic Metro - Lucas McGann, 35th Elec Fitter
SA - David Miller, 22nd Elec Fitter
Tas - Gary Byard RFD, 21st VM
WA - Tom Esze, 36th Motor Mech