

THE APPRENTICE ABOUT

Volume 4 | Issue 1 February 2019



NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INC.
(ACT INCORPORATION NO A04404)

PO BOX 4091, KOGARAH BAY, NSW 2217

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.AUSTARMYAPPRENTICE.ORG](http://www.austarmyapprentice.org)

PATRON: BRIGADIER ANDREW FREEMAN

100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, Albany, WA



Photo from John Noack, 22nd Intake VM (two photos merged) - reports on pages 4 and 5

In this edition

| | |
|---|----|
| 100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, Albany, WA..... | 1 |
| Life Members..... | 2 |
| From the President..... | 2 |
| Volunteering..... | 2 |
| Update..... | 3 |
| Membership matters..... | 3 |
| SPAASSM competition - February 2019..... | 3 |
| Balcombe and Bonegilla - NOT the only two Australian Army Apprentices Schools!..... | 3 |
| Brian James (VLAD) Daley, OAM, 14th Intake Vehicle Mechanic, AAAA Life Member..... | 4 |
| Events reports..... | 4 |
| Carpenter brothers return to Balcombe..... | 6 |
| Upcoming events..... | 6 |
| Vale notices..... | 7 |
| The 1st Xmas Cake..... | 8 |
| Fathers and sons/daughters "club"..... | 9 |
| Association merchandise..... | 9 |
| Newsletter submissions always welcome..... | 10 |
| AAAA Committee..... | 10 |
| Disclaimer..... | 10 |



Life Members

With Ian Morris's recent retirement from the Webmaster's position, it is timely to recall the list of Life Members of the Association.

Commencing in 2011, the first Members to be elevated to Life Membership were **Jack Westernhagen**, 3rd Intake VM and **Frank Poole**, 10th Intake Architectural Draughtsman (both now deceased). Jack was the founder of the first formation of the Army Apprentices Association on 8 June 1970 and was founding Vice President of the current version of the Association in 2006. Frank was the first President from 2006-2011 and the mainstay of our current Association. Barry Teal, 10th Intake Clerk and Past-President wrote that *"The stand outs are the reinvigoration he (Frank) gave the original Association and the product of his hard work, diligence and application to getting the job done - the Memorial at Bandiana."*

Brian Daley, 14th Intake VM was elevated to Life Member in 2014. For many years, he has been a stalwart of the Apprentice movement and has given great service to the Association since its inception. Brian and his wife Barb have conducted fund-raising activities for all major Apprentices reunions and has managed the annual SE Qld Queen's Birthday Apprentices Reunion at Bulimba.

Ian Morris, 12th Intake Radio Mech served as Webmaster for nine years until 2018. He was elevated to Life Member in 2015 in recognition of his work as Webmaster and the upgrade of the Website through late 2013 to March 2015.

Jeff Heron, 21st Intake Radio Mech has served on the Committee since the Association's inception in 2006. He has been Website Forum Moderator, Assistant Webmaster, and Newsletter Editor since 2013 and, with his wife Jan, has provided registration support to all major Association Reunions. Jeff was elevated to Life Member in 2017.

From the President

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

Looking back at our history since 2006, many Committee meetings have been conducted over those 12 years to establish and maintain our Association to date. The Committee conducts its work with emails, and meets (usually at Sydney, Kirribilli Club) every three months. Travel costs are reimbursed, and our business is conducted with reference to our Constitution. This gives us a professional approach with acceptable outcomes. Please have some thoughts on your own spare time; fit us in and come on board.

In particular, we are in need of a Webmaster. If there is anyone out there with the necessary skills, or has developing Web management skills and wants to put them into practice, please let us know. Email secretary@austarmyapprentice.org.

Welcome to Gary Lancaster, 22nd Fitter and Turner who has taken on the role of Auditor, with skills and resources in this area.

Let us all support each other and make this a good year.

Volunteering

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

Like most associations like ours, having volunteers to help with the managing of its affairs is most important. The only qualification you need for our Association is to have been an Apprentice at one of the Apprentices schools at Balcombe or Bonegilla or the Army College of TAFE at Bonegilla. Much of our work is conducted with emails and phone calls, with a Committee meeting every three months.

There are projects ready to go which require some research to bring to the table for implementation. We all can communicate very easily because we all shared the same start to our working lives. Send an email to our Secretary (secretary@austarmyapprentice.org) and let him know that you want to help, and it will be easy to fall in step with the rest of us.



Update

Patron's meeting with RAEME Colonel-in-Chief



In last November's Newsletter, further to the mention of our Patron BRIG Andrew Freeman being in the UK and meeting with the RAEME Colonel-in-Chief, His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, Andrew was accompanied by RAEME LTCOL Tony Evans, Chief of Staff at the Australian High Commission. Tony is Pat Marley's (12th Intake Elec Fitter) son-in-law and is in London with Pat's daughter. Two of Pat's grandchildren are currently serving in the ADF, one in the RAN and one in RASigs.

Membership matters

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

As at 20 Jan 19, we have 857 financial members, comprising: 384 Ordinary Members, 458 Retired Members, 12 Associates, and 3 Life members.

The next renewal date is 1 Mar 19 and renewals have been sent out on 1 Feb to the 233 members who are due for renewal. If your membership is due, you will receive a Renewal Notice from me in the mail in early Feb. If you have moved or think your Renewal Notice has got lost in the mail, please email me or call me on 0438 808 233.

When renewing, please make sure you also return the renewal form to us by email or post. We need this document to track your payment, as the people who process your renewal live in separate states, and it provides an auditable trail for us to chase/track your renewal. Please take this into account when renewing your membership.

SPAASSM competition - February 2019



What was the engine used in the equipment pictured on the left? The first correct answer forwarded to me will receive a copy of the SPAASSM DVD. Committee members may reply but they won't win the prize! The winner will be advised in the next issue.

Send your answers to: news@austarmyapprentice.org

And some readers may remember with affection (or not!) the saga with these and super vs standard petrol. Story next issue.

Balcombe and Bonegilla - NOT the only two Australian Army Apprentices Schools!

By Jeff Heron, Editor: news@austarmyapprentice.org

To some, Facebook is something to be persistently avoided, ignored, or rejected. To others, it is a constant companion, even to the extent that they would rather look at their mobile device screen while driving or walking across the road, instead of paying attention to the traffic!

For many, however, it can be a useful tool for communication, both on a personal level and in group (even world-wide) contexts. From this middle ground, often comes interesting or even life changing news.

One such, is the fact that, to perhaps the great surprise of many, one of the Apprentices Schools' intakes didn't commence their training at Balcombe or Bonegilla. In a Facebook post on 18 January 2019 by Dale Roberts (29th Intake Fitter Maintenance), we read: "*Happy Anniversary to the only Intake who arrived for their Initial Basic Training for AAS to a training area starting with the letter B, and it WASN'T Bonegilla or*



Balcombe. The 29th Intake are celebrating 45 years since we all congregated in BENALLA, Victoria for basic training before travelling by bus to Balcs. The Intake Reunion will be held over the Aust Day weekend next week in Benalla."

It is not for this Newsletter to explore the reasons for this, but the 29th, enlisting in January 1974, was one of the smallest intakes at only 113 - the average intake was about 190. They only spent a few weeks at Benalla, undergoing initial basic training.

The 29th Intake celebrates its 45th anniversary this year, marked by the above-mentioned get-together.

From "Explore Benalla" (<http://www.visitbenalla.com.au/explore/place/benalla-migrant-camp/18>), Wikipedia and the Benalla Migrant Camp's Facebook page, we learn that the Camp (formally the Benalla Holding Centre and the Benalla Migrant Accommodation Centre), located near where the Benalla Airport is, saw over 60,000 migrants pass through the gates over 18 years (from 1949 to 1967). The Hut 11 Exhibition has over 200 photos, and donated documents and memorabilia, and is open on Australia Day and other special occasions (weather permitting).

Brian James (VLAD) Daley, OAM, 14th Intake Vehicle Mechanic, AAAA Life Member

In November 2014, we reported:

"At the AGM in Wodonga on 25th October, Brian Daley, 14th VM was elevated to Life Member of the Association. Brian has, for many years, been a stalwart of the Apprentice movement and has given great service to the Association since its inception. Brian and his wife Barb have conducted raffles and other fund-raising activities associated with all major Apprentices' reunions conducted by the Association and, for 14 years (actually 19), has managed the annual Queen's Birthday Army Apprentices Reunion for SE Qld at the Quarry Club (now Bulimba Bowls Club), Bulimba. Sincere congratulations Brian and we look forward to your involvement in next year's major event."

We now have great pleasure in reporting that Brian has been recognised with a much more important award. On behalf of all Apprentices, hearty congratulations from this Association. For full details, visit the Governor-General's Website <https://www.gg.gov.au/australia-day-2019-honours-list>:

MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION, Mr Brian James DALEY, Bulimba QLD 4171, For service to the community through a range of organisations (in brief).

- * **QLD Ambulance Service:** Committee Member 1994 to current
- * **RSL:** Vice President, Cannon Hill District & Vietnam Services RSL Sub-Branch since 2015, current Anzac Day March and Dawn Service Parade Marshal
- * **RAEME Association QLD:** Annual AAS Reunion SE QLD Convenor since 2001
- * **AAAA:** SQLD Regional Rep, and Committee Member since 2006
- * **Australian Army Reserve Association:** Member
- * **Mater Health Services, South Brisbane:** Patient Transport Service volunteer since 2013
- * **KJ McPherson Education and Research Foundation:** Committee Member since 1987
- * **St Vincent de Paul Society:** Member since 1968
- * **Brisbane City Council Community Planning Team:** Member 2015
- * Received **Griffith Australia Day Hall of Fame Award** 2013.



Events reports

100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, Albany WA

By John Noack, 22nd VM, johnnoack@bigpond.com

Well, I have finally got my act together with a few photos (see cover and below) of the WA Appy get-together in Albany to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice. The week started with a meet and greet at 11/28 Bn ORs' mess. This was followed by a dinner at the Albany RSL. There was a great night at Ian French's place on the Saturday night, followed by the march on Sunday, for which we had a pretty good turnout.



By Bob Coventry, 22nd Radio Mech, WA Regional Rep, bobcov51@gmail.com

Fellow Ex-Apprentices, following is a wrap-up of the great time we had in Albany, WA, leading up to and over the 2018 Remembrance Day weekend. We had good support from the City Council, the Army Reserve unit (11/28 Bn), the RSL and the Anzac Centre. On top of that, we had great weather to enjoy the activities and each other's company.



A **HUGE** vote of thanks to Andy Sears and Ian French for doing the hack work around town confirming our arrangements for: the Meet and Greet, Thursday evening at the 11/28 Bn depot; a tour of the National Anzac Interpretive Centre, Friday morning; the dinner Friday night at the Sterling Club; the SHED PARTY on Saturday night at Frenchie's; and the AAS contingent in the parade on Sunday - our oldest member Nev Smith (7th VM) is carrying the flag *(supported by Associate Member Jennifer Haynes, Ed)*.

Thanks to all who came to Albany, particularly those travelling from interstate. We would have liked to see more, but a large number had other duties at their "home" RSL over this weekend. That in itself is an indication of the depth of involvement that we Apprentices have within the ex-service community.

We will be doing something along similar lines this year (2019), so keep an eye out on both the Official and Nomad Apprentice Facebook pages for advanced info, so you can start planning your trip. We'd love to see some of you from that far-away east coast drag your vans across the Nullarbor.

Happy New Year; travel safe



ACT Region Lunch 12 Dec 2018

By: ACT Regional Rep, Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, news@austarmyapprentice.org

Twenty-one Apprentices and three partners (Kay Brewer, Jan Heron and Raylene Hocking) again met at the Ainslie Footy Club for a very enjoyable get-together. We had a couple of new faces, and some "out-of-towners" were also encouraged to join us. Being Xmas, there were extensive lucky door prizes, with all winners most satisfied. The next lunch will be in March, in conjunction with the 18th Metal Trades reunion (see below).



Carpenter brothers return to Balcombe

Even intake brothers John (“Bill”) (22nd F&T) and Edward (30th ET) Carpenter are pictured with the Army Apprentices School story board on the Parade Ground at Balcombe in November 2018.

This and other story boards were placed as part of the “Balcombe Barracks” commemorations in 2013. For the full report on this event, visit <http://austarmyapprentice.org/balcombe-barracks-commemoration-2013-report/>.

Commemorations were held over the weekend 3-5 May 2013, to coincide with the anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea on 4 May 1942. The US Marines rested at Balcombe from 1943, 70 years earlier, and the Army Apprentices School, the last of the four post-WW2 training units, departed Balcombe 30 years earlier in 1983.

For more on this story board and the Balcombe US Marines Memorial Gates, visit <http://monumentaustralia.org.au> and search for the keyword “Balcombe”.



Upcoming events

24th Intake 50th reunion, 15–17 February 2019, Balcombe/Frankston area

Contacts: John (JC) Goodchap, 24th VM, john_goodchap@yahoo.com or Phil Gibbs, 24th VM, pergware4@bigpond.com

34th Intake Reunion 15-16 Mar 19, Canberra

Contacts: Bernie Glynn, 34th Motor Mech Phone: 0418 389392; email: bwglynn@gmail.com; Stephan Wagner, 34th ET; or Al Bowie, 34th ET

18th Metal Trades Reunion, 25-28 March 2019

Contact: Wal Brewer, 18th F&T, wal.brewer@gmail.com

An 18th Intake Metal Trades reunion is to be held in the ACT over the period 25-28 Mar 19. Any Apprentices from other intakes in the ACT district who would like to catch up with members of the 18th Metal Trades whilst they are here may contact Wal Brewer for itinerary details. An opportunity to catch up with other Intakes is being planned to coincide with the next ACT Region Lunch.

ACT Region Lunch, Wednesday 27 Mar 2019, 1200 hrs

Contact: ACT Regional Rep, Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech news@austarmyapprentice.org

The next Canberra lunch will be on Wednesday 27 Mar 19 at the Limestone Café at the Ainslie Football Club at 1200. Please let me know if you are attending.

A number of 18th Intake Metal Trades Apprentices will be visiting, so come along and make it a big day.

SA all Intakes Reunion, Saturday, 3 Aug 2019

Largs Bay RSL Sub Branch in Largs North, 1230 hrs.



2020 AAAA Reunion, Maroochydore

Early preparations are underway for the next Reunion of the AAAA, to be held in Maroochydore, QLD in the spring of 2020. Watch this space and the Association Website for more details.

<http://austarmyapprentice.org/events/upcoming-events/>

2023 AAAA 75th Reunion, Albury

The next major milestone for Apprentices will be the 75th Anniversary of the commencement of Army Apprenticeships, occurring in 2023.

Vale notices

Contact: Welfare Officer, Kevin Noon, 14.5th Musician, welfare@austarmyapprentice.org

Correction

In last November's Newsletter, we reported in error the passing of 17th Intake Radio Mechanic Ronald John Laurence.

We can confirm that Ron has not passed and apologise for any distress this may have caused.

Vale notices

The Welfare Officer's role includes advising of any passing of Apprentices, so the Association and its members may be aware, and the information can be recorded. For those who do notify us of an Apprentice who has passed away, if at all possible, please include the NOK's details and their address.

Also, if you are aware of any of our colleagues who are ill or about to undergo surgery, please let me know so I can post information on Facebook.

Thanks again to Wally Rotow (18th Intake Radio Mech) who continues to investigate through various media sources, finding those names of Apprentices who have not previously been recorded as having passed away.

This edition's summary

| Intake | Trade | Reg No | Name | Passed away |
|--------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 6th | Telecom | 64275 | Ronald Lindsay HICKS | 1 Dec 2018 |
| 7th | Electrical Mechanic | 58571 | Trevor Edwin NORLING | 18 Dec 2018 |
| 10th | Vehicle Mechanic | 48552 | Frank James OWEN | 20 Dec 2018 |
| 11th | Vehicle Mechanic | 58645 | Kevin James D'EVELYNES | 10 Aug 1970 |
| 11th | Fitter & Turner | 243001 | Donald James WEBSTER | 26 Nov 2018 |
| 12th | Fitter & Turner | 58669 | William John TWISS | 6 Nov 2018 |
| 14.5th | Musician | 243185 | Terence Graham HARRISON | 23 Nov 2018 |
| 17th | Carpenter & Joiner | 18774 | John George SKUBIS | 26 Nov 2018 |
| 19th | Vehicle Mechanic | 243380 | Anthony David ELPHICK | 4 Dec 2018 |
| 22nd | Radio Mechanic | 1201076 | Trevor Charles CRAWFORD | 17 Aug 2017 |
| 22nd | Vehicle Mechanic | 39234 | Maurice Joseph MALLON | 7 Jan 2019 |
| 24th | Musician | 56053 | Paul (Pax) ANDREWS | 19 Jan 2019 |
| 24th | Radio Mechanic | 219194 | Leonard John (Doc) HALLIDAY | 19 Jan 2019 |
| 30th | Carpenter & Joiner | 1205561 | Brett William Scott HARRIS | Unknown |
| 33rd | Carpenter & Joiner | 179512 | Arnold Sidney SLUCE | 26 Dec 2018 |



The 1st Xmas Cake



The above two photos and this PIX magazine cutting from 1949 have been received recently via a third party, originally mailed to her by a Ken Warburton on 8 February 1999. Ken was not an Apprentice, so it appears he may have been a drill instructor at the Apprentices School in 1948. The photos are annotated: "Cutting of the 1st Xmas Cake of the Apprentices' School Balcombe" and "B Coy Quarters". The annotation "MYSELF" indicates a drill instructor at the rear of a group of (obviously) Apprentices and the B Coy photo shows a SGT in the foreground. There appears to be a similarity between the two, so one could draw the conclusion that the person is the same, SGT Ken Warburton.

1st and 2nd Intake Apprentices (or anyone else) are invited to send me feedback.





Fathers and sons/daughters “club”

An interesting challenge on Facebook recently stated “*Little known fact among 32nd class and others. I was a member of the father and son club. I joined 32nd class my father was 1st intake.*” Responses were quickly received in true Apprentice style, so we now know at least the following fathers and their offspring enlisted as Apprentices. Are there any more?

| Surname | Father | Intake/Trade | Son/daughter | Intake/Trade |
|------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Lowe | Richard | 1/Fitter & Turner | Michael | 32/Motor Mechanic |
| Stewart | Ian | 2/Vehicle Mechanic | David | 27/Vehicle Mechanic |
| Hawkins | Philip | 6/Carpenter & Joiner | Greg | 34/Electronics Tradesman |
| Nimmo | Vincent | 7/Vehicle Mechanic | Geoffrey | 33/Motor Mechanic |
| Lamrock | John | 9/Vehicle Mechanic | Mark & Warren | 34/Motor Mechanic & 35/Fitter & Turner |
| Moon | David | 10/Fitter & Turner | Chris | 32/Carpenter & Joiner |
| Weinheimer | Noel | 12/Clerk | Craig | 46/Electronics Tradesman |
| Homer | Eddie | 14/RM/Plumber | Peter | 44/Motor Mechanic |
| Moseley | Robin | 14/Vehicle Mechanic | Aaron | 49/Motor Mechanic |
| Houston | Lionel | 19/Vehicle Mechanic | Glen (Tex) | 46/Electronics Tradesman |
| Gordon | Russell | 20/Radio Mechanic | Anthony | 48/Electronics Tradesman |
| Campbell | Lindsay | 22/Fitter & Turner | Jacinta | 48/Electronics Tradesman |
| Flitton | Darryl (Jock) | 23/Vehicle Mechanic | Anthony | 45/Fitter & Turner |
| Hyde | Peter | 24/Elec Mechanic | Michelle | 48/Electronics Tradesman |

Association merchandise

Contact: Merchandise Officer, Phillip Gibbs, 24th VM, merchandise@austarmyapprentice.org

| Item | Unit Price | P&H |
|---|------------|---------|
| Polo shirt (AAS badge); sizes: M, L, XL, 2XL, | \$35.00 | \$10.00 |
| Association tie | \$25.00 | \$8.50 |
| Lapel badge | \$10.00 | \$3.50 |
| Car sticker | \$5.00 | \$1.00 |
| Plaque (Association badge) | \$65.00 | \$10.00 |
| Plaque (School badge) | \$65.00 | \$10.00 |
| Baseball cap | \$12.50 | \$10.00 |
| Stubby cooler | \$10.00 | \$8.50 |
| Keyring | \$20.00 | \$3.50 |
| 60th Anniversary 2008 DVD | \$10.00 | \$8.50 |
| Balcombe Commemoration 2013 DVD | \$15.00 | \$8.50 |
| AAS flag (original badge) | \$175.00 | \$10.00 |
| SPAASSM Collection DVD | \$25.00 | \$8.50 |
| Cloth AAS Badge Balcombe Large | \$20.00 | \$3.50 |
| Cloth AAS Badge Bonegilla Large | \$20.00 | \$3.50 |
| Cloth AAS Badge Small | \$20.00 | \$3.50 |
| 70th Reunion Cap | \$15.00 | \$10.00 |
| 70th Reunion Stubby Cooler | \$10.00 | \$8.50 |
| 70th Reunion Photo Card | \$16.50 | \$3.50 |





Newsletter submissions always welcome

Submissions for May 2019 close on 15 Apr 2019. Please send them to: news@austarmyapprentice.org

AAAA Committee

Committee changes

It is with regret that we bid farewell to Barry Minster, OAM, 20th Radio Mech, who has had to resign from the Committee for personal reasons. We wish you all the best Barry for the future.

But a big welcome to Don Hughes, 29th C&J, who has stepped up to be the Southern Vic Regional Rep.

And there are still plenty of vacancies, so how about volunteering? In particular, we need someone to take on the role of Webmaster. <http://austarmyapprentice.org/about/committee/>

Management Sub-committee - Office Bearers:

- * President - Harry Hoger, 20th Radio Mech
- * Vice President - Greg Haggett, 40th Plumber & Gasfitter
- * Secretary - Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T
- * Treasurer - Richard Pike, 21st VM

Management Sub-committee (contd):

- * Membership Secretary - Craig Malcolm, 31st ET
- * Public Officer - Ray Wilson, 15th Plumber
- * Welfare Officer, Memorial Sub-committee Member - Kevin Noon, CSM, 14.5th Musician
- * Events Manager - **Vacant**

Other Committee Members:

- * Heritage Officer, Memorial Sub-committee Chair - Peter Thompson, 21st VM
- * Webmaster - **Vacant**
- * Member - Bob Clarke, 22nd VM
- * Member, Social Media Administrator - Joanne Cornelius, 43rd VM
- * Member, Merchandise Officer - Phillip Gibbs, 24th VM
- * Member, Newsletter Editor - Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Life Member
- * Members - **2 Vacant**

Appointees:

- * Honorary Trustee, Memorial Sub-committee Member - Jim Hislop, 9th F&T
- * Chaplain, Memorial Sub-committee Member - Rev Alan Kelb, OAM, 25th F&T
- * Auditor - Gary Lancaster, 22nd F&T
- * Legal Adviser - **Vacant**

Regional Representatives:

- | | |
|--|---|
| * NT - Kevin Forster, 28th VM | * Southern Vic - Don Hughes, 29th C&J |
| * N Qld - Vacant | * N Vic, Central Vic and SE Vic - 3 Vacant |
| * SE Qld - Brian Daley, OAM, 14th VM, Life Member, and Memorial Sub-committee Member | * Vic Metro - Craig Malcolm, 31st ET |
| * NSW - Richard Pike, 21st VM, Treasurer | * SA - Vacant |
| * ACT - Jeff Heron, 21st Radio Mech, Life Member, Member, and Newsletter Editor | * Tas - Vacant |
| | * WA - Bob Coventry, 22nd Radio Mech |

Disclaimer

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