THE APPRENTICE ABOUT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INC.
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BALCOMBE | BONEGILLA

Volume 6 | Issue 10 ***February 2026***

20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

"The raising of the Australian Army Apprentices Association was far from a straightforward event, and this potted history traces the development from initial concept through to the first Annual General Meeting (AGM).

In 2003, attendance by Frank Poole at the placing of a plaque commemorating the services of the RAE Transportation Service at the AWM provided the idea for an Apprentices plaque. Subsequently, **in October 2004** at a class reunion, the 10th Intake was canvassed on the idea of installing an Apprentices School plaque at the AWM in remembrance of the service that graduates gave to the Army and remembering those who died or were injured in the line of duty. That a plaque might be dedicated as part of the next 10th Intake reunion planned for 2005, received strong support from the Intake.

Frank, assisted by Greg Mulcahy approached the AWM to check the feasibility of the idea and to ascertain the requirements. The proposal was given very favourable consideration and a brief on how the AWM could assist was provided. The AWM response was that the request had to be submitted by a legal entity, and so commenced the process for a legal body to be formed.

After investigation of what was required, an email was sent in **October 2005** to all Apprentices who could be contacted outlining the background, laying out a five-phase planning program, requesting expressions of support and requesting that this and future emails be passed on to other Apprentices. The intent was to seek assurance that there was sufficient interest from the Apprentice network to ensure that time and effort weren't being wasted. Some 150 expressions of interest were received in six days, a clear indication of the degree of interest.

In December 2005 a follow-up email was sent to the rapidly expanding mailing list, detailing work already underway and the anticipated schedule which would result in a general meeting to agree the draft Articles of Association and to elect office bearers. This email also requested volunteers to assist and to form a Planning Committee. It also included suggested Association objectives including "To ensure recognition of the work and sacrifices of Apprentices by means of memorials, plaques and public awareness". Note that at this stage the intention was only to form a legal entity to enable a submission to be made to the AWM.

From the response for volunteers, the following were selected to form the Planning Committee:

- Frank Poole (10th Architectural Draughtsman, ACT) Chairman
- Greg Mulcahy (10th Electrician, ACT) acting as secretary
- Gib Owen (10th VM, NSW) to advise on legal matters and to assist with writing Articles of Association
- Andrew Bishop (46th F&T, NSW) and Glenn Jones (28th C&J, NSW) who were working on a Website
- Members to assist and advise were: Frank Maloney (13th VM, SQld), Tammy Steve (47th F&T, Central Vic), Frank Owen (10th VM, SA), Ian Pullen (34th F&T, NVic and a volunteer at the Army Museum Bandiana), Jim van Reyk (21st F&T, NQld), and Jack Westernhagen (3rd VM, SVic).

By March 2006, the draft Articles of Association were still awaiting acceptance by the ACT Registrar General's Office (RGO), their concern being that the title proposed was considered to be too close to "Australian Regular Army". Consequently, approval had to be sought from Army for the use of the proposed title and fortunately this was granted without dispute. Army approval was passed to Gib Owen to make the necessary changes, and the documentation was resubmitted to the RGO. While this was occurring, notice was given by RGO that it would be necessary to elect office bearers, open a bank account and strike membership fees. Comments were sought from

the Planning Committee. It was confirmed that at that time, the intent was for a dedication date for the proposed AWM plaque of November 2007. As a courtesy, LTGEN Ken Gillespie (23rd Bricklayer) was advised of progress.

On 12 April 2006 the RGO approved the Articles of Association and issued a Certificate of Incorporation. The notification also dealt with the requirement to call a meeting to formally approve the draft Articles of Association based on the ACT Model Articles of Association. This was done and work commenced on motions such as agreement on duties, fees, bank, appointment of office bearers (on a casual basis at this stage), taxation and Australian Business Number (ABN), membership form, etc. Fortunately, Glenn had the Website up and ready.

It was also agreed by the Planning Committee that the dedication of the AWM plaque looked like slipping back to 2008. Remember that at this time, the whole basis of forming the Association was to submit a formal request to the AWM to dedicate a plaque.

An email on 4 July 2006 advised that draft motions had been checked for legality by Gib Owen, that Jack Westernhagen was busy with memorabilia proposals, that the Website was finalised and the Web address promulgated, and that the Tax Office had granted exemption from income tax and had issued an ABN. With one exception, nominations had been received for all committee positions.

All administrative arrangements had been made for the **inaugural extraordinary general meeting to be held on 22 July 2006** in Canberra. The date, proposed agenda and location were emailed and posted on the Web. At that meeting, nominated committee members were advised that their positions were temporary and had to be ratified at the first general meeting. The main agenda items were to approve changes to the now ACT RGO approved Model Rules, to approve a draft constitution that reflected the aims, management and organisation for the Association to operate, given that the intent then was still to have a plaque dedicated at the AWM. Motions dealing with additional office bearers and their duty statements, sub-committees and meeting procedures, voting, classes of membership, fees and banking arrangements were all approved. Subsequently, the resulting agreed draft constitution was then submitted to the RGO as a change to the Model Rules and was duly approved.

The Web became the primary mode of communication and Rod Eagleton (24th F&T) took over from Glenn Jones.

On 20 September 2006, a letter to the AWM advised that a national representative association had been formed and sought their advice on the next step required to obtain approval for a plaque for Army Apprentices.

At the committee meeting on 1 October 2006, LTGEN Ken Gillespie accepted the position of Patron. By now, all pending constitutional committee positions had been filled and committee members all reported progress. It was with confidence that all considered that the Association was now up and running. Ian Morris (12th RM) presented a draft of the Association brochure and Jeff Heron (21st RM) a promotional PowerPoint presentation. The date for dedication of the AWM plaque was set for August 2008, representing 60 years since the School opened.

Then came the crunch! **In November 2006**, an apologetic letter was received from the Director of the AWM explaining that they had not realised at the initial meeting that their charter only allowed them to recognise “units” and that the AAS was not classified as a “unit”. They offered assistance with any wreath laying service the Association may like to conduct but were not permitted by their charter to consider the request for a plaque.

The situation then was that a national association had been formed for a specific purpose which the Association was not able to pursue. Consequently, a plethora of committee emails resulted in unanimous support to continue with the Association which was already a legal entity with a draft constitution which did not require any changes to either its aims or management.

The committee was also unanimous in supporting the concept of building a national memorial for Australian Army Apprentices and decided that Frank Poole (10th AD) was to be the project leader. It was also agreed that the Memorial should be in the Bandiana/Latchford area and that the next committee meeting should be held in that area to select a site. Following the site visit, the selection firmed up to establish it on its present site at Bandiana.

The committee enthusiastically accepted Peter Thornton’s (35th ET) offer to organise the digitising of the thousands of images and documents concerning the AAS held in cardboard boxes at the Army Museum. Funding was approved and a team was organised to assist with this, the second major project of the Association. Arrangements were made for an inter-museum transfer of the items to the AWM, where Peter had arranged for

the AWM to accept them and to provide a workroom and storage space. This was the start of Project SPAASSM (Special Project for Army Apprentices School Special Material). Over the next nine months, much work was undertaken and many meetings took place in preparation for **the first AGM on 27 August 2007**. A brochure was produced by Ian Morris outlining the Association's aims and objectives and Jack Westernhagen had now begun making available an increasing range of memorabilia. Project SPAASSM was underway with a small team assisting Peter.

Committee members settled in and provided invaluable work in their areas including:

- President (Frank Poole) coordinated the committee and worked on the Memorial Project, preliminary work seeking approvals, preparing environmental impact statements and developing initial design ideas.
- Greg Mulcahy (Public Officer) prepared changes required to the Model Rules to form the Constitution.
- Welfare Officer (Russell Evans, 23rd Musn) organised training and established contacts.
- Promotions and PR Officer (Frank Maloney) developed ideas for activities and promoting the AAAA.
- Membership Secretary (Les Sutton, 32nd ET) developed a membership kit and a membership listing.
- The Secretary (Steve Hladio, 27th Musn) organised mailing boxes, venues and the AGM.
- Vice President (Jack Westernhagen) was kept busy developing with the Webmaster an on-line shop.
- The Treasurer (Ray Wilson, 15th Plumber) organised banking, accepting and receipting of membership fees and preparing a financial statement for the AGM.
- Rod Eagleton continued Website development, supported other committee members on IT matters and amalgamated the "Armyappies" Website into the Association's, following an offer from its Webmaster Steve Williams (28th FM).
- A Regional Representatives' kit was developed and sent out to assist in promoting the Association.
- A tremendous amount of work on administrative and management was carried out by the committee to ensure that the Association was well established and future plans ready for the AGM.

At the first AGM on 27 August 2007 in Canberra, the primary business was approval of the motions changing the Model Rules for their incorporation into a draft Constitution. This was accepted and the proposed Constitution was forwarded to the ACT RGO for approval. Election of office bearers was conducted in accordance with the new Constitution and subject to RGO agreement to the new Constitution. Inaugural committee positions were:

Committee

President Frank Poole
Vice-President Jack Westernhagen
Secretary Stephen Hladio OAM
Treasurer Ray Wilson
Membership Secretary Les Sutton
Public Officer Greg Mulcahy
Promotions & PR Officer Frank Maloney
Welfare Officer Russell Evans
Heritage Officer Chris Moon (32nd C&J)
Social Officer Bill Mertin (22nd VM)
Webmaster Glenn Jones
Committee Members Andrew Bishop, Jeff Heron, Ian Morris, Tim Wilde (40th P&G)

Regional Representatives

NT Edward 'Chips' Carpenter (30th ET)
N Qld Jim van Reyk
S Qld Frank Maloney
NSW Shane Stevenson (41st C&J)
ACT Frank Poole
N Vic Ian Pullen
SE Vic Graeme Horne (32nd ET)
S Vic Matt Bouma (30th C&J)
Vic Metro Jack Westernhagen
SA Gary Deaton (28th ET)
Tas Mick Koerber (27th VM)
WA Brian Cooper OAM (9th VM)

Appointments

Legal Adviser Gib Owen
Auditor Greg Mulcahy
Patron LTGEN Ken Gillespie
Trustee Don Dalton

This potted history finishes here and, for anyone wishing greater detail, refer to the Website and the minutes of the early planning committee, committee meetings, and AGMs, President's Updates, and The Apprentice About."

[The above history was initially researched and written by Frank Poole and Greg Mulcahy in October 2016. It has been edited for this Newsletter to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the creation of the AAAA.]

From the President

By Keith Lowe, 22nd Intake Fitter and Turner, President AAAA, president@austarmyapprentice.org, 19 January 2026

I trust everyone has had an enjoyable and safe time during the holiday period associated with the festive season that seems so far in the past now.

It is pleasing to see two intakes are planning or have already held reunions/social gatherings since our last Newsletter. It's a positive way to keep our select group, i.e. Army Apprentices alive.

Interestingly, use of the "Tac Signs" on vehicles is another great way of identifying with others who are Army Apprentices, but we would otherwise not know. By way of example, my wife's car with tac sign was parked outside a country post office and, as she approached the door, a fellow who had been observing the vehicle asked, "Was your husband an Army Apprentice? I was going to take a photo but thought I probably shouldn't." During the conversation that followed he said he had a tac sign for the 28th that had not been displayed so he was going home to attach it to his vehicle.

Perhaps we should ask Jon Rogers if we can make the tac signs available through the Association as not everyone uses Facebook [See the last page for details. Ed].

Within my August 2025 Newsletter Report I made mention of our committee introducing Perpetual Association membership. Interestingly thus far very few have taken this option when renewing. For more information, please revisit the August 2025 Newsletter.

It seems every day we are hearing of new efforts by scammers to trap the unsuspecting resulting in financial losses that can be ill afforded. Can I appeal to all when receiving emails to please verify the legitimacy of the purported sender. Often it will be from a name familiar to you but, before proceeding, hover your mouse over the sender to highlight the full sender's email to check if it's legitimate. If still in doubt, phone the sender and check if you don't want to simply delete the message and block the sender. Please stay cautious.

Until next time stay well and look out for your mates.

All the best, Keith

Barry William RICHARDS OAM, 24th Intake Fitter and Turner

"For service to the welfare of veterans". Congratulations Barry.

Returned and Services League of Australia: Member, Greensborough Sub-Branch, since 2013; Pensions Advocate Grade 2, RSL DVA Pensions Advocate, Greensborough Sub-Branch, since 2014; Military Compensation Advocate; Veteran support, Case Study 40, Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse; Veteran support, Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide; Claims advisor, Defence Abuse Response Taskforce, Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation, Department of Veteran's Affairs.
Community: Administrator, Back on Track Veterans Retreat in Charleville, Queensland
Awards and Recognition include: Jagajaga Community Volunteer Award, 2024 and Banyule Council Community Service Award, 2024.

[Note: See the last page for a "Stop Press" highlighting an OAM for Garry Beven, 24th VM.]

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Association members in the news

Apprentices at the 2025 Killara Legacy Golf Day

Details and photo supplied

Last November 6th was the 2025 Killara Legacy Golf Day, providing essential social and financial support for veterans' families.

Special guests for the event included General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC (Mil) CVO MC (Retd) (Guest of Honour), Brigadier Nigel Best OBE, UK Defence Advisor Australia (Guest Speaker), and Emma Donaldson, Veteran Liaison Officer for Legacy Club Services (Keynote Speaker).

In the photo are (L-R): Harry Henderson, 21st Intake Radio Mechanic (Member #1443); Martin Lakos, Macquarie Bank Head of Wealth Management and Macquarie's leading media spokesperson; Brigadier Nigel Best; Sir Peter Cosgrove; and our Inaugural Patron, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AC DSC CSM, 23rd Intake Bricklayer (Member #188).

The event was a Legacy fund raiser at the Killara Golf Club. Ken Gillespie chairs the event which, over the past six years, has raised over 3/4 million dollars.

To find out more about hosting your own Legacy Golf Day, visit the Legacy Website *https://www.legacy.com.au/legacy-golf/*

Dave McBEAN, 40th Intake Fitter & Turner (Member #1394), Federation Star

From a Facebook post, RAEME Group, by Bernard Russell on 3 December 2025

"Yesterday I had the privilege of watching two RAEME Legends receive their Federation Star. Congratulations Gerry Foran and David McBean."

Marc CRAIGIE, 46th Intake Motor Mechanic (Member #1187) – ASM-Land

Information and photo from RAQ Friday Files, 12 December 2025

At last year's RAEME Birthday lunch in Brisbane, recently appointed ASM-Land, WO1 Marc Craigie addressed attendees with reflections on his last 12 months on secondment with BHP, lessons learned, and insights into the evolution of RAEME capability.

Quilt of valour to Liz Fitzgibbon, 40th Intake Electronics Tradesman, AAAA Committee Member

From a Facebook post, Australian Army Apprentices Association [official] Group, by Simon Brooks, AAAA Secretary on 29 November 2025

"40th Intake ET and fellow Association Committee Member Liz Fitzgibbon was among several RAEME women awarded a quilt of valour recently. Well done everyone!! Liz enlisted as an electronics apprentice and later became an Aircraft Technician. She served in RAEME from 1985 to 2002, 40th class."

Below: Liz (left) and fellow recipients: Amanda Kennedy, RAEME Aircraft Technician 1991-2025; Fiona Burr, RAEME/RAAOC 1991-2007; Kim Woodford, RAEME/RAAOC 40+ years; and Teena Black, Transport Corps 1989-2004.

WO1 Tim COSTIN, 47th Intake Fitter and Turner, (Member #56) Master Artificer ECN 222 Marine Technician

From RAEME Craftsman 2024, Edition 75

At the RAEME Corps Conference in October 2024, Tim Costin was appointed as the inaugural Master Artificer for the new ECN 222 Marine Technician (MT) Trade.

An MOU between Army and Navy will see cohorts undertake the Navy's Marine Technician – Propulsion Course at HMAS Cerberus, commencing in late 2024. This will more closely meet the requirements of the new Project Land 8710 – Littoral Manoeuvre Vessels (Medium and Heavy Landing Craft).

From RAEME Corps RSM Dot Points, WO1 Jon Tynan, November 2025

ECN 222 has begun to see the fruits of its labour. Initial Employment Training has commenced in HMAS Cerberus, with courses being fully subscribed. The ECN is growing large in the eyes of the ADF with a keen watch being held over postings, administration and work capacity. The 222 space is growing large, and we should expect great things from the trade and its technicians.

Non-Association members in the news

John MILLER OAM, 40th Intake Electronics Tradesman, Federation Star

From a Facebook post, RAEME Group, by Tim Penna on 7 November 2025

On 31 October, at the School of Armour, ASM WO1 John "JJ" Miller OAM, 40th Intake Electronics Tradesman was presented the Federation Star by Commander Forces Command, MAJGEN Ana Duncan AM CSC. Congratulations JJ.

Gerry FORAN, 40th Intake Electronics Tradesman, Federation Star

From a Facebook post, RAEME Group, by Bernard Russell on 3 December 2025

"Yesterday I had the privilege of watching two RAEME Legends receive their Federation Star. Congratulations Gerry Foran and David McBean."

Welfare and Vale notices

Contact: Association Welfare Officer Grant Cotterill, 38th Intake Plumber and Gasfitter, welfare@austarmyapprentice.org

The Welfare Officer:

- supports members in determining welfare and other Commonwealth and State Government entitlements by helping them locate the organisations who may assist
- liaises with similar service bodies (e.g. Returned and Services League, Vietnam Veterans Federation, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Association) on welfare matters
- on the advice of the death of a member, verifies that the Vale notice is not already on the Association Website, ensures that information received is complete and correct (e.g. spelling, missing regimental number), ensures that the NOK is being cared for and sends condolences, advises the President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Newsletter Editor of updates required
- on the advice of a member in hospital, sick or otherwise indisposed, arranges a visit from a member to ensure his/her welfare (through a Regional Representative if applicable).

Vale notices

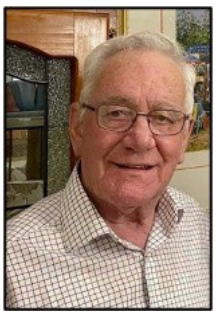
The untimely passing of a former Army Apprentice is always a sad occasion. It is important when notifying of the passing that we are clear about the details of the notice. Whilst social media posts draw attention to the passing of Apprentices, occasionally there is insufficient information to assist in maintaining the Apprentices nominal roll.

The AAAA Website *Vale Notification Form* prompts for the necessary information. If you don't have all requested information, send what you have, and we can follow up. Thank you to all those who have provided details.

This edition's Vale summary below includes four historic entries.

Intake	Reg No	Name (Membership no)	Trade	Passed away
25	220158	Alan James PIERPOINT	Radio Mechanic	2 Jan 2025
25	1203078	Roy Godfrey LINSSEN	Vehicle Mechanic	8 Sep 2025
30	58492	Peter Kenneth OZOLS	Carpenter and Joiner	12 Oct 2025
10	242895	Michael James BURGESS (Ex-#616)	Telecom Mechanic	29 Oct 2025
13 (12 – upgraded)	342807	Patrick James (Pat) MARLEY (#316)	Electrical Fitter	14 Nov 2025
22	55321	Anthony Alfred (Roy) TRIGG	Vehicle Mechanic	14 Nov 2025
21	58887	Victor Hugh VARRIS	Fitter and Turner	16 Nov 2025
19	48655	Brian CALDER	Vehicle Mechanic	21 Nov 2025
10	64310	Colin Havelock FOGARTY (#583)	Electrician	17 Dec 2025
25	45473	William Davies GAMBLE	Vehicle Mechanic	26 Dec 2025
18	342939	George Arthur REID (#429)	Fitter and Turner	17 Jan 2026
27	56885	Michael John BRENNAN (#981)	Electronics Tradesman	22 Jan 2026

Vale Pat MARLEY, 12th (upgraded from 13th) Intake Electrical Fitter (Member #316)



From Damian Marley, Pat's son

"*I am so sad to advise that Dad, Patrick James Marley (Pat Marley) passed away yesterday, November 14th 2025, at Caritas Christi, at the age of 84.*

Pat managed the RAEME Association (Victoria) website for many years, among other activities and events. He was very proud of his service in the Australian Army and RAEME (12th intake, 1957). He was a magnificent man – husband of Terri Marley, father of 6, grandfather of 19 and great grandfather of (almost) 12, with 37 direct descendants.

Dad was a man of strong Catholic faith, a proud Welshman and Australian with great commitment to our community. He loved Geelong Football Club and cricket, and was an optimistic Welsh rugby fan. God bless."

Pat was a strong Association Member and was a true friend of the Association. He regularly kept us informed of the passing of other Apprentices and sadly it is now he who is being reported on. He was a 13th Intake upgraded to 12th – one of only 6 Apprentices to have been upgraded as far as we know.

Vale COL Michael James BURGESS, 10th Intake Telecom Mechanic (Field)

By Jeff Heron, 21st Intake Radio Mechanic, AAAA Public Officer and Newsletter Editor

Born in Bombala NSW on 22 December 1938, Mike Burgess enlisted in January 1955 and graduated in December 1957 as a Wireless Mechanic (Field), allocated to RAEME. He was subsequently selected for OCS and graduated in June 1962. Promoted to Temporary CAPT, he served in Vietnam from 25 March 1968 to 26 March 1969 as the commander of 131 Divisional Locating Battery Workshop Detachment. As a permanent CAPT, he spent time in the USA on long term schooling in about 1970. His later postings included in the office of DGEME in Canberra, where as a MAJ, his tasks included being on the Editorial Board, and then Editor, of the RAEME Craftsman Magazine from 1978 to late 1981, being promoted to LTCOL along the way. He was then promoted to COL around 1988 and was the initial Commander Bandiana Logistic Group. He passed away peacefully in his sleep on 29 Oct 2025.

SPAASSM Ph I Image 06555 above shows him addressing a parade, possibly at the Army College of TAFE in about 1991.

Vale COL Mike Brennan, 27th Intake Electronics Tradesman, RASigs (Member #981)

From Facebook by Bob Coventry, 22nd Intake Radio Mechanic, Association WA Regional Representative, on 23 January 2026

"Michael Brennan 27th ET Apprentice, passed away peacefully last night [22 January], at home with his family around him. Michael had been in hospital for a few months late last year undergoing treatment for another cancer outbreak and was released back to his home just before Christmas, when his daughter came over from the USA and was able to care for him. Michael has been the Colonel Commandant of the RASigs Assoc in WA (and up until recently SA & NT) and has been a fantastic supporter of all Corps related events and activities. He will be sadly missed. RIP Cobber."

Membership matters

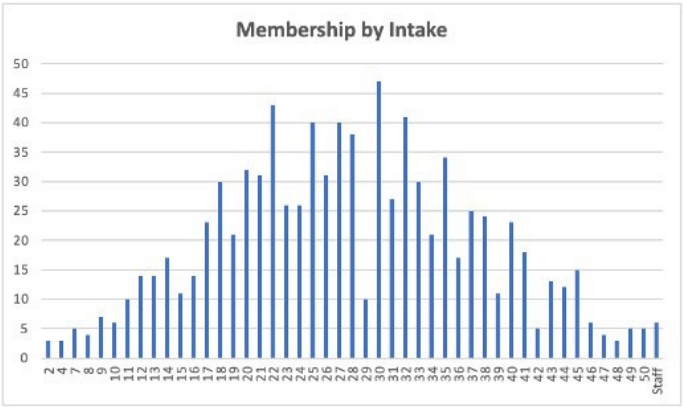
By Graeme Smail, 35th Intake Electronics Tradesman – Membership Secretary, membership@austarmyapprentice.org

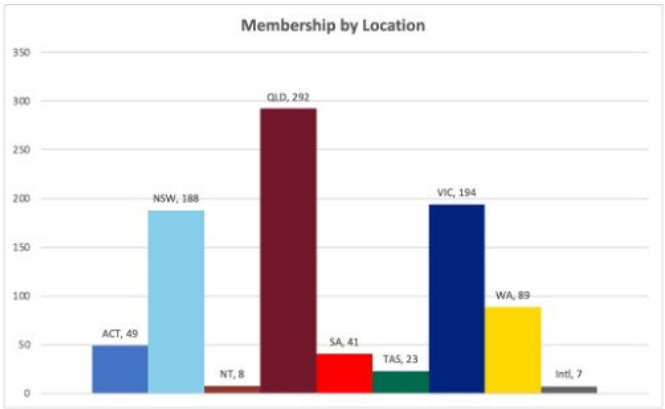
Membership Status

The current state of the membership (as at 16 Jan 2026) is 891 financial members (see right). These figures show a slight increase in membership since the Oct 25 AGM. Year on year they show a decrease of around 19. It is pleasing to see a few members taking up the option of Perpetual membership.

Type	16 Jan 26	17 Oct 25	25 Jan 25
Life	4	3	3
Perpetual	3	2	-
Ordinary	574	571	599
Retired	304	308	301
Associate	6	6	7
TOTAL	891	890	910

Membership Analysis





For those who have recently joined the Association, I will be sending you a new member pack in the next few weeks so lookout for it in the post. If your mailing address is not up to date, please get that sorted asap. If you need any assistance with your membership, then please give the Membership Secretary a call on 0438 212964 or email at *membership@austarmyapprentice.org*.

Events reports

Reraising of 2nd Signal Regiment

From Facebook, Australian Army, 12 November 2025

"*Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, joined soldiers, veterans, and families at Victoria Barracks [Sydney] to celebrate the Royal Australian Corps of Signals Centenary – marking the official re-raising of the 2nd Signal Regiment.*"

The ceremonial sword was presented to the new CO, LTCOL Bryan Yarrington by Chief of Army, LTGEN Simon Stuart AO DSC. The unit will be housed at Holsworthy.

What's the collective noun for a group of ex-Appys?

From a Facebook post on 16 November 2025 by Ash Pagett, 32nd Intake Electronics Tradesman (Member #578)

"*I'm not sure. Anyway, here's a gaggle of ex-Appys at the RASigs Centenary Reunion Dinner at Rochford Winery Healesville last night.*

L-R: George Stockwell 19th intake Radio Mechanic (Member #874); Grahame (Jack) Danson (32nd) (Member #1174), Bob Bunn, (35th) (Member #1528), Peter Lobegeier (29th) (Member #299) and Ash Pagett (all Electronics Tradesmen); and unsure"

ACT Region Quarterly Lunch, Ainslie FC, Wednesday, 10 December 2025

By Jeff Heron, 21st Intake Radio Mechanic, ACT Regional Rep

A great turnout this time with 32 in attendance. Intakes 2, 7, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 22A, 25, 32, and 33 were represented – in all 21 Apprentices, eight partners, and two sons. Thank you to all who attended and to those who generously donated items for the lucky door prizes – 23 prizes in all valued at over $1,000. After expenses were taken out, we raised $280, $180 of which was donated to the Army Apprentices Memorial fund, leaving $100 to start the next fund-raising activity.

Herb Taylor, 2nd Intake Carpenter & Joiner, Member #504 (right with Harry Cole, 7th Intake Vehicle Mechanic, Member #97, was the oldest and Guy Langford's (33rd Fitter & Turner, Member #309) son was the youngest (at nine months). Three travelled from Sydney, two from Dalmeney, one from Batehaven, and a few others from outside the ACT.

Right: Bernie Sullivan (Member #122) & Harry Cole (Member #97), 7th Intake Vehicle Mechanics at the ACT Region Quarterly Lunch, 10 December 2025

Upcoming events

AAAA and Apprentices functions

* **ACT Region Quarterly Lunch**, **Ainslie FC**, **Wed, at 1200 on 18 March 2026**. Please let me know if you will be there.
* **26th Intake 55th Year Reunion, Wodonga, 20-22 March 2026**, send your interest to *Michael Thompson, 26th Intake Vehicle Mechanic, via Facebook, Australian Army Apprentices Association [official]*, 18 March 2025 post.
* **Melbourne all class Apprentices catch up, Highett RSL, Saturday 28 March 2026, from 1300**, *see private event by Jordie Burgess, 41st Intake Electrical Fitter, via Facebook, Army Apprentices "Cream" Group*, posted 7 January 2026.
* **31st Intake, 50th Anniversary Reunion at Maroochy RSL, 23 to 28 April 2026**, *contact Coordinator: Steven Murphy, 0434287966, 31stappyreunion@gmail.com*.
* **AAAA AGM 2026, Melbourne Metro, 24 October 2026, 1030**, and dinner, location and venues TBC.

Other associations, etc

* **RAE Association Victoria Inc**., *contact RAE Future Events*
  * **RAE Association WA Inc.,** *contact* https://wasappers.com.au/events/
  * **RASigs Association**, *contact http://www.rasigs.com*
  * **RAEME National Network**, *contact https://raeme.org.au*
  * **Prince Philip Banner to RAEME 40th Anniversary**, Tuesday 20 May 2026, North Bandiana – more to follow
  * **101 Fd Wksp & Friends Reunion**, Friday 14 August 2026, The Deck Currumbin RSL, from 1700, Saturday 15, Waterside Room Currumbin RSL, 1700 for 1800 & Sunday 16, Vikings Surf Club (Elephant Rock) from 1100, *RSVP to Karen (karencairns@bigpond.com) and cc to Michelle (dmjjj@bigpond.com)*, costs for Saturday – Cocktail Style – $70 pp, payments to BSB 833205 A/C 20833749.
  * **Greensborough RSL Members' Bar Friday Veterans Coffee Club 2026**, 1000-1200hrs, **Dates:** Feb 4 & 18, Mar 4 & 18, Apr 1, 15 & 29, May 13 & 27, Jun 10 & 24, Jul 8 & 22, Aug 5 & 19,Sep 2, 16 & 30, Oct 14 & 28, Nov 18, Dec 2, 16 & 30.

SPAASSM Collection

https://www.dropbox.com/s/tcmowfh3ulz8rr7/SPAASSM%20Index%20and%20Cover.pdf?dl=0

August 2025 solution

Q: What is on the other end of the rope?
A: SPAASSM Ph I Image 07445. A Landrover.

February 2026 competition

Q: What is the tank above: Type, Model, Year Introduced into Service and Year Removed from Service? The first to email *news@austarmyapprentice.org* with the correct answers will win a copy of the SPAASSM Collection on USB wafer.

Merchandise

AAAA Shop: https://austarmyapprentice.org/shop/

For enquiries, contact the Treasurer: treasurer@austarmyapprentice.org

	MERCHANDISE ITEMS	PRICES	POSTAGE
DVDs	1998 50th Anniversary Albury Wodonga **OR** 2008 60th Anniversary **OR** 2013 Balcombe Commemoration	$10.00	$10.00
70th REUNION ITEMS	Stubby holder	$5.00	$5.00
	Photo card (USB wafer)	$16.50	$3.50
	Cap	$15.00	$15.00
AAAA BADGED ITEMS	Baseball cap	$20.00	$10.00
	Car sticker	$5.00	$1.50
	Lapel badge	$10.00	$3.50
	Tie **OR** SPAASSM Collection USB wafer	$25.00	$10.00
	Name badge – *to order, include preferred 1st name, and Intake/Class*	$16.50	$3.50
	Key ring – *when ordering, ask if a number you would like is available*	$20.00	$3.50
PROMOTION ITEMS	AAAA Name badge (with 70th Reunion USB photo card) SALE	$30.00	$3.50
	AAAA Name badge (with AAAA Key ring)	$30.00	$3.50
AAS BADGED ITEMS	Cloth badge large (260 mm x 210 mm) – Balcombe **OR** Bonegilla	$25.00	$3.50
	Cloth badge small (100mm x 70mm)	$20.00	$3.50
	Flag (1800 mm x 900 mm)	$175.00	$14.00
	Baseball cap	$15.00	$14.00
	Polo shirt (M, L, XL, 2XL,3XL, 4XL)	$35.00	$14.00
	Stubby holder	$5.00	$5.00
AAAA/AAS BADGED ITEMS	Plaque (with AAAA badge **OR** AAS badge)	$85.00	$14.00
	Face mask (with both AAAA and AAS badges)	$15.00	$5.00

History

US Marines Memorial Gates, Balcombe – 71 years young

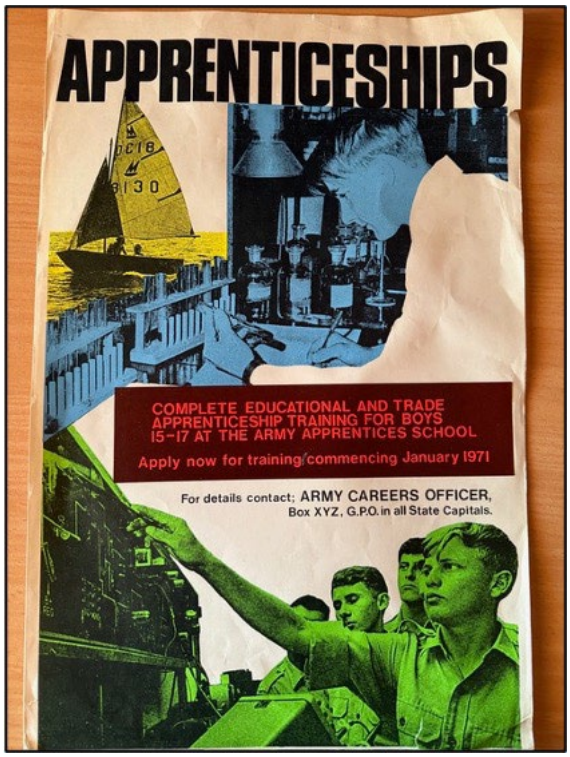
Thanks to John Goodchap, 24th Intake Vehicle Mechanic (Member #1077), this excellent image taken on Christmas Eve last year shows the Memorial Gates looking much better with the trees trimmed and without all

the scruffy plants in front (though grass might have been better than woodchip). Through the opening, you can just see the Army Apprentices School story board, one of six in the carpark (Parade Ground).

1971 recruiting poster

Thanks to Ed Draper, 22nd Intake Electrical Fitter (Member #138)

"*I have just procured another AAS recruit poster which is for entry in 1971, it features a pic of 22nd & 23rd guys.*"



20 years of the Australian Army Apprentices Association

The cover pages of this Newsletter tell the story of the creation of the AAAA and how it led to the building of a national memorial for Australian Army Apprentices at Bandiana. The rest of the 20-year story is included in the Web document "*Brief History of AAS and AAAA*". A timeline of the major activities over those 20 years includes:

12 April 2006 – incorporation in the ACT of the Australian Army Apprentices Association

22 July 2006 – Australian Army Apprentices Association inaugural meeting – Canberra

November 2006 – rejection by the AWM of a plaque request, resulting in a plan for an Apprentices memorial

Early 2007 – commencement of Project SPAASSM

27 August 2007 – Army Apprentices Memorial project commenced

24-26 October 2008 – 60th Anniversary of the commencement of the Army Apprentices School Reunion and dedication of the Australian Army Apprentices Memorial, Albury Wodonga

3 May/7 August 2010 – completion of Project SPAASSM

August 2010 – first edition of The Apprentice About, Editor Craig Malcolm, 31st Intake Electronics Tradesman

27-30 October 2011 – Apprentices Together in Canberra

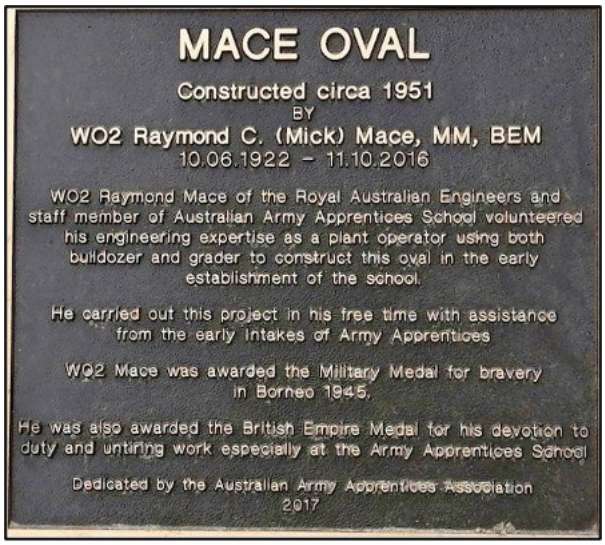
3-5 May 2013 – Balcombe Barracks Commemoration, including unveiling of new plaques and story boards and re-dedication of the refurbished Memorial Gates, the Parade Ground and Mace Oval

19 June 2013 and 6 August 2013 – request for public access to the Army Apprentices School Governor-General's Banner and response, "*the Banner will remain in St Peter's Chapel at Latchford Barracks*".

23-25 October 2015 – 20th Anniversary of the closure of the Army Apprentice Scheme Reunion, Albury Wodonga

24-26 April 2018 – 70th Anniversary of the commencement of the Army Apprentices School, Canberra

15 June 2018 – Mace Oval commemoration, Balcombe (and the Mick Mace Club plaque, 7 November 2019)



19 October 2019 – recognition of the 50th Intake of Apprentices, who enlisted in January 1995

1 December 2020 – WD Prenter (3rd Intake Telecom Mechanic) Building named, South Bandiana

20-22 October 2023 – 75th Anniversary Reunion Commemorating Formation of the Army Apprentices School

26 October 2024 – AAAA AGM and Dinner, Maroochy RSL, Maroochydore

21 February 2025 – Army Apprentices Memorial gates refurbished and returned to Bandiana Memorial Park

24-26 October 2025 – 30th Anniversary Reunion to commemorate cessation of the Army Apprentice Scheme, Albury Wodonga

18 December 2025 – refurbished lettering and dates signage from the Balcombe and Bonegilla Walls of the Army Apprentices Memorial returned and refitted.

50 years since the 29th Intake Electronics Tradesmen graduated

From the Army Apprentices School Journal 1976

Administration Company Report

The second term of 1976 saw yet another change in the company structure of the School. The third year Electronics Tradesmen, who up until May had been amalgamated with the four standard companies, were withdrawn and became part of Administration Company.

"The 1972 graduation on 5 December was the first where the traditional training system of three years at the AAS then one year in a workshop (3 + 1) was replaced with a 2 years plus 2 years system (except for Radio Mechanics – later Electronics Tradesmen (ETs) – which remained at 3 + 1). As a result, the 25th Intake was joined by the 26th Intake as graduates 21 years after the first combined graduation parade was held for the 1st and 2nd Intakes on 15 December 1951. Many other intakes also graduated together, e.g. 18A (mid-year) Intake Musicians and 19th Intake Clerks on 11 June 1965, as well as the Radio Mechanics then Electronics Tradesmen who graduated with each later intake once the 2 + 2 system commenced." (*from the Brief History of the AAS and AAAA, 6 July 2024*)

The extract from the 1976 AAS Journal above stated that 3rd year ETs were in Administration Company (Admin Coy) during their second term, implying that this was the first time. But this wasn't the first time. They had been segregated before (according to the Journals from these years), that is: in 1972 (25th Intake), 1973 (26th Intake) and 1974 (27th Intake) ETs were in E Coy, and in 1975 the 28th Intake ETs were in Admin Coy. It appears therefore that in 1976, the 29th Intake ETs started in the four "standard" companies but were moved to Admin Coy later in the year.

In later years, third year ETs were allocated to the Senior Apprentice Company (SAC).

Other AAS events of 1976 *(from the Army Apprentices School Journal 1976)*

AAS staff in 1976 included:
* **CO** – LTCOL Graeme Chapman, RA Inf
* **RSM** – WO1 Norm Goldspink MBE, RA Inf
* **OC Admin Coy** – MAJ Geoff Hawker, RAEME (1st Intake Fitter & Turner)

APP BSM – CS Ferguson, 30th Intake Vehicle Mechanic

Awards presented in 1976 included:
* **Governor General's Medal** – APP BSM Colin Ferguson, Vehicle Mechanic, 30th Intake Vehicle Mechanic
* **29th Intake Trade Training and Education Proficiency Awards, and Trade Subjects Award** – APP CPL Darryl Holloway, 29th Electronics Tradesman (graduated to RA Sigs)

One of the highlights of the year was Admin Company winning the inter company drill competition. It may not have surprised some that the RSM awarded the maximum possible marks for dress. However, the OC and the CSM had to be treated for shock.

[Was that because they were "boffins" or because they were in their third year, compared with the other companies with only two years' experience? Ed]

Senior officer visits and Melbourne Royal Show opening

The AAS was often called on to provide Guards of Honour. The year of 1976 was no different. On 29 April, a Guard of Honour welcomed MAJGEN JW Norrie, GOC Training Command. During this visit, MAJGEN Norrie also presented Meritorious Service Medals to three AAS staff members, two of whom had been 8th Intake Apprentices: WO1 William Rollason, Fitter & Turner; and WO2 Noel Scott, Electrician. A familiarisation tour of

Army units on 26 May by Chief of Defence Force Staff (CDFS) GEN Francis George Hassett included AAS and the Army School of Music, where he inspected an Apprentice Guard of Honour.

Visits

Major General J.W. NORRIE, the General Officer Commanding Training Command, visited AAS on Thursday, 29 Apr 76. As a part of his visit Major General Norrie attended the Sergeants' Mess where he presented Meritorious Service Medals to WO1 W.A.ROLLASON, WO1 L. WILKINS and WO2 N.M. SCOTT.

General F.G. HASSETT, Chief of the Defence Force Staff, visited AAS and the Army School of Music on Wednesday, 26 May 76, as a part of his general familiarisation tour of Army units. On his arrival the CDFS inspected a Guard of Honour on the parade ground.

Another event requiring a Guard of Honour was the Royal Melbourne Show, which was opened on 18 September by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Winneke. And a visit by MAJGEN JS Whitelaw, Chief of Personnel on 22 October 1976 also received a Guard of Honour.

"Wonthaggi Will Never Be The Same

Amongst much mutterings in shower blocks, cries of forced labour etc., A Coy headed off to Wonthaggi State Coal Mines for the weekend 2/3 Oct 76 to undertake a task of refurbishment of the mines. This programme was started by the local Lions Club, who asked for assistance from the School.

The mines are the State's oldest and have not operated since 1968 after being worked since about 1908. The idea of refurbishment is to make the mines, the mines buildings and surrounding bush into a reserve/park for the benefit of visitors to the area.

We left for Wonthaggi on the Saturday morning with five out of seven staff members discussing what a great formal dinner was had on the Friday night. After organising a "hoochie spot on the local football ovals - with 11' x 11' tents, we then moved to the area of the mines to start work. …"

To read the rest of this story, and for other events of 1976, members can find all of the AAS Journals on the Archive page of the Website.

Army Museum Bandiana – 50 years

From https://armymuseumbandiana.com.au

It is also 50 years since the Army Museum at Bandiana was moved to its current building, a WW2 era warehouse constructed in 1940.

On 31 March 1976 the "new" building was opened by the Director General of Supply-Army BRIG JA Munro AO. Initially established as the Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps General Museum in 1972, it was increased on 1 July 1997, by the addition of the Royal Australian Corps of Transport Museum, the Australian Army Catering Corps Historical Collection, and the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Historical Collection, forming the Army Museum Bandiana.

The Museum was renamed Australian Army Museum Bandiana on 23 October 1997 and opened by the Deputy Chief of Army MAJGEN JC Hartley AO.

In 2009, Australian military historian and journalist John Laffin's [note 1] collection of memorabilia was added.

The Museum was further enhanced by the integration of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, the Royal Australian Army Dental Corps and the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps Historical Collections, followed in 2012/13 by the addition of the Royal Australian Army Pay Corps Collection. It also includes collections from the Royal Australian Army Chaplains Department, 2/23rd Australian Infantry Battalion, Australian Army Psychology Corps, Australian Women's Army Service, Australian Service Nurses, Army Apprentices, Vietnam Veterans, and the United Nations.

Above, an early photo of the Apprentice Corner in the Museum.

Note: The Museum is currently closed for refurbishment until at least next month, March 2026. Works have included repairing the roof, replacing the outside sheeting and demolishing/rebuilding the public toilets.

Note 1: Refer to *https://fffaif.org.au/?p=6769* for details.

Recognition for those who served in Darwin following Cyclone Tracy in 1974 – update

From an email on 25 November 2025 by Ed Zielinski, 23rd Intake Vehicle Mechanic

Dear ADF Cyclone Tracy Award Registrant,

Update: 24th November 2025

Great news, our e-petition (EN8433) was considered by the Petitions Committee and certified as meeting the requirements for petitions. It was presented to the House on 24 November 2025 and has been referred to the Prime Minister. Under the petition requirements, Ministers are asked to respond to a referred petition within 90 days.

Please save this email with our e-petition details which can be found on the Parliament's website at - Refer to the link for further updates:- *https://www.aph.gov.au/e-petitions/petition/EN8433*

The fight goes on....

Respectfully,

Gordon Lowe, Chris Mitchell & Bill Furey
Convenors
ADF Cyclone Tracy Award Team

https://www.adfcyclonetracyaward.com.au
email: webmaster@adfcyclonetracyaward.com.au

AWM updates

F-111 A8-134 arrives

Last November, the Memorial's RAAF RF-111C A8-134 aircraft was delivered from Mitchell into the new Anzac Atrium and reassembled with the support of RAAF History and Heritage Branch members. Aircraft A8-134 served with the RAAF from 1973 to 2010, including missions over East Timor as part of INTERFET in 1999. *Click here to watch the video*.

Preview of the new Anzac Hall – 4 December 2025

At the Friends of the Memorial annual Xmas get together, attendees were treated to a special preview of the new Anzac Hall and Atrium. While the Atrium was nearing completion and opened to the public on 15 December last year, Anzac Hall is still a little way off from opening. The latest advice is that Anzac Hall is set for completion by Anzac Day this year.

Photos from the preview of the AWM Atrium on 4 December 2025
Above – HMAS Brisbane bridge and RF-111 A8-134

Above – Black Hawk A25-112 and ASLAV ARN 16310
Below – Black Hawk and ASLAV between the original building and the new Anzac Hall

The Anzac Atrium is the covered area (Glazed Link) that connects the original main building and the new Anzac Hall. It includes a café/restaurant and will provide a function venue. Large technology objects, representing the three services and including: the bridge from HMAS Brisbane, an ASLAV, a Black Hawk, and RF-111 are displayed. HMAS Brisbane saw operational service in the Vietnam War (1969 and 1971) and during the Gulf War (1990-91). The ASLAV is considered to be the longest-serving ADF vehicle in the Middle East, and the RF-111 served as a reconnaissance aircraft and flew missions over East Timor in 1999. The Black Hawk saw peacekeeping operations in East Timor, Pakistan Assist, PNG Assist, Bougainville and Fiji.

The Atrium roof (seen in the image to the right) comprises support trusses on which sit inflatable ethylene tetrafluoroethylene (ETFE) panels that feature light weight, high strength, chemical and UV resistance and self-cleaning ability. The sandstone cladding on the new curved wall on the left of the image was sourced from the re-opened Wondabyne Quarry (Gosford Quarry), which was specifically reopened to match the original 1930s stone for the new main entrance and Anzac Hall.

The upper level of Anzac Hall will display some artefacts from the National Collection that have not been seen by the public other than in various stages of conservation in the Mitchell storage. These include the V2 Rocket and Meillerwagen, a C-130 Hercules cockpit, and the CH-47D Chinook.

G for George will be the centrepiece for Australians in Bomber Command, and other exhibits will include: the Sydney-Emden battle of 1914, the Japanese mini submarine in Sydney Harbour, the Battle of Milne Bay, Sydney Harbour Under Attack, and Kandahar Workhorse.

The Lower Galleries of Anzac Hall will feature more recent conflicts, such as Australia's commitments to the Middle East and Afghanistan, and Australian Peacekeeping operations.

Last Post Ceremonies and Roll of Honour name projections

In September last year, AAAA Committee Member, Wayne Davis, 50th Intake Electrical Fitter (right) had the honour of speaking as an ADF reader at the Last Post Ceremony (LPC) which occurs daily at the Australian War Memorial. He commemorated his great uncle's (Sergeant Alfred Arthur Amos Davis} service in the First World War. The YouTube link is here: *https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=zRldni06Fjo*.

Each evening and early morning, names from the AWM Roll of Honour are projected onto the façade of the Hall of Memory. Individual names are projected in groups by conflict or operation. Each name is projected once every 3 months. See *https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/honour-rolls/roll-honour-name-projections*.

Those who attended the 2018 Reunion in Canberra may recall the Last Post Ceremony on 26 April, when CPL Ronald Engstrom, 18th Intake Carpenter & Joiner was commemorated. He was killed in action in South Vietnam on 30 January 1970. His name will be projected next on Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at 6.10 am.

The names of all 10 Apprentices who died while on overseas active service are listed on the Honour Board on the AAAA Website, here: *https://austarmyapprentice.org/honour-board/*.

Our committee

http://austarmyapprentice.org/about/committee/

Patron:	Major General Andrew Freeman AM (Retd), 40th Intake Electrical Fitter		
Office-bearers:		***Committee Members:***	
President	Keith Lowe, 22nd F&T	**Heritage Officer**	Rob Minato, 31st ET
Vice-president	Greg Haggett, 40th P&G	**Membership Secretary**	Graeme Smail, 35th ET
Secretary	Simon Brooks, 40th MM	**Welfare Officer**	Grant Cotterill, 38th P&G
Treasurer	Richard Pike, 21st VM	**Public Officer**	Jeff Heron, 21st RM
Ordinary Committee Members:			
Member 1	Liz Fitzgibbon, 40th ET	**Member 4**	Bill Amor, 20th F&T
Member 2	Bob Clarke, 22nd VM	**Member 5**	Steve Doudle, 25th VM
Member 3	Mick O'Donnell, 22nd Bricklayer	**Member 6**	Wayne Davis, 50th Elec Fitter
Appointees:		***Regional Representatives:***	
Hon Trustee	Jim Hislop OAM, 9th F&T	**NT**	Charles (Bill) Allom, 25th VM
Legal Adviser	Rod Perkins, 24th F&T	**South Qld**	Brian Daley OAM, 14th VM
Auditor	Gary Lancaster, 22nd F&T	**NSW**	Richard Pike, 21st VM
Chaplain	Rev Canon Alan Kelb OAM, 25th F&T	**ACT**	Jeff Heron, 21st RM
Assistant Secretary	Graeme Smail, 35th ET	**Vic North**	Rob Minato, 31st ET
Merchandise Officer	Richard Pike, 21st VM	**Vic Metro**	Ted Buchan, 46th ET
Newsletter Editor	Jeff Heron, 21st RM	**SA**	Michael Thompson, 26th VM
Social Media Admin	Simon Brooks, 40th MM	**WA**	Bob Coventry, 22nd RM
		Tas	Steve Bramich, 23rd C&J
		Vic Central, Vic South & North Qld	all vacant

Life Members

Frank Poole, 2011, 10th Architectural Draughtsman (Inaugural President) – deceased
Jack Westernhagen, 2011, 3rd Vehicle Mechanic (Inaugural Vice President) – deceased
Brian Daley OAM, 2014, 14th Vehicle Mechanic (SQld Regional Representative)
Ian Morris, 2015, 12th Vehicle Mechanic (Past Webmaster)
Jeff Heron, 2017, 21st Radio Mechanic (past Website Forum Moderator and Assistant Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Public Officer and ACT Regional Representative)
Richard Pike, 2025, 21st Vehicle Mechanic (Treasurer, Merchandise Officer and NSW Regional Representative)

Contributions to The Apprentice About

The Apprentice About (TAA) is published quarterly (in February, May, August and November). Contributions are greatly appreciated – please email them to the Editor at *news@austarmyapprentice.org* or mail them to the address on the first page. Submissions close on the 15th of the month preceding each edition.

Disclaimer

Information, views and opinions expressed in "*The* Apprentice *About*" originate from many different sources and contributors throughout our membership. Please note that content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of the AAAA.

Jon Rogers' "tac signs"

Jon, 21st Intake Fitter and Turner regularly opens (about monthly) Facebook posts for tac sign orders with a limited (often short) response period. He is currently working on the 82nd order which closed on 24 January.

If you want one or more tac signs, and you aren't a Facebook user, ask someone you know who is, and is a member of the "*Army Apprentices we; were the cream of Australian Youth*" Group, to order for you. If you don't know anyone who can help you, let me know at *news@austarmyapprentice.org* and I'll see what I can do for you.

Current costs range from $3.20 for a 3" square sign to $6.50 for a 4" x 9" sign. Standard designs range from small "Tagged by a 'Intake No'", through medium-sized Intake over Year with an AAS badge and your corps badge with appropriate colours, to larger, bespoke designs – including National and AAS flags, medal ribbons, "*Truckies Carry our Country*" on RAEME colours, "*Nomads*" stickers, WAGs (wives and girlfriends) stickers, etc. Just ask him!

Stop Press

Garry BEVEN OAM, 24th Intake Vehicle Mechanic

"For service to the community through a range of roles." Congratulations Garry.

Bowls Tasmania: President, 2013-2018; and Bowls North Representative, 2012-2018.

Bowls North: President, 2018-2019; Board Member, 2011-2012; Member, Match Committee, 2011; and Member, Pennant Division Subcommittee.

Cosgrove Park Bowls Club: President; Committee Member, 2008-2012; and Bar Manager.

Royal Launceston Show, Royal National Agricultural and Pastoral Society of Tasmania: Vice-President Operations and Acting Chief Executive Officer; and Board Member, 1998-2002.

Launceston Esk Market: President, 1997; and Market Coordinator, 1996-2009.

Community and ex-Service Welfare: Level 3 Pensions and Welfare Advocate, Launceston Sub-Branch, Returned and Services League of Australia, current; Attendee, Deputy Commissioners Consultative Forum, Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2024; and Chairman, The University/Mowbray Sports Club, 2004-2006.