



PARATUS

1ST ARMOURD
REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN 16 930 055 791

W: www.paratus.org.au

ISSN 2208-2433 (Online)

EDITOR: Vacant

E: comms@paratus.org.au

PATRON: MAJGEN Craig Orme DSC, AM, CSC, (Retd)

PRESIDENT: Keith (Mel) Meloncelli

SECRETARY: Russ James E: secretary@paratus.org.au
PO Box 301, Mentone VIC 319



1st ARMOURD REGIMENT Theatres of Operation

Japan (1st Armd Car Sqn)

Sth Vietnam

Theatre Honour

STH VIETNAM 1968-1971

Battle Honours

Coral – Balmoral

Hat Dich

Binh Ba

Rhodesia

Cambodia

East Timor

Iraq

Solomon Islands

Afghanistan

Newsletter Contributions

The views and comments expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributor and not necessarily endorsed by the current committee.

Whilst every care regarding all information is exercised, it should not necessarily be taken as absolute historical fact.



In this Issue

- ANZAC Day 1 AR Kangaroo Island
- Committee 2020/2021
- Secretary's Report
- Association Gathering – 10 July 2021 at Broadford
- Honour Roll
- Around the Association
- Health and Wellbeing
- Prostate Cancer and Erectile Dysfunction
- Port Macquarie Reunion
- Defence News
- Who is Really Responsible?

ANZAC Day

1AR, Kingskote Kangaroo Island ANZAC Day





Committee 2020/2021

ABN 16930055791
PO Box 301, Mentone. VIC 3194
secretary@paratus.org.au

PATRON

MAJGEN Craig Orme DSC, AM, CSC, (Retd)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Keith Meloncelli
president@paratus.org.au

VICE PRESIDENT

Dean Martin
vicepresident@paratus.org.au

SECRETARY

Russ James
secretary@paratus.org.au

TREASURER

Werner Golla
treasurer@paratus.org.au

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Currently Vacant
comms@paratus.org.au

1 AR LO

Mark Reid
juniorvp@paratus.org.au

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Currently Vacant
Specialprojects1@paratus.org.au

COMMITTEE

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Graeme Unmack
Specialprojects2@paratus.org.au

RECRUITMENT MANAGER

Currently Vacant
recruitment@paratus.org.au

VIC REP

Iain Reynolds
vicrep@paratus.org.au

NSW REP

Mick Payne
nswrep@paratus.org.au

SA REP

Mark Reid
sarep@paratus.org.au

QLD REP

Brian Hatfield
qldrep@paratus.org.au

NT REP

Peter Still
Ntrep@paratus.org.au

TAS REP

Jim Semmens
tasrep@paratus.org.au

WA REP

Pat Deeker
warep@paratus.org.au

RAAC CORPORATION DELEGATE

Chris Fenton OAM
liaison@paratus.org.au

SUPPORT

Q STORE

Kevin Heyward
storeroom@paratus.org.au

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Phill Hoseason - Smith
itmanager@paratus.org.au

Links to Web Sites and Face Book Pages

Web Sites

1st ARMOURED REGIMENT ASSOCIATION INC.
www.paratus.org.au

RAAC CORPORATION
www.raaccorp ltd.org.au

ROYAL TANK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
www.royaltankregiment.com

Facebook Pages

1st ARMD REGT ASSOC MEMBERS ONLY
www.facebook.com/groups/112757492512931/

1st ARMD REGT ASSOC SOCIAL PAGE
www.facebook.com/groups/106848019339045/

1ST ARMOURED REGIMENT FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/1ArmdRegt/



Report from the Secretary - Russ James

Secretary, 1st Armoured Regiment Association Inc.
PO Box 301, Mentone. VIC 3194

E: secretary@paratus.org.au

B: Bendigo Bank
1st Armoured Regiment Association Inc.
BSB: 633-000 Account: 161498159



Secretary's Report May/June

Membership Report

The current membership, as at 26 May 2021, is 496, and this includes 22 members who have not yet renewed their membership with effect 1 February this year. These members remain 'on the books' until 1 August 2021 at which time they will be deemed as 'resigned' as they did not renew.

It is suspected that many of those who have not renewed their membership have either moved or changed their phone and/or email addresses.

The Association cannot afford to lose around 4.4% of our membership, particularly without knowing the reasons.

Minutes of last Management Committee Meeting

Decisions made at the last Management Committee meeting on 21 May 2021 include:

- a. The purchase of an Association Banner for the Tasmanian Branch of the Association,
- b. Ratification of Membership approvals previously made by email,
- c. That all Spares and Tools, identified in the Audit conducted by the ARN 169005 Board of Management, be regarded as part of the Complete Equipment Schedule (CES) and retained permanently, and
- d. The allocation of a budget of \$1,000 for the conduct of a gathering at Broadford RSL on 10 July 21 which is to include Memorial Services for Peter Moore, MID and Peter Lukeis; the presentation of Life Membership Certificates, cutting of the Birthday Cake for the Regiment's 72nd Birthday and light refreshments. Full details are to be distributed via MailChimp when planning is a little further advanced.

Scholarships

Scholarship Application forms and supporting documentation were finalised and accepted at the Management Committee meeting. It was further agreed that:

- a. educational scholarships were to be available for students entering years 9, 10, 11 and 12,
- b. the closing dates for applications for the educational scholarship would be 30 April each year, but 30 June for 2021
- c. the decision date for educational scholarships should be no later than 30 May (31 July 2021) of each year,
- d. educational scholarship funds would be paid to the successful applicant by 15 June (15 August 2021) of each year,
- e. the current documentation would be trialled for the next 12 months and reviewed after the first round of applications,
- f. the closing date for all sporting scholarships would be 31 December each year and would be applicable to all selections made in the preceding 12 months, and
- h. applicants for all scholarships were to be advised that where it was not possible to differentiate between two or more scholarship applicants, a ballot would be used (method to be determined).

DONATIONS

Keith Scott
Kevin Jaenke
Keith Morris
John Bailey
Kevin Bell
Des Mahar

NEW MEMBERS

Martin Corbett
Ivan Balas
Vicki Key, OAM
Jo Rogers
Bryan Roach

Association Gathering – 10 July 2021 at Broadford RSL

Activity Outline

Subject to any restrictions that may be placed on 'gatherings' in the State of Victoria due to COVID, the Association is planning to gather at 1100 hours (11.00 AM AEST) on Saturday 10 July 2021 at the Broadford RSL located at 27 Murchison St Broadford, Victoria.

Indicative activities (subject to change) and approximate timings (also subject to change) are as follows:

- a. 1100 – formal welcome by Peter Branagan, OAM (President of the Broadford RSL)
- b. 1103 – welcome by Mel Meloncelli (President of the 1AR Association)
- c. 1105 – Reading of those recently deceased and the Ode (Chris McLeod)
- d. 1110 – Memorial Service for Peter Lukeis
- e. 1130 – Memorial Service for Peter Moore, MID
- f. 1150 – formal Toast to Peter Lukeis and Peter Moore, MID
- g. 1200 – Presentation of Life Membership Certificates to Ron Bell, John Brooker OAM, Bob Kennard, Roger Powell AM and Peter Rosemond CSC, OAM
- h. 1230 – Cutting of the Regimental Birthday cake to celebrate the 72nd Birthday of the Regiment (Mel Meloncelli and youngest Association member present, or a serving member of the 1st Armoured Regiment if available) whilst Regimental March (Radetzky March) is being played
- i. 1235 – Toast to the Regiment
- j. 1240 – Conclusion (Mel Meloncelli)
- k. 1250 - Light refreshments and dispersal

Attendance

At this stage, attendance is likely to be restricted to around 75 to 80 persons due to restrictions imposed by RSL Victoria (1 person per four square metres). Families of both Peter Moore and Peter Lukeis have been invited as well as the partners of those to be presented with Life Membership Certificates. Approximately five members of the Management Committee, plus their partners, are also likely to attend.

Therefore, members who wish to attend should notify the Secretary at secretary@paratus.org.au as soon as possible to ensure they will be able to attend. The Secretary is to establish a 'waiting list' (based on date/time of receipt of email or phone call) for those wishing to attend once the limit of 70 persons has been reached. Those on the 'waiting list' are to be contacted if places become available.

Costs to Participate

The Management Committee has established a budget for this 'gathering' and the only cost for members will be the purchase of beverages from the bar. Tea and coffee are to be provided.

Conclusion

Any concerns, issues or questions should be directed to the Secretary by email to the address provided above.



*Have you Moved House! Have you Changed your Email Address?
Are you lost in the Wilderness – cutoff from the Association?*

Did you tell the Secretary?

It is never too late!

www.secretary.org.au



IRONSIDES

2020 Edition



**The Journal of the
Royal Australian Armoured Corps**

<https://ironside.partica.online/>



1ST ARMOURD
REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION INC.

Honour Roll

Killed in Action

TPR James Kerr (13 May 1969)

Died of Wounds

TPR Mick Hannaford (14 December 1968)

Died within the prescribed period

WO2 Noel Lowes (6 July 1971)

Killed Accidentally whilst on Military duty in a Training environment

TPR A. M. Jordan (14 October 1962)

CFN B. Silver (LAD) (19 November 1962)

SGT R. Morrison (17 August 1965)

LT A. J. Massey (7 July 1982)

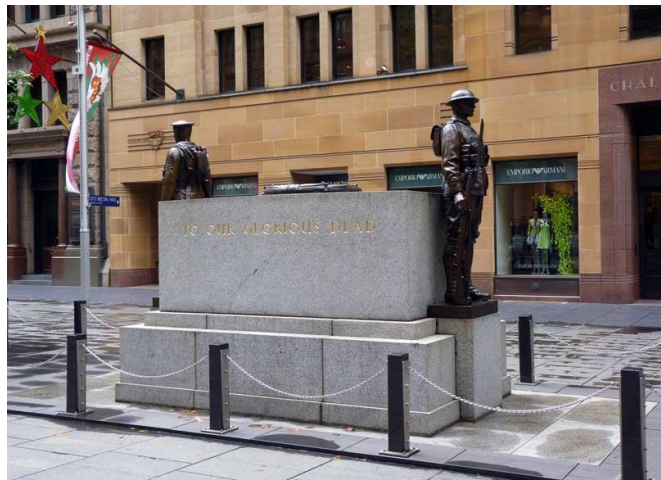
TPR A. Patterson (7 June 1984)

SGT R. G. Murray (9 July 1986)

The Association recognises and acknowledges those former members of the Regiment who were either KIA or DOW whilst serving with units such as the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam, 3rd Cavalry Regiment or any other units in any conflict since the Regiment was formed in 1949.

The Association also recognises and acknowledges those former members of the Regiment who have passed since the end of a conflict and who may or may not have been recognised by the Department of Veterans' Affairs as entitled to an Official Commemoration. Hundreds are known to have passed of wounds or illnesses and diseases that may have been contracted during military service.

Dedicated to those 1st Armoured Regiment Soldiers that made the ultimate sacrifice



**They Shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
'LEST WE FORGET'**

Deaths Reported Since February 2021 Newsletter

John Billings 9 November 2020

Larry Hartnett April 2021

Barrie Warwick May 2021

Allen Chanter (WWII) May 2021

Robert (Winga) Williams 20 May 2021

Graham Berghofer 6 May 2021

Lynda Corcoran (nee Barnes) – June 2021

May they Rest in Peace in the green fields beyond.

Around the Association

A group of association members made the trip out to the Regiment to participate in an event to highlight the history of 169041 the atomic tank.

A story for a local paper on the history of 169041 was to be a feature article. They were also shown the current vehicles that equip the Regiment.

Those in attendance were, Mark Reid, Barry Filsell, Chris Large and Barry Bennier.



DIONSON

a Mk 3 Centurion Type K
of an atomic test at Emu
outh Australia.

nk was placed 400 metres
n the epicentre of the blast

and had been pushed back a few metres from where it sat.

It was then driven back from the site and decontaminated before the now dubbed "Nuclear Tank" was used in the Vietnam War, where it was penetrated by an RPG.

The tank again survived and it now

resides at Edinburgh. Lance Corporal Dion Caskey said the tank's story was remarkable.

"Not only is the tank the standard of how, as custodians of the First Armoured Regiment, we always want to be better in some way

"I think when it comes to these

06/05/2021

VICTORIAN ANZAC LONG LUNCH 23RD APRIL 2021

This year's ANZAC Day march & services were again scaled down in limited numbers. We were able to hold an ANZAC Long Lunch which was held at the Emerald Hotel Friday 23rd April 2021. We had a very good turnout with 35 people attending. We were lucky enough to have 4 members of the Executive Committee join us for the day. Chris McLeod did a wonderful job at reciting the Ode to remember all those that had fallen. Our oldest member John Hawton, who first joined the Army in 1952 was accompanied by his son-in-law Craig. John managed to survive the lunch only to fall face first onto the ground waiting for Craig to let them into his home. They both spent an enjoyable evening in the Emergency Department of the local hospital with John getting patched up. I am sure they both would have received an earful from his daughter Jo when they got back home. But overall a very enjoyable day was had by all (even John) with the staff of the Emerald Hotel once again looking after us.



Australian Army Tank Museum

Open day, MAR 27th, 2021

The first museum open day for 2021 was held on March 27, although was designated the M113 open day, but we had a few tanks in the mix as well. 169005 was able to demonstrate its traverse & stab capability now operational after fitting new batteries. Association members that work at the museum and were on hand during the day were, Bushy Coutts, John Blackwell, Icky Smith, Tony Crook and Tubby Brooker. A number of association members attended.

Photos by Carolyn Blackwell.



Sausage sizzle



John Blackwell, Icky Smith, Graeme Woodham, Tubby Brooker



169005



Spic Cornish, Bushy Coutts



Tony Crook, Jason Turk, Spic Cornish, Tony Harstedt
Icky Smith



Tubby Brooker, Graeme Woodham (Curator) Icky Smith

Restoration of Leopard-27742

"In around 2018 three of the 27742 tank crew were travelling around Tasmania and we came into Beaconsfield and came across our old "C" Squadron (Reserve) Leopard tank 27742. I saw the ARN and knew straight away that this was our tank when we handed it over to be de-commissioned in 2005.

It was looking very untidy as she was parked in the elements since 2011 when she had been craned into her final spot.

We chatted about how it would be great to get together and spruce her up and so began a couple of years of planning and organising to re-paint and place her tactical signs as she was when we passed her over to be de-commissioned.

A number of phone calls and emails were made and a liaison person at Beaconsfield RSL, Andrew McKenzie stepped up and managed a number of things from their end and so it was up to me to organise all of the manpower from around Australia. The last crew on this tank were Crew Commander Sgt David Key, Driver L/Cpl Gary Coles, Loader, Cpl Chris Henry and Gunner Trooper Ivan Balas. All of the crew as well as the other members of the "C" Sqn Reserve Troop came on board and they were; Graeme Barr, Bob Sanders, Dave Paterson, Simon Whitehead, Dutchy Soutar, John Pearse.

Gary Coles travelled from Katherine NT and Chris Henry from NSW and the rest were from Victoria, and Dutchy from Tasmania. We all met at Beaconsfield from Wednesday 21st April and worked continuously on her until Saturday 24 April 2021.

I would like to thank Launceston Bunnings for kindly donating the paint and other sundry items for our project.

The idea was to tarp her up from prying eyes and then to have Senator Jacqui Lambie unveil her to the Anzac Day crowd in Beaconsfield, with approximately 1000 people in attendance.

Julia Roberts the Beaconsfield RSL President invited Gary Coles to be their Guest Speaker during their Anzac Day service and his talk centred on our tank and the very first tank to tank battle in WW1."

Photos and article by David Key BM and Bar

with help from Vicki Key OAM





2021 at Beaconsfield RSL Park, Tasmania
the original crew

The hard-working party of men from (L) to (R)
Chris Henry, Gary Coles, Graeme Barr, David Key,
Dutchy Soutar, Bob Sanders, Dave Paterson,
Simon Whitehead



A job well done, 27742 now complete with her new
paint job and tac signs and name "Copus Carious" =
COP CAR as three of her last crew were serving
Victoria Policemen.



The crew of 34A - (L) to (R) David Key, Ivan Balas, Chris Henry
and Gary Coles

QUORN CAMPING WEEKEND

Highlights – the diesel/petrol car – the flag lowering ceremony - offenders will not be identified. The raffle organised by Richard James – Andy Rule – Lou Walker who donated the prizes raised \$618 for the – Dog Squad - Companion Assistance Dogs for combat related Issues, well done to the 21 members who attended and supported. The Binh Ba port bottle raised \$290 not bad for a \$20 port and finally Team Swinfield won the Quorn Cup after a close tussle

Mark Reid (SA Rep and 1AR LO)



Health and Well-being

For several years this Association has been regularly criticised, in the electronic environment, for failing to 'articulate in practical terms how the Association addresses the issue of caring for those less fortunate' and having articulated the means, would then enact the goal.

Rule 2 Purposes, sub-rule (4) of the Association Constitution states, 'promote and advance or otherwise assist the welfare and well-being of members', their dependents and next-of-kin, etc' and Rule 2 (5) states, 'provide all possible assistance to members in a practical and advisory capacity'.

In a policy document, 'Ex Service Organisations and Groups Providing Welfare, Health and Well Being for Veterans, Ex Service People and their Families, published by the Association in March 2019', it was stated that the Association did not have the expertise, experience, personnel, or financial resources or indeed the wherewithal to take on such a considerable and risk-filled role such as the provision of services related to welfare, health and well-being. Indeed, and as stated in the Policy, an Advocacy Training and Development Programme (ATDP) had been established under the auspices of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). This programme was implemented to train individuals to a number of levels across a number of disciplines.

Members who have completed training under this programme are generally employed by or volunteer with fully accredited Ex-Services organisations such as the RSL who have the financial capacity to take out the appropriate level of insurance that is required.

Detailed explanations of the blueprints and frameworks that encompass ATDP are provided on the DVA website. It is not difficult for most to understand that the provision of services related to Welfare and Well-Being, including financial advice, is now an incredibly multifaceted area. In addition, organisations, including Associations, must be registered as an Ex-Service Organisation prior to the commencement of any formal training. The necessary insurance cover cannot be attained until detailed training programmes have been undertaken.

The policy document published in March 2019 provided members and their families with a wide range of organisations that were indeed authorised by DVA to provide services which were beyond the scope of Associations such as the 1st Armoured Regiment Association.

Has the situation changed in the intervening years? No, the area of providing advice on financial, welfare and well-being for members of the ex-service community has become even more complex and should not be undertaken by well-meaning volunteers who are not qualified to provide advice in any of these areas. The policy document published in March 2019 indicated that the Association was aware of a number of ex-RAAC personnel who had been accredited under the ATDP. Any member who would like to contact one of these members should contact the Secretary of the Association, or one of the State Representatives, to determine contact details. In addition, members were made aware that the Accredited Advocate Register (AAR) on the ATDP website provides veterans and their families with a quick and easy way to identify and contact ex-service organisations (ESOs) which have accredited advocates in their area.

Over the last twelve or so months, a number of queries have been handled by the Secretary in relation to significant risk-related health issues as well as claims for compensation, and what to do in the period prior, and immediately after, a member's passing. In all cases, these queries have been directed to the nearest and most suitably qualified organisation such as Overwatch Australia, Lifeline, Legacy or an accredited black hat Advocate. In several cases, support has also been either directly provided or coordinated for those in a range of health institutions.

Does the Association publicly provide details of any of these cases? No, and it never will because such information is often confidential, and it is not the business of those who do not need, or should not, know.

Any issues, concerns or questions relating to this topic should be directed to secretary@paratus.org.au or to your State Representative (contact details available at www.paratus.org.au).

Prostate Cancer and Erectile Dysfunction

This article relates to two topics that men in general and soldiers do not want to talk about or admit that they are even interested. But for many who served in Vietnam, both of these health-related issues have had a significant impact on their lives. Please read and if necessary, talk to your mates!

Have you been diagnosed with Malignant Neoplasm of the Prostate (Prostate Cancer) and served in South Vietnam, and now you are trying to work out if your Defence Service may have contributed to your cancer?

Well, if you had served in SVN for 30 days or more then the act of claiming from DVA is very simple and straight forward – remember what we were taught about keeping it simple – and shown further below is the only factor you need to quote on your DVA claim form.

What is a factor? Well almost every injury or condition a service person is likely to encounter is covered under the Repatriation Medical Authority (RMA) list of injuries and conditions and these help DVA assessors when assessing your claims. And these different injuries and/or conditions are divided into Statement of Principles (SOP) then 'Reasonable Hypothesis' (War Service) and 'Balance of Probabilities' (Normal Service) then each SOP has factors that you will need to meet to have your claim accepted.

Prostate Cancer

Prostate Cancer comes under SOP 53/2014, and the Factor you just need to place on your claim form is:

SOP 53/2014, factor 6 (b) – being on land in Vietnam, for more than 30 days.

Simple, and if you go on to claim alcohol and/or smoking caused your cancer you have to show that these all happened 'certain' number of years before the cancer was diagnosed where doing what I have suggested above doesn't matter on number of years etc, you just had to have served in SVN for 30 or more days!

- (b) being:
 - (i) on land in Vietnam; or
 - (ii) at sea in Vietnamese waters; or
 - (iii) on board a vessel and consuming potable water supplied on that vessel, when the water supply had been produced by evaporative distillation of estuarine Vietnamese waters;
- for a cumulative period of at least 30 days, at least five years before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the prostate.

Erectile Dysfunction

Now some people diagnosed with Prostate Cancer may also suffer erectile dysfunction (ED) and this may have been caused by your treatment for Prostate Cancer?

ED comes under SOP 43/2013, and there are two possible factors that may pertain to you:

Factor 6 (h) or (k), depending on your treatment for cancer:

- (h) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation for cancer, where the lower abdomen, pelvis, penis or perineal region was in the field of radiation, within the ten years before the clinical onset of erectile dysfunction,
- (k) having surgery to the prostate, excluding biopsy, within the three months before the clinical onset of erectile dysfunction.

I hope that assists any of our brothers recently diagnosed with Prostate Cancer and undergoing treatment, and last point is find yourselves a good Advocate and have them assist your possible claim.

Bob SHEPPARD
RSLWA Volunteer Advocate 3

0408 224 537



(ex-B San)



13 months out to our reunion and it is still planned to go ahead for July 2022 in Port Macquarie where the weather is always fine and the beer/wine refreshing.

Our latest numbers are;

Members attending 66

Registered 118

Meet & Greet 114

Dinner 119

Breakfast 82

There are plenty of places left if you wish to come along.

All who had previously registered do not have to re-register and were contacted by email in late March 21 to confirm their intent to attend in 2022. 44 have replied of which only 2 withdrew.

If you haven't replied, then please let us know; if you missed the email and would like another sent then contact us and a fresh email will head your way.

For new registrations there is an updated Registration Form available on the Association's website and if requested can be sent to you.

If you had booked with Rydges for 2021 they should have contacted, you to move your booking to the new dates. They have again offered accommodation packages for reunion attendees. [Their standard king room or twin room \(including parking and breakfast\) for 2 nights is \\$385, 3 nights \\$589 and 4 nights \\$729. These prices are valid till 30 Oct 21; however, bookings won't be open till Jul 21.](#) If you plan to stay longer then contact Rydges in Port Macquarie directly to negotiate with them, remember to let them know you will be attending the **1st Armoured Regiment Association Reunion.**

The Breakwall Caravan Park will be accepting reunion bookings from **Aug 21**. There have been some staffing changes; if enquiring about an existing or a new booking let them know you will be attending the 1st Armoured Regiment Association Reunion.

Port Macquarie is experiencing an unseasonal increase in holiday and accommodation booking this year, with most, if not all places currently booked out, whether this will continue into 2022 is unknown but the advice we wish to give to those attending or planning to attend the Reunion is to book early.

Due to the postponement anyone who registered whose circumstances change and you can no longer attend then all monies paid for Registrations, Meet and Greet, Reunion Dinner and Recovery Breakfast will be fully refunded. Members should email the Treasurer (treasurer@paratus.org.au) providing BSB, Account Number and Account Names for an EFT refund.

More news to follow as it happens and if you have any questions, please contact either:-

Association Secretary at (secretary@paratus.org.au)

or

Mick Payne Chair of the PM22 Reunion Sub-Committee (ChairPM22Reunion@paratus.org.au)

or

Johnny Atkinson (SecPM22Reunion@paratus.org.au)

Port Macquarie attractions and amenities – click on the (url) link: [portmacquarieinfo](#)



1ST ARMoured
REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION INC.

1st Armoured Regiment Association

Port Macquarie Reunion 2022 - Registration Form

Separate Registration forms are to be submitted for guests (two guests per form). Places at the Reunion are to be reserved in the order that Registrations are received. Registrations fees may be paid after the situation with COVID-19 is clearer.

**Registrations close 25 March 22 and full payment is required by 1 May 2022

Only use this form if this is a NEW registration made after 1 March 2021

Personal and Contact Details

	Title/Rank	First Name	Surname	Preferred Name	Member No
Name					
Wife/Partner					
Postal Address					
Home Phone		Mobile		Email	
Corps/Unit/Regiment/Squadron/Troop details including years and location served:					
Events				No. Attending	Total \$
Registration Fee – See Note 1	\$35 per person (Member and Wife/Partner)				
	\$40 per person for non-members				
I/We would like to attend the following functions:					
Fri 22 Jul 2022 - Meet and Greet	\$50 pp members	\$55 pp non-members			
Sat 23 Jul 2022 - Reunion Dinner	\$120 pp members	\$135 pp non-members			
Sun 24 Jul 2022 - Recovery Breakfast	\$15 pp members	\$17 pp non-members			
				Total Cost	\$
Special Dietary Requirements:					
Accommodation: Please circle your likely Accommodation preference: Rydges, Caravan Park, Other					

Please Note: All travel and accommodation for the Reunion weekend are the responsibility of attendees.

Payment Details: When sending this completed form the registration fee may be paid, either by an electronic funds transfer to BSB: 633-000, Account No: 161498159 and Reference 'PM21 REG Surname' Important or by Cheque or Money Order to: Secretary, 1st Armd Regt Assoc, PO Box 301 MENTONE VIC 3194

Subsequent Payments:

On receipt of this Registration Form, the Association Treasurer is to prepare and send an itemised invoice to the member's address. Lump sum, part payments or instalments are acceptable.

Disclaimer – In submitting this form, you agree to the following:

All members, their partners and guests attending the Port Macquarie Reunion do so at their own risk. The Association and Reunion committee accept no responsibility for personal injury, property damage or any loss that maybe suffered through participation in any event/s comprising the 1st Armoured Regiment Association 2022 Reunion.

Signature: Date:

Scan or copy and Email to: SecPM22Reunion@paratus.org.au, cc to Secretary@paratus.org.au

Or post to: John Atkinson, Secretary, Reunion Sub-Committee

6 Forrest St, LAKE ALBERT NSW 2650

Note 1. Due to the Coronavirus the Registration Fees does not have to be paid at this time. Any Registration Fees that are paid will be fully refunded if it is necessary to postpone or cancel the reunion due to Coronavirus

Army chooses Abrams tank replacement -adds new armoured capabilities



The US has approved the sale of 75 M1A2 SEPv3 Abrams tanks to Australia – plus other systems not fielded by the Australian Army before.

US State Department approved the possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Australia of Heavy Armoured Combat Systems and related equipment for an estimated cost of US\$1.685 billion.

Australia requested to buy 160 M1A1 tank structures/hulls provided from stock in order to produce the following end items and spares:

75 M1A2 SEPv3 Abrams main battle tanks,
29 M1150 assault breacher vehicles,
18 M1074 joint assault bridges,
6 M88A2 Hercules combat recovery vehicles, and
122 AGT1500 gas turbine engines.

Also included is development of a unique armour package, common remotely operated weapon station low profile (CROWS-LP), driver's vision enhancer, mission equipment, special tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, system and engine spare parts, technical data and publications, US government and contractor technical and logistics assistance, quality assurance teams, transportation services, program management, new-equipment training, and other related elements of logistic and program support.

The US State Department said the proposed sale would improve Australia's capability to meet current and future threats by enhancing the lethality, survivability, and interoperability of the Australian Army.

"Australia will use the enhanced capability to strengthen its homeland defence and deter regional threats.

"The M1A2 SEPv3 will upgrade the current Australian fleet of M1A1 SA tanks with no changes to Royal Australian Armoured Corps force structure.

"Additional M88A2 vehicles provide de-processing and combat-vehicle-recovery support for the Australian tank fleet.

"The M1150 assault breacher vehicles and M1074 joint assault bridges will be a new capability for the Royal Australian Engineers, bringing under-armour bridging and breaching capability, increasing the effectiveness and survivability of Australian combat engineers and providing increased mobility for the armoured fleet."

The principal contractors will be General Dynamics Land Systems, BAE Systems, Leonardo DRS and Honeywell Aerospace.

Who is Really Responsible?

There are many definitions and description of 'responsibility'. The following is just one, but it is appropriate and applicable to former members of the Military. The second sentence is particularly pertinent to those former veterans who fail to do what they should and leave their families and loved ones in the lurch.

"Responsibility is important because it provides a sense of purpose, in addition to building resilience amidst adversity on an individual and societal level. Like an addiction, sidestepping responsibility may feel good in the short-term, but leads to exponentially worse pain and suffering in the long term." (talkingtreebooks.com/definitions).

Over the last several years it has become apparent that a number of veterans have left this world without ever notifying the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) of their injuries, illnesses or other health issues that affected their lives both during and after their service. In several cases, this means that widows, who may have been classified as 'war widows', have been left to try and prove their case. This is clearly not good enough.

The Australian Government, through the DVA, is responsible for providing appropriate compensation and/or pension as well as health care for conditions resulting from military service. However, the Government cannot fulfil this responsibility unless we veterans act responsibly to ensure that we submit the appropriate claims through the correct channels.

It is often difficult to obtain the appropriate advice from those we believe know the answers. If ever in doubt, talk to others who you may believe have some knowledge or who may have similar conditions. The Association does have access to a number of DVA qualified advocates (former members of the Regiment) who have the requisite knowledge. Association members should talk to their mates and acquaintances, whether Association members or not, particularly where they know that their mate has conditions which could be attributable to their military service.

To all members, I would say, **"DO not leave IT until IT is too late!"**



Combined Arms Heritage and Learning Centre, (Australian Army Tank Museum) Puckapunyal
Due for completion in 2024??