

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2019

Another busy year for the Association Committee.

BZ: President Dr John Carroll, as usual beavered away with his research, on behalf of Navy Vietnam Veterans (see President's report).

John has revised Out Of Sight Out Of Mind with more information of Herbicide exposure in Vietnam.

It is now available for sale via the Association. (contact me).

BZ: Our hard working Ron Bowkett due to ill health, has been unable to continue as a committee man for 2020, also unfortunately Ron reluctantly resigned as the post 1945 Navy member of the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee, Navy ANZAC March Marshall and for a number of years was the Association Banner Marshall.

Ron we hope your health improves and look forward to seeing you again this ANZAC Day 2020.

BZ: Committee man and Treasurer of sixteen of the past eighteen years Carl Sorensen, has also experienced extreme ill health and was forced to reluctantly give up the Treasurer' position. I am sure we all wish Carl a speedy recovery.

BZ: Many thanks to Steve Mika for once again stepping in to fill the void, also to his wife Chris, for the very able assistance she has given to the Association.

BZ: Many thanks to Slim Whitefield and Willie Beattie for again meeting the Association's commitment as duty Barman on Friday night's at the Club and functions.

BZ: Welcome back to the committee Chris Thompson Life member, as the Senior Vice President.

BZ: What would we do without our Social Club ladies, Tina, Kerry and Marie - thank you for all of your hard work in 2019.

BZ: Many thanks to Marie and Willie, for sourcing the Rabbits raffled at the Association Commemoration Service and Luncheon, May each year.

BZ Melbourne Cup: For the last three years, Dougie Symes has acted as Bookie and Joe Alexander as the Bookies Pencil, thank you very much for your contribution to two excellent days.

Petition: To all members you will find a copy of the Petition to Parliament mentioned in the President's report, **PLEASE** follow up and obtain signatures, when you feel it has been signed by as many friends and family members as you can muster, post it to the Association at PO Box 545 Heathmont Vic 3135.

The illnesses which have been attributed to Agent Orange exposure, but not yet recognised by the DVA, impact upon every single Serviceman/Woman, who served in Vietnam, that is whether it be a Navy, Army or RAAF Veteran.

I ask you to get off your backside and help us to get this into Federal Parliament, otherwise all of the years of research done by President John Carroll, on your behalf, have been wasted.

Membership Badges: Victoria was given a number of Membership badges when two of the Interstate Branches folded.

We are offering them to Members for free and ask only for the Postage of \$3.15. Why not take two. Contact me via my email address.

If you have a new or a first time Email address and may not have forwarded it, please contact the Webmaster.

Mind reading is not a subject I excelled in, please let me know if you have changed your Postal address.

ANZAC Day: This year step off will be 0830 and I will forward full details soon to all members with an Email address.

I can be contacted on the following:

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BZ: The Navy Club Committee have for many years given us so much help, thank you to Mark,, Ray Harry, Stan, Tina, Dale and more.

Regards

David Speed Dwyer