



**Royal Australian Armoured
Corps Association Inc.
(Victorian Branch)**

1

TRACK

September 2019



Advance Australia

PATRON:	Brig P.A. Acutt (Retd)	
PRESIDENT:	Peter Branagan, OAM	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Vacant	
SECRETARY:	Peter Axton	0428 335 406
TREASURER:	Andy Clark	
EDITOR:	Peter Branagan, OAM	0428 576 004

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Past Member Honoured



President Peter Branagan presented Mrs Alleyne Walsh with a suitably inscribed plaque in recognition of her late husband Charles' long service to the Association.

Vale Charles Henry Walsh 29 January 1936 – 6 July 2019



Pictured at the wake for Charles Walsh in Seymour on 10 July are (L to R) Vin Brennan, Val Weedon, Alleyne Walsh, Dot Brennan and President Peter Branagan.

Charles Henry Walsh was a member of the Victorian Branch for more than 50 years. Following the short hiatus of the association in the mid sixties; Charles was one of the team who kickstarted the branch and got it running again with his delightful mixture of enthusiasm and good humour. His efforts were later recognised when one of our State Branch schoolchildren's scholarships was named in his honour.

His well attended funeral was held in the Howard Squires- Bamford Chapel in Seymour on Wednesday, 10 July and later proceeded to the Seymour Cemetery. Representing the Association were President Peter Branagan, Ian Smith and Vin Brennan with wife Dorothy. Also in attendance was Mrs Val Weedon, widow of another former long serving member Don.

We Gratefully Acknowledge the Following Donors

Tony Crook, David Bretel, Niall Waring, Basil Tiligadis, Peter Axton

Mark Your Diary.....

2019 Kid's Christmas Party Sunday 15 December 2019 1030 hrs

Rod Westgarth has booked **Meadmore Junction** again for this year's party at the **Diamond Valley Miniature Railway**. Come along and enjoy the fun and the bar-b-que at **this premier location in Eltham**.

Victorian Branch Birthday Sunday 9 February 2020 1400 hrs

The 74th birthday of the Victorian Branch will be celebrated at the **Shrine of Remembrance on Sunday 9 February 2020** with a gathering on the forecourt of the Shrine followed by a short commemorative service in the Shrine Sanctuary and afterwards the usual sumptuous afternoon tea will be enjoyed in the western annex where the Shrine shop is located.

Our association flag, first flown in February 2014 will be flying from the flagpole in the Shrine forecourt. It is flown there on appropriate days during the year including **7 February (association birthday 1946) and 9 July (official Australian Armoured Corps birthday 1941)**.

All members and spouses are strongly urged to support this significant activity. The setting, adjacent to Melbourne's most famous landmark is outstanding and the opportunity to **renew your acquaintance with this significant Melbourne precinct is strongly encouraged.**

To assist the organisers with afternoon tea catering, please contact the Secretary Peter Axton by email raxton3@bigpond.com or 0428 335 406 to warn in for rations. **RSVP 31 January 2020.**



Open Day at the Army Tank Museum

Following on from the very successful Open Day at the ATM on Sunday 31 March which was a combined activity with 1st Armoured Regiment Association; they organised another event on **Sunday, 21 July**. It was another highly successful activity with **over 300 visitors in attendance**. A number of our 'usual suspects' were involved on the day.
(All images courtesy Carolynne Blackwell)



Icky Smith, Craig Burn, young William Burn and Peter Swinfield were part of the large crowd.



John 'Tubby' Brooker was a little concerned when he discovered John Blackwell in the driver's seat of a School of Armour M1A1 Abrams MBT!



Icky Smith, Peter 'Bushy' Coutts, Tubby Brooker with Meaghan Johnstone (Affiliate Member) and her two children Conor and Hannah Johnstone



More than 60 years of RAEME experience is shared between these two exponents of the 'Black Hat Spanner' art! John Phoenix, OAM and John Blackwell enjoyed the step back in time.

News from the Association.....

It's arrived!

Find us at www.raacavic.weebly.com

Did I hear you say, "what's arrived?"



The new RAACA Vic Branch website of course!

If you have access to the internet, you should also have access to the current information on our upcoming activities like the Cambrai dinner and the Christmas picnic, any time you want it, day or night. What's more, the new site is compatible with other devices so you can access it via your smartphone, iPad or most other tablet devices that can access the Internet. If you don't know how, ask your grandkids! Sad but probably true.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION INC. (VICTORIAN BRANCH)

Home Activities Announcements Administration Gallery Membership Contacts Q Store more...

We have tried to make navigation simple so you can easily find the information you need, while also offering photo galleries and links to information and other external sites that may be of interest.

The menu has tabs to take you to the various pages like the one shown here with each of our annual **Events** listed. Selecting the tab for an event will take you to the details about the event like the upcoming **Cambrai Dinner**. It also contains a link to articles on the event from previous years.

AGM - Date & Details	March (Easter) Picnic & BBQ	ANZAC Day	Cambrai Dinner	Christm
Cambrai Day Commemoration Dinner				
Cambrai Day is commemorated by RAACA Vic each year with a dinner held around the middle of November. This is the premiere event on the Association's calendar.				
Click here for Cambrai Dinner Reports from previous events.				
Details of the next event are:				
Cambrai Dinner 2019				
When:	Saturday 23 November 2019 at 1900 for 1930 hrs			
Where:	Hopkins Barracks Officers/Sergeants Mess, Puckapunyal			
Guest of Honour:	Brigadier Ted Acutt (Retd), Patron RAACA Victorian Branch			
Cost:	\$60.00 per head for members, \$70.00 per head for non-members/guests (refer to ticket or Administration Page here for details of payment methods)			
Partners	are very welcome			

If you want to read about what has been happening to your friends and fellow members, the **Announcements** page may have what you are looking for while the **Gallery** page has photos from activities. At the moment it is only displaying a few photos in different formats while we await input from all of our members.

Other pages on the site set out some background and the purpose of the Association as well as the requirements to join. If you know anyone who you think is suitable and interested, you can download the application form straight from the **Membership** page and get the application started.

With the old website, we had members asking for photos of the products we had for sale. At last the **Q Store** page has photos so you can see what the item is like and an order form can be downloaded. Stocks are low so make sure you check with Daryl that the colour and size you want is available. Before anyone asks, no, we didn't create an online shop.

On the **Administration** page, in addition to links to the normal administration like Minutes from the AGM and copies of Track, there is information on the **scholarships** available along with the procedure, and where necessary, the form to apply. There is also a **Contacts** page listing the mailing and banking details, committee members and a form you can use to email us direct from the website.

Finally, the **Links** page contains links to external websites and information that may be of interest, including a link to a Blog Site called SNAFU which claims to list "Everything Military" and recently included this piece of kit which is apparently being developed and trialled by 2 Commando. Looks like it's Christmas and Santa is delivering their present.



Now you know what's there, go ahead and take a look for yourself.

<https://raacavic.weebly.com/>

RAACA SCHOLARSHIPS

One of the benefits your Association provides are the scholarships available to eligible children commencing or completing their Secondary education. Applicants must be the children of a financial member; unfortunately due to financial constraints, grandchildren are not eligible for either scholarship at this time.

The Victorian Branch Scholarship is currently \$150:00 per year for the first two years of secondary school. Applications should be forwarded to the Secretary with proof of attendance by 28 February in the first year of qualification. A follow up application is required for the second year. You must have been a financial member of the RAACA for a minimum of five years to apply.

The Brigadier F.B. Hinton, MC Scholarship which was a Federal Executive Scholarship is also administered by the Victorian Branch and currently provides **\$500:00 for each of the final two years of Secondary School**. Application including proof of intent to complete years 11 and 12 to our Secretary by **30 September in the applicant's year 10**.

There are no scholastic results required, however proof of attendance must be provided on the relevant School's letterhead paper. **Applicants must be financial members.**

The Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship

Application Form

Applicants for the Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship must complete this form and mail to the address detailed below. **The Scholarship is available to children and grandchildren of financial members. They must be 1st year apprentices and the scholarship is valued at \$500.00**

Name.....

(Christian name/names)

(Surname)

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Telephone.....

What is your apprenticeship?

Employer.....

Employer's Address

.....Post Code.....

Contact Phone Number

Registered Training Institute or TAFE.....

Name of Financial RAACA Victorian Member

Address

.....Post Code.....

Contact Phone Number.....

You will need to enclose copies of the following:

1. A brief supportive resume.
2. A copy of signed training agreement.
3. A copy of your enrolment at a registered training institute or TAFE.
4. A supporting letter from your employer.

After your application has been received, the three trustees of the fund may require you to attend a interview at a time, date and location to be advised.

Return this form together with all supporting documents to:

The Trustees

Arch Finlayson Memorial Scholarship Fund

RAACA – Victorian Branch

PO Box 547

COBURG VIC 3058

Cambrai Day Commemoration Dinner

Saturday 23 November 2019

1900 for 1930 hrs

Hopkins Barracks Officers/Sergeants Mess

Puckapunyal

Guest of Honour

Brigadier Ted Acutt (Retd)

Patron RAACA Victorian Branch

Cost: \$60:00 per head for members

\$70:00 per head for non members/guests

Partners are very welcome

This function is our premier event for the year and as usual we will be providing a quality guest speaker for your enjoyment

All enquiries to:

Peter Branagan (M) 0428 576 004

Peter Axton (M) 0428 335 406

On Sunday morning enjoy a sumptuous cooked breakfast in the Chauvel Courtyard at the Officers Mess from 0800 hrs

Dress: Lounge Suit or Reefer Jacket with Miniatures

Ladies after five

Tickets posted out early September

RSVP by Friday 15 November 2019

Accommodation is available

From the Archives.....



Only one of these iconic vehicles still remain: Leopard AS1 MBT Army Registered Number 2779 was allocated to the Port Augusta RSL as a static exhibit, whilst HMAS Tobruk is an artificial reef off the coast at Hervey Bay, Queensland.

 <h2 style="text-align: center;">Show Off Your Association</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">RAACA Q Store Order Form</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Please contact the Property Member, Daryl Pinner to confirm availability prior to placing order. Ph: 03 9359 4520 Email: daryl.pinner@yahoo.com.au</p>						
	Size	Colour/ Sleeve	Qty	Price each	Postage	Cost
Tie, RAACA				\$32.00	\$4.00	
Pocket Badge RAACA				\$15.00	\$1.00	
Plaque RAACA				\$50.00	\$10.00	
Decal (External) RAACA				\$1.50	\$1.00	
Decal (Internal) RAACA				\$1.50	\$1.00	
Lapel Badge, RAACA				\$12.00	\$1.00	
Cap, RAACA				\$10.00	\$6.00	
Stubby Holder, RAACA				\$6.50	\$4.00	
Brew Mug, RAACA				\$10.00	Pick-up Only	
Beret, black				\$30.00	\$6.00	
(Please insert beret size - S, M, L, XL)						
Polo Shirt, RAACA				\$25.00	\$6.00	
(Insert Size: L, XL, 2XL) (Insert Colour: Black, Green, Burgundy, Navy Blue)						
Rugby Top, long sleeve, RAACA				\$35.00	\$6.00	
(Insert Size: L, XL, 2XL) (Style: Navy Blue with denim collar, long sleeves & Association Logo)						
Chambray Shirt, RAACA		Long / Short		\$29.00	\$6.00	
(Please enter size: L, XL, 2XL, 3XL & mark Sleeve Length)						
(Style: Long or Short Sleeves, light blue with Association Logo)						
Eldridge Book (Special price)				\$30.00	Postage Paid	
Refer to the website (https://raacavic.weebly.com/) for photos of these items						
Member Details:				Total Cost		\$
Name:						
Address:						
Contact Number:						
If paying by cheque, post payment to:						<input type="checkbox"/>
RAACA Property Member PO Box 547 Coburg 3058						
If paying by direct deposit:						
Bank: Bendigo Bank						
BSB: 633 000 Acc. No.: 163760515						<input type="checkbox"/>
Include your name and something to identify payment like "Q Store"						