

## Patron LM Col Ken Ash-

(MSM USA) (RET) 92862167

### **President**

Robert Gesmundo 94994685

### **Vice President**

Peter Williams 0428948458

### Secretary

Noel Moyes 92952281

### Treasurer

LM John Dwyer 0419694549

### **Committee:**

Tony Beekwilder 95918663 LM Dick Jones 93075654 Colin Davies 0403654954

Black Hat Coffee Mornings at the Dome Deepwater Point 100 The Esplanade Mt Pleasant 19th of January

Annual General Meeting Cambrai House Irwin Barracks Sunday 26 FEB with BBQ Consider joining the committee please

2023 Membership \$30 Invoice Included

## **COMMENTARY NEWSLETTER**

# ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION WA Inc 6/2022 Christmas EDITION

Postal: 25 Bentley St Stoneville WA 6081 Phone: 0892952281 Email: secretary.raacawa@gmail.com Editor LM John Dwyer





Greetings all.

2022 is nearly over and we look forward to a great and positive 2023.

Let me "clear the air" as the saying goes, that RAACAWA is here to stay and any rumours of it disbanding are FALSE. The Committee with the support of 74 financial members will work hard to make RAACAWA a viable and strong Association. Having got this off my chest let us no look retrospectively at 2022.

There have been some very successful events as well as some cancellations due to COVID and developmental earthworks at Kings Park. Beersheba Commemoration dinner organised by XLHA and our own Cambrai Commemoration lunch have been great successes. Our Cambrai Day guest speaker RSLWA Board member Matt Moran was inspirational and very informative with a friendly and professional delivery.

We have been advised by the unit and the organising committee that the dedication of the 10LH Memorial in Stirling Square Guildford will be held on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March at 10am. More information will be provided closer to the date.

Our involvement and participation as members of the RAAC Corporation is well recognised and I would like to thank John Dwyer for representing RAACAWA at the AGM in Canberra due to my inability to attend.

Our Committee has been working hard to deliver the best possible service to our membership and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Once again our long serving patron Col Ken Ashman (Ret.) has supported the Association and we thank him for always being available.

We have introduced a regular monthly Black Hats Coffee Morning that will continue every last Thursday of the month excluding January as it falls on Australia Day. Moved to 19<sup>th</sup> of January Thursday at 10am. They have been well received there is no need to confirm attendance, just be there along with any memorabilia. Black Hats from any unit welcome. The location chosen at the Dome café, The Esplanade Mt Pleasant is close to the freeway.

This event is organised by RAACAWA, but it is open to ALL Black Hats with no obligation or special expectations – just sharing quality time with mates and their partners. A flyer will be sent out prior to each date.

Personally and on behalf of our Committee I would like to thank you all for your support during 2022 and beyond and I look forward to sharing a positive and suc - cessful 2023.

Our thoughts are also for the families of members who left us during 2022.

This Commentary Newsletter, as always, is researched and produced by our Editor John Dwyer - Thank you John.

Like every other organization, RAACAWA is only as strong as its Membership so let us stay positive and active at all times.

In conclusion, Maria and I would like to with you and your families a Holy, Peaceful and safe Christmas and a fantastic 2023.

God Bless.

Yours in Armour,

Robert Gesmundo

#### **DEAR MEMBER**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS OBJECTIVES THIS YEAR. APART FROM THE FUNCTIONS MENTIONED IN THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS MEMBERS HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN COMMEMORATION ACTIVITIES REPRESENTING MEMBERS AND THE WIDER BLACK HAT COMMUNITY.

MEMBERSHIP FEES REMAIN AT \$30.00 FOR 2023 AND YOU ARE INVITED TO RENEW THROUGH PAYMENT TO THE ASSOCIATION USING DIRECT TRANSFER OR POST. SHOULD YOU NEED TO UPDATE PERSONAL DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT ME BY EMAIL OR PHONE.

TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID IN ADVANCE FOR 2023 THANK YOU.

**2022 MEMBERSHIP FEE:** \$30.00

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT: DIRECT:

ACCOUNT RAACA WA

**BSB** 066192

10329559 ACCOUNT

**REF: YOUR NAME** 

OR BY POST:

TREASURER, RAACA WA, 37 BARRINGTON AVE

**CHAMPION LAKES 6111** 

JOHN DWYER

0419694549

JADANNE 14@GMAIL.COM

### **RAACA WA BITES**

<u>The Age of Tanks</u>: The history of military tanks unfolds in a documentary series that traces their role in history and geopolitics from World 1 to the 21st Century. 1. Iron, Iron everywhere; 2 Blitzkrieg; 3 A World in Chains; Twilight of the Tanks

To be found on the Netflix Channel

### 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF NATIONAL SERVICE

Werecognise more than 280,000 Australians who were called up to serve their country in National Service schemes between 1951 and 1972. Minister for Veterans' Affairs Matt Keogh said the men who served as 'Nashos' should be proud of their service.

"Tomorrow marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Whitlam Labor Government's end to the last National Service scheme in Australia," Minister Keogh said. "The Nashos were an integral part of Australia's defence forces in the 1950s, 60s and 70s serving in Australia, Borneo, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam.

"The first National Service scheme, from 1951-59 saw men from across the country called up for training in the Royal Australian Navy, the Australian Army and the Royal Australian Air Force. More than 220,000 served during this period, putting their careers and lives on hold to serve their country. "The second National Service scheme took place from 1965-1972 and for some, included service in the Vietnam War. During this period, 63,000 20 year-olds were selected for service in the Army through a birthday ballot.

"More than 15,300 National Servicemen served in the Vietnam War and some 200 lost their lives. At least 100 National Servicemen also served overseas in Borneo, with two men losing their lives while on deployment. "No matter the nature of their service, today we honour all national servicemen and thank them for what they have done for our nation."

"We thank all Nashos and their families for putting their lives on hold during their years of compulsory service. We know this service was difficult, as was your return to civilian life. The Australian Government thanks you.

### **Stirling Square 10th Light Horse Statue**

The City of Swan, the Swan Guildford Historical Society and the Guildford Association are working together for the installation of a memorial to the 10th Light Horse Regiment in Stirling Square, Guildford. This statue will highlight Guildford's links to the West Australian 10th Light Horse Regiment, which was formed and had training at Guildford. The unveiling of the 10th Light Horse Regiment statue will be held on the morning of Sunday, 12 March 2023 from 10am at Stirling Square, Guildford. For more information please contact Laurens West on 0409 379 486.



### **ACTIVITIES 2023 RAACA WA**

Black Hat Coffee Mornings
Last Thursday of the Month
10am at the Dome Deepwater Point 100 the Esplanade Mt Pleasant
All black hats welcome no bookings just come along bring some memoriabilia if you like

Committee Meetings
2nd Tuesday of the month 1pm
At Cambrai House Irwin Barracks
Any member welcome please contact Secretary who will organise entry into the barracks

Annual General Meeting Cambrai House Irwin Barracks Sunday February 26th of February 1pm inclusive of BBQ

Stirling Square Guildford Tenth Light Horse Statue Unveiling Sunday 12th of March 10am

> Old Boys Parade Sunday 23rd of April 11am 10LH Memorial Fraser Avenue Kings (Light lunch supplied to members)

ANZAC DAY ACTIVITIES 25th of April

Dawn Service Perth Wreath Laying Ceremony
Perth Parade
10LH Regiment Unit Function
Details closer to event

Weekend 17 and 18 June

Merridin and Nungarin Bus Trip inclusive of overnight stay

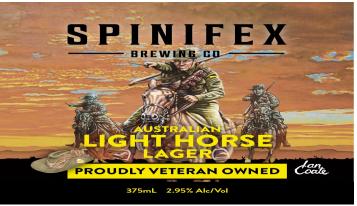
Merredin Military Museum Nungarin Overnight Stay Big Sunday Breakfast and Visit Nungarin Museum

ANZAC House Visit inclusive of Lunch at ANZAC Club Wednesday 20th of September Time to be advised

> Sunday 26th of November Cambrai Day Parade and Luncheon

### MEMBERS BUSINESS DIRECTORY







NEED A PLAQUE - Tony Beekwilder

Tonybeek1942@gmail.com

0409204336



**Dick Jones - Wooden Models** 

Dickover60@hotmail.com





