



**COMMENTARY NEWSLETTER**  
**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS**  
**ASSOCIATION WA Inc** Edition 3/2025  
Cambrai House 2 Little Gibraltar Rd Irwin Barracks  
WEB SITE: [raacawa.org.au](http://raacawa.org.au)



**ANZAC DAY EVENTS**

**Dawn Service Kings Park:**

Association members, all Black Hats, partners and friends are invited to attend the dawn service, where the Association will lay a wreath to commemorate the contribution of all who have served in the Corps. The event will be followed by the traditional coffee plus organised by member Bill Robertson. At the close of the ceremony at the State War memorial all are invited to move to the 10LH Memorial located on Fraser Avenue where a wreath will be laid followed by coffee plus.

**ANZAC PERTH MARCH :**

All Royal Australian Armoured Corps people are invited to march with us. Form up for the March will be block D, Section 49 opposite Allendale Square on the left hand side of St Georges Tce facing towards Barrack St. Please be at the location by 8.30AM for administration purposes with form up under the direction of Dick Jones. Our Patron and HON COL of the 10th Light Horse Regiment BRIG Phil White will lead the three organisations in our Packet. Please ensure you have water and sunburn cream. The march will be down the Tce, Right into Cathedral Avenue and down the hill into Langley Park. Dress: Smart Casual with Black Beret and Medals.

**TENTH LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT:**

The Regiment has invited any Association member, family or friend to visit the unit located at Es Salt Lines, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta. Hosted by the Hugo Throssell VC Club who have organised beverage, hot food and entertainment space to meet up with fellow serving and ex members of the unit. See the current vehicles of the unit on display. It is important to register with the Secretary Ian Goodall 0414376756 or Email [iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au) **Entry to the barracks is off Hobbs Avenue Karrakatta and will require prior authorisation.**

**FULL DETAIL OF ALL RSL ANZAC EVENTS:**

Full detail of all RSLWA events and locations can be found on the web site link

[www.rslwa.org.au/events/anzac-day](http://www.rslwa.org.au/events/anzac-day)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BLACK HAT COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 24TH APRIL 10AM

DOMÉ CAFÉ 100 THE ESPLANADE MT PLEASANT

Enjoy a coffee in pleasant surroundings with fellow black hats. No bookings required just front up



### VISIT TO HMAS STIRLING

In May we have a planned visit to HMAS Stirling. Escorted visits are by bus (The Association will provide a bus.) The plan is to meet in the Palm Beach area in the morning, bus to Stirling and return and then have lunch at the Palm Beach Café. Only cost would be for your lunch. May 21 is the proposed date. If you are interested in going (partners and friends welcome) please contact John Dwyer 0419694549 or email [jadanne14@gmail.com](mailto:jadanne14@gmail.com)



### CHRISTMAS IN JULY FUNCTION

This annual event is planned for Sunday 6th of July at the Herdsman Hotel 33 Herdsman Parade Wembley WA

Members, partners and friends welcome to attend.

More information will follow early May.



### CAMBRAI HOUSE – BUSY BEE

The lawn and gardens have been looked after primarily by our President Barry and Vice President Colin over the past two years. To help them out a busy bee is planned for Saturday morning the 10th of May commencing at 10am. A couple of hours work followed by a sausage sizzle. Please let Secretary Ian know if you can attend for Security reasons phone 0414376756 or email

[iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au)



## **LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF RAACA WA INC. – MR JOHN SANDERSON**

Mr John Sanderson served in Vietnam with 1st Armoured Regiment, his troop engaged in many operations and is mentioned a couple of times in the book “Cannister On Fire”, detailed coverage of that unit’s participation in that conflict. He served in 10LH Regiment on ARA staff for a number of years as well as OC Irwin Barracks rising to the rank of MAJOR with his final posting QM at RMC Duntroon.

He was a member of the Association during and after he retirement settling in Perth where he spent many years volunteering as an Advocate for past serving members working with a group located at Leuwin Base.

John was both State and National Vice President 2004 to 2007 of the Association and during that time where contacts made during his ARA service were used to the benefit of our members. Apart from normal leadership responsibilities he was a major contributor to a number of projects here in the West.

The first was the working towards the establishment of our own accommodation, at the time the committee used the old officers mess for meetings. His knowledge and contacts with current ARA and Defence Force people in the West contributed in no small way to the obtaining a lease of an old married quarter at Irwin Barracks. The lease was granted on the basis of membership support, welfare and advocacy services.

The second was working with President Terry Stidwell (RIP) in developing a business case for the establishment of Advocacy and Welfare services for both members and other ex-service men and women. Funds and support from DVA were also sought and achieved to purchase office and furniture for the house and ongoing administrative costs. Once again, his knowledge and contact system came into play.

John headed up the Advocacy and Welfare unit within the Association continuing to provide his expertise in helping out ex-service people within the Association, fellow members in other States and ex-service people approaching us for help. At that time problems facing Vietnam Veterans who were getting older were surfacing and we were handling quite a number of cases along with ARES people who had sustained injury and/or qualified for DVA support. That service sourced DVA funding for a few years for administrative costs and then continued as a service to this day for Association members through John.

John also initiated the Bunnings fund raising program. It took some convincing that we were eligible to participate in the Bunnings program but with the help of many over the years it became our major fund-raising event.

John continued in the position of Vice President for a number of years with his major focus providing expert advice and the Advocacy and Welfare area for Association and other ex-serving members of the Corps where required.

His membership of the Association well exceeds thirty years plus.





### **Cambrai House 2 Little Gibraltar Rd Irwin Barracks**

In 2005 the committee sought accommodation that was more fit for purpose to provide advocacy and welfare services for our members and the wider Corps past serving members, administrative and social centre for our members and as it turned out be located on the base where the Corps is represented here in the West the 10th Light Horse Regiment.

The old married quarter was in a sad state of dis-repair and required months of voluntary work by members of the Association to bring it up to a habitable standard. Office and meeting room furniture and equipment was obtained through a DVA grant or donated. Lease arrangements have been in place since that time with Defence.

Working bee days have kept the establishment up to scratch over the years and for some years now ground and house upkeep has been the province of our Vice President Colin Davies who has generously supported that activity – the most recent donation being an electric, self propelled mower. President Barry also contributes generously with his time in that activity.

Thank you to those who have made donations towards the upkeep of the house, your contributions are appreciated.

The house also caters for the storage and display of memorabilia, art and Association records including Commentary (since 1945). It also has an extensive library of Australian military history.

If you are interested in visiting the house and viewing all the contents please ring our Secretary Ian and come down when we have a committee meeting or other meetings at the house.



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMoured CORPS ASSOCIATION W.A. Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

8 Saintly Turn Byford 6122

Phone/message : 0414376756 email: [iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:iangoodall1@optusnet.com.au)

Surname\_\_\_\_\_ Other Names\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_ Suburb\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code\_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

(If Retired, Pre Retirement)

Details of Military Service including serial number, rank on discharge or current rank, units with whom you served.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of your wife/partner\_\_\_\_\_

(Or next of kin if applicable with address and phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Business (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name desired on Name Plate \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Name Plate is available for Wife/Partner at a cost of \$10.00

Wife/Partners name desired on Name Plate \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Subscription \$ 40.00 Total \$50.00 (to be enclosed) and covers period 1 January to 31 December.

Joining Fee includes Corps Lapel badge, this badge always remains the property of the RAACA WA and if resigning must be returned.

Remitted \$40 or \$50 if Nameplate required for Partner (please tick one)

I hereby apply to join the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association WA Inc and in doing so pledge to promote the objectives of the Association, maintain the spirit, comradeship and tradition of the Corps and abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Association in accordance with the Constitution of the Association.

