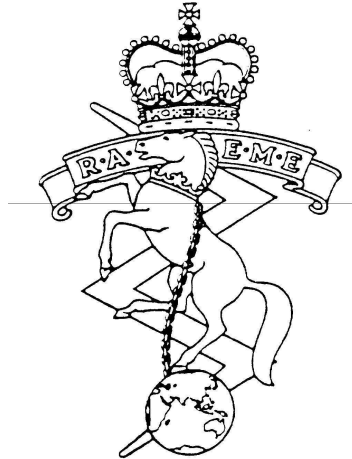


# 17 CONSTRUCTION SQUADRON WORKSHOPS



## VIETNAM ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume

DECEMBER 2005

[www.17construction.org.au](http://www.17construction.org.au)

[17construction@agn.net.au](mailto:17construction@agn.net.au)



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### Treasurer

Ryan Critchlow.  
PO Box 2486  
Orange  
NSW 2800  
(02) 6362 2241  
[critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au](mailto:critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007

### Patron Member

George Jones

### Foundation Member

Danial J Garlin

17 Construction Squadron Workshops Vietnam Association Newsletter 1-2005

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**Message from President Bob**

Christmas and New Year greetings from Bob and Margaret to all. We hope your year has been a great one and we look forward to you having a fantastic Christmas and a very prosperous and healthy New Year.

**Are you coming to Darwin in June 2007?**

Then please fill in the attached Reunion Registration. We are currently investigating appropriate accommodation so we can all be together for the Reunion. Please support YOUR reunion by subscribing to all fund raising raffles being organized to make the reunion a great one.

It is important that the registration deposit is paid before the end of February 2006 so that we can make firm commitments on the numbers attending the function venue.

**Reunion Registration Costs** - the committee has set these fees at \$110.00 per person. This is requested to be paid in two parts; an initial deposit of \$60.00 per person is required before the end of February 2006. The balance of \$50.00 per person is to be paid by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007. You can pay the \$110.00 up front if you want to

**Special thanks and appreciation** - go to Adrian and Helen Blackburn for undertaking excellent fundraising through chocolate sales during 2005 for your Darwin Reunion, they're fantastic.

**Reunion Accommodation Costs** – The three nights accommodation will of course be at your own expense, full details will be available in the next newsletter.

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**100+ Club Raffles** – we intend to conduct 2 100+ Club Raffles each year with the prize being **\$500 cash**. The cost of participation is \$20 per 100+ Club or \$40.00 to be in both Raffles

See Special Raffle Form at the end of this Newsletter – Fill it in and send it to Treasurer Ryan.

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## **FROM THE SECRETARY**

### **Planning you Trip - Part 2- Mike Sheahan**

#### **Tennant Creek to Adelaide River**

This trip takes you via the Stuart Highway to the reunion city Darwin. In the last newsletter we left you at Tennant Creek.

**Tennant Creek** - For a cheap accommodation near Tennant Creek stay at Juno Out bush Camp. The camp is 11 km east of Tennant Creek.

Fuel up at Tennant Creek as next cheapest fuel is Katherine and you will get slugged in between.

**Banka Banka Station** - is about 100km North of Tennant Creek. Cheap overnight stays if you want to miss Tennant Creek. It also has good free entertainment and cold grog.

**Newcastle Waters** - 25km North of Elliott take the 3k trip into Newcastle Waters Free Camp. It has a historic store and pub with a monument to the many drovers who opened up the north. Check to see if your family name is there.

**Daly Waters Pub and Caravan Park** - This is a must for an overnight stay and a memorable night. Famous for its beef and Barra BBQ. There is plenty of history in the unique pub and surrounding area. Is also worth a visit to Stuarts Tree and the Old World War 2 aerodrome and hanger that still has some plane wrecks lying around.

**Mataranka Homestead Caravan Park** - It has the hot springs and “**We of the Never Never**” homestead. However you can stay at Elsey National Park for a nominal fee. There is no power but good swimming, hot showers and good walks. The homestead and hot springs are 12 miles from the campground.

**Katherine** - Plenty of places to visit and things to do here. The low-level caravan park is good too. There is Katherine Gorge, hot spring walks and many other things. You should visit the tourist centre for all information. Katherine Gorge campground is 29km from town. Check before you drive down there though as it can get full quickly. Fuel up at Coles or Woolworth’s as the next cheapest fuel is Darwin.

**Edith Falls** - Its 42 km north of Katherine and has good swimming. It’s a top spot with cheap overnight accommodation.

You can easily spend a week or more at Mataranka, Katherine and Edith Falls.

**Pine Creek** - Decision time. Do you do Kakadu or Litchfield National Parks? Its best to do one on the way up and the other on the way back.

We will go up through Litchfield and back through Kakadu, but allow at least a week either way.

Don't forget that there are plenty of historical World War 2 sites on the way up. There are airfields, camps, hospitals and the like so take plenty of film or memory sticks for you digital camera.

**Douglas Daly Region** - Fancy some Barra fishing and cherubim for dinner? Turn off just north of Hayes Creek for about 50km into Douglas Tourist Park. Visit the hot springs, Butterfield Gorge, Arches water hole and Fenton Airfield. This was bombed several times by the Japanese. There are still some good wrecks around.

**Adelaide River** - Historic World War 2 cemetery and sites. It was bombed by the Japanese on a few occasions, and don't miss the cemetery. There are plenty of cheap camps in the area.

We are going to leave you at Adelaide River ready for your trip into Litchfield and Kakadu Nation parks in our next newsletter.

## **On the Lighter Side**

### **When Corporals Were God**

Oh for the good old days when soldiers were men, and they were treated like men. For all the OLD SCHOOL, how true is this!! When I was on my Recruit Course in Kapooka, the CPL was GOD. What he thought about my haircut or how well my bed was made was much more important than the fact that the All-Blacks had won.

During Duties Week, I was put on the Front Gate (with tow other Recruits). And we received thinly veiled threats as to what would happen to us if a vehicle entered the base without being logged-in (or out), and if we failed to salute an Officer (or a lady).

This particular morning, it was March-out Parade Day for other luckier Recruits – I was on the 0600-0900hr shift. At 0630hr, the CPL drove to the Guardhouse and told us that a General would be arriving soon. The CPL rang us at 0800hr and asked if the General had arrived yet.

“No, CPL.”

He rang again at 0815hr, 0830 and then again at 845hr. Still no sign of the General.

Then at 0855hr, a gleaming staff car entered the base and stopped at the Gatehouse. The back window was wound down and a large man with a grey moustache looked out. “I'm General Grey,” he said to me. Naturally, I saluted him then said “Well you'd better hurry up mate, because you're in deep shit. The CPL's been looking for you for the last two hours!”

## **The Son of A Parrot**

An old man was sitting on a bench at the mall. A young man walked up to the bench and sat down. He had spiked hair in all different colors: green, red, orange, blue and yellow. The old man just stared... Over time, the young man noticed the old man was staring at him. The young man finally said sarcastically, "What's the matter, old man, never done anything wild in your life?" Without batting an eye, the old man replied, "Got drunk once when I was in the Marines, on a tropical island, and had sex with a parrot. I was just wondering if you were my son".

## **Flies**

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter. "What are you doing?" she asked. "Hunting flies," he responded. "Oh. Killing any?" she asked. "Yep, 3 males, 2 females," he replied. Intrigued, she asked, "How can you tell?" He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."

## **Contact Details**

Our Website            [www.17contruction.org.au](http://www.17contruction.org.au)  
Email Address        [17contruction@agn.net.au](mailto:17contruction@agn.net.au)

If members wish to contact other members please go to the website and click on Nominal Roll and then click on the members name you are searching for. If no email address appears, send your request to the above email address and ask for details of the member you are looking for.

## **Mike Sheahan – Traveling Secretary**

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**NT Legislative Assembly Building**

**From the Treasurer – Ryan Critchlow**

Our current bank account stands at around \$6000 and was carried forward from previous reunions. It's nice to have that amount as insurance, but it's our intention to fully fund the Darwin Reunion over the next two years, and to pass this amount on the next Reunion Committee.

We need to know fairly accurate attendance numbers for 2007 for planning and bookings. We will be asking for an early commitment to the reunion in the form the deposit before Christmas 2005. Bob has a great event planned and your early commitment will ensure he has everything booked and organized in one of Darwin's most popular months.

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**Your 17 Construction Wksp's Liaison Officers**

|                            |                           |                |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Western Australia          | Garry Whykes              | (08)9276 1920  |
| South Australia            | Michael Culley            | (08)8294 3820  |
| Victoria                   | Cliff Richards            | (03)5443 0457  |
| Queensland –Sunshine Coast | Secretary Michael Sheahan | (07) 5493 4080 |
| Queensland – Gold Coast    | Steve Chapman             | (07) 5525 3039 |
| Queensland – Far North     | David Chalk               | (07) 4954 7565 |
| New South Wales            | Robert Callinan           | (02) 4953 2616 |
| Northern Territory         | President. Bob Shewring   | 618 8983 1493  |
| Tasmania                   | Roy Geale                 |                |



**Sailing on Darwin Harbour**

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**Sunset on Fannie Bay**



**Gone Fishing**

### **Sick Call**

### **From Snowy**

Merv Flanders is doing well. His wife Dawn says that a couple of days ago he turned the corner and has not looked back since.

Merv was transferred from Sir Charles Gairdner hospital to Hollywood hospital and is now at Osborn Park rehab where he is undergoing fairly intense therapy. He is allowed day leave and is improving each day.

He passes on his regards to all and is keen to be in Darwin for the next reunion.



**FISH FEEDING**



**Jumping Crocodile Cruise**



**Big Lizard**



**2005/6 - 100+ CLUB RAFFLE  
17 CONSTRUCTION  
SQUADRON WORKSHOPS  
VIETNAM ASSOCIATION**

**Hi Members,**

Below is our 2006 100+ Club fundraising participation form

We will be having two 100+ Club Raffles Per year at \$20.00 per number the prize in each raffle being \$500. The first raffle will be drawn in the first week of May and the second raffle will be drawn in the first week of November this year 2006.

Please return this form along with your payment for the first raffle (or both raffles), by the end of April 2006 to:

**THE Treasurer**

Ryan Critchlow, PO Box 2486, Orange, NSW 2800,

Ph. (02) 6362 2241

Email:- [critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au](mailto:critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au)

Surname Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



Or you can electronically transfer the money to 17's Reunion Account by using the following details. – Please advise Ryan by phone, fax or email that you have electronically sent your money, and how you want it allocated

Account Name: 17 Construction Sqn Workshop Association  
BSB No. 066 000  
Account No. 1010 0303

While we will be sending out another 100+ Raffle Form for the November draw with our next newsletter, you can, if you wish, include payment for both draws with this application.

**IMPORTANT – please complete the section below;**

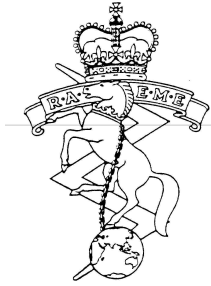
**Please fill in the number of tickets required in the boxes below**

tickets at \$20.00 each in the May 2006 draw.

tickets at \$20.00 each in the November 2006 draw.

Thanks for assisting the fundraising for the 2007 Reunion by returning this form before the end of April 2006.





**Registration/Questionnaire – December 2005**  
**17CONSTRUCTION**  
**SQUADRONWORKSHOPS**  
**VIETNAM ASSOCIATION**  
**DARWIN REUNION**  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

Hi Members,

**The Treasurer**

Ryan Critchlow, PO Box 2486, Orange, NSW 2800,

Ph. (02) 6362 2241

Email: - [critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au](mailto:critchlow@nsw.chariot.net.au)

Surname Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wife / Partners Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to attend the next reunion in DARWIN on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007? (Please Circle One)

**YES**

(Put Number Attending in Box)

**NO**

**MAYBE**

(Put Number Attending in Box)

Enclosed please find \$60 per person Deposit

Any other comments / Suggestions / Questions please fill in below:

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**Thanks for assisting us by completing and returning this questionnaire/ registration before the end of January 2006.**