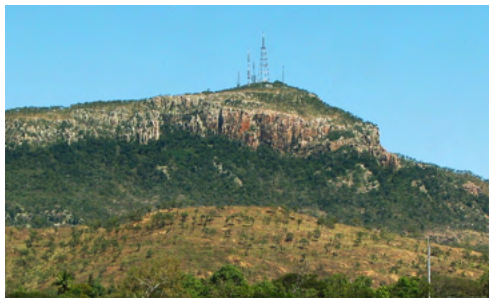


The Towner News

**2/4 RAR Association (Inc)
NEWSLETTER**



15 AUG 73

1 FEB 95

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From the Editor


Hello members, I trust the everyone is in good spirits and you had an enjoyable Easter and ANZAC Day were ever you are.

Well here is the 2nd edition of the newsletter. Providing you with all updates on the AGM weekend, activities and what's been happening from around the traps from ANZAC Day, gatherings and more.

The AGM weekend, 15 - 17 August is shaping up to be a memorable one with a fantastic response to the attendance. Please note that 60 was only a planning number. We can go with as many as possible. see pages 3 - 5 for details.

We have a guest speaker for the dinner who will provide a short presentation to the dinner audience and you can see who he is on page 8.

Please get behind the AGM weekend. The dinner is the only cost. The Meet and Greet, AGM & Recovery day is open to all at **no cost and no registration.** details page 4 & 5 (come one come all)

Sit back, grab with a  and enjoy this new style newsletter.

Cheers

Trev

My contact details are below. You can contact me at anytime, email, ring, or text me (if I don't answer a call, please leave a message ill get back to you ASAP)

Email: trevspid@gmail.com

Mobile: 0414 869 630

COMMITTEE

PATRON:

BRIG PAUL S. O'SULLIVAN AM MBE (RETD)

PRESIDENT: PAT "Spud" CAIRNS

VICE PRESIDENT: BOB BAKKERS

SECRETARY: MERV DICTON

ASST SECRETARY: MICHAEL SULLIVAN

TREASURER: KIM FLANAGAN

WEB/IT/MEDIA MEMBER: GARY JIEAR

PERSONNEL MBR: RAY THAIN

PROPERTY MBR: MICHAEL SULLIVAN

The 2nd/4th Battalion

The Royal Australian Regiment Association Inc.

P O Box 240

Thuringowa Central Qld 4817

Email:

committee@24rarassociation.com

Website:

24rarassociation.com

REMINDER

You need to be a financial member to vote at the AGM

Memberships are due. See Treasurer message Page 19

AGM WEEKEND ITINERARY 15 - 17 AUG 25

TO BE HELD AT TWIN TOWNS - GOLD COAST

All you need pertaining to: Accommodation, Meet & Greet, AGM and Dinner for the weekends activities is contained in the following 3 pages

Venue: Mantra Twin Towns

**Coolangatta - Tweed Heads
Cnr Griffith and Wharf Street
Tweed Heads NSW 2485**

PH: 07 - 5536 2121 or 1800 192 020

ACCOMMODATION

TO BOOK ACCOMMODATION AT THE MANTRA TWIN TOWNS
YOU NEED TO CALL THEM DIRECT & LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU ARE PART OF THE
“ 2/4 RAR ASSOCIATION AGM”

(THEY WILL PROVIDED DISCOUNT, SEE FLYER BELOW)

THERE IS ALSO PLENTY OF OTHER PLACES & ALTERNATIVES NEAR BY



I WILL STAY THE NIGHT

The Sebel Twin Towns and Mantra Twin Towns is pleased to extend to all guests of
2/4 RAR Association 2025 AGM,
14th – 18th August 2025,
10% off* the Daily Accommodation Rate.

The hotel rooms and apartments are beautifully appointed with stylish and comfortable furniture and all the amenities you need to make yourself at home. Relax in the on-site pool or take a short walk down to Greenmount Beach.

To book, call 1800 19 20 20
or email twintowns.res@mantra.com.au

Pacific Airshow Gold Coast 2025 Cancellation
PACIFIC AIRSHOW SCHEDULED FOR
15 TO 17 AUGUST 2025,
HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Due to ongoing beach erosion challenges along
Surfers Paradise Beach following
Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

Book Your Accommodation ASAP

More on AGM continued to next page

MEET & GREET - AGM / DINNER - CONTINUED

Friday 15 August 2025

MEET AND GREET- 1600 - 1900HR

“HARBOUR TERRACE BALCONY BAR”

(The venue is booked for our ‘Meet and Greet’)

Drinks and Food at your own cost

(No Need to Register)

Dress

Neat Casual with Battalion Shirt

(if you have one)



Saturday 16 August 2025

AGM - 1600 - 1700HR

DINNER - 1830 - 2130HR

“ VISIONS ROOM”



Two course dinner (Entrée and Main - alt drop)

\$70 per head

YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THE DINNER - ASAP

(GO TO: 2/4 RAR ASSOCIATION WEBSITE TO REGISTER, SEE PAGE 8)

(TWIN TOWNS HAS REQUESTED, FOR CATERING PURPOSES, CUT OFF BE - NLT 10 JULY)

(Battalion Cake (Desert) and Toasting Port

is at Association cost)

Drinks at your own individual cost.

Dress

Neat Casual with Battalion Shirt

(if you have one)



**Dietary
Requests**

Please email us with your **Name and any Dietary** requirements to:

committee@24rarassociation.com

Twin Towns has ask for a list by 10 July

Twin Towns will prepare a meal to your dietary requests

AGM WEEKEND - CONTINUED

Sunday 17 August 2025
 Recovery - Own / Group Arrangements

59
 Coming So Far

Twin Towns has requested for catering purposes,
10 July is the cut off date
 for the dinner registration.
 However,
If any one needs more time after 10 July,
then there is some flexibility,
 but, before registering / paying,
 Please call; Jim Smith direct - 0427 003 900
 (our weekend coordinator)

Paul O'Sullivan MBE	Doug Baird OAM	Spud Cairns	Rocket Rundell
Mike Smith + 1	Merv Dicton & Anne	Ron Bossink	Max Walker OAM
Leon Helmrick & Alyson	Gary Hutchinson + 1	Trevor Krenke	Albert Boyd
Jim Smith + Leanne	Greg Mills + 1	David Southgate	Wayne Berwerf
Lyle McGrath + 1	Gregory Tiddy + 1	Peter Sankey	David Bell
Brian Carr + 1	Bob Thompson + 1	Mark Titley	Peter Shields
Wayne Hutchison + 1	Peter Muir +1	Scott Ainslie	Phil Smailes
Squizzy Taylor + 1	Michael Jack + 1	Ken Robinson	CAJ Smith
Les Stephens + Heather	Michael Martin + 1	Martin Dunn	J Blayney-Murphy
Marcus Kirwan + 1	Bob Bakkers + 1	Wayne Boston	Adrian Hinds + 1

The only cost / registration is for attending the dinner to be held Saturday evening.
If you don't wish to attend the dinner,
 Feel free, if you can (at no cost or Registering) to come along to the
MEET AND GREET ON: FRIDAY EVENING AT 1600HRS
AGM MEETING COMMENCING AT: 1600HRS ON SATURDAY
 Everyone is welcome,
 To catch up, reunite, sharing our bond, and engaging in some amazing memories with our mates.

REGISTERING / PAYING FOR DINNER - (NLT 10 JULY) PLEASE FOLLOW THESE STEPS

- Go to 2/4 RAR Association website - find & click on "Store"
- Scroll down to click on 'Events' then click on 'AGM 2025 \$70'
- On right side click - 'How Many People', and the 'Yes or No' question box
- **'DO NOT'** click on 'coupon or Gift card'
- **'DO NOT'** click on "add more" or add any items" (AGM purchase is separate & stand alone to Merchandise)
- Go to 'Continue to Payment' (**NO** need to click 'square pay')
- Add your personal and payment details
- Go to 'Place Order' on RHS
- You will then receive a receipt / email.

NOTE: If you need to purchase Shirts / Merchandise - Go back separately into the "store" and purchase your items individually.

Please monitor the Association website for any AGM updates

Please Note
 There will be **NO** Shirts or Merchandise, available at Tweed Heads
 AGM weekend.
 So if you require a Shirt or Merchandise, then please order on line in 'advance' of the AGM weekend



Allow Up To
 2 Weeks Prior
 To Attending
 For Delivery

AGM DINNER
GUEST SPEAKER
DOUG BAIRD OAM

Doug Baird



Secretary to GG of Australia

Doug Baird OAM is the father of Cameron Baird VC MG

Doug Baird OAM is a member of the Australian Bravery Association (ABA) which has been established since 1975.

The ABA held its annual dinner and service of remembrance on its 50th anniversary held at Government House Canberra recently.

The aim of the Australian Bravery Association is to maximize the support available to bravery award recipients, and their families, especially those individuals experiencing physical, emotional or other personal hardship. Caring for those in our community who conduct themselves bravely to save life, property or the environment.

Jim Smith had the honour to attend. Many recipients attending raised funds to support those that still suffer from their brave actions.

Being able to speak to emergency services, military personnel and civilians was an honour.

CORPORAL CAMERON BAIRD VC MG

4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (Commando)

For the most conspicuous acts of valour, extreme devotion to duty and ultimate self-sacrifice at Ghawchak village, Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, as a Commando Team Commander in Special Operations Task Group on Operation Slipper.



For gallantry in action during close quarters combat in Afghanistan on Operation Slipper.

After Corporal Baird’s first operation as a team commander he was awarded the Medal for Gallantry in 2007. Then a lance corporal, Baird was leading a platoon that came under fire and his friend Private Luke Worsley was killed. Baird quickly recovered Private Worsley and led his team to regain control of the fight. The citation for his honour credits him with “undoubtedly preventing further members of his section from becoming casualties.”

In June 2013 Corporal Baird again demonstrated extraordinary leadership and skill. While leading his team in an attack on an insurgent network, Baird became aware that a team nearby was under heavy fire and needed support. Its commander had been shot and required urgent medical care. Despite being ambushed, Baird led his soldiers to isolate a group of heavily armed enemy in a room within a compound. Facing unrelenting gunfire and with ammunition running low, Baird knew that the situation was dire and decisive action was needed. He twice charged the doorway. On his third attempt, he successfully charged the doorway and killed an enemy. In doing so, he gained an advantage for the platoon but lost his life.

For his actions on this day, *Corporal Baird was awarded the Victoria Cross. (posthumous)*



TRIBUTE TO: TONY JENSEN MG




Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Howard JENSEN (Retd)

Tony served in the 2nd / 4th Battalion as a Major in the 70s

CONGRATULATIONS ON A LONG OVERDUE RECOGNITION

Lt Tony Jensen was put forward for the Medal of Gallantry after the Battle at FSB Coral
He has now been awarded the Medal of Gallantry.



MEDAL OF GALLANTRY (MG)

ANTHONY (TONY) HOWARD JENSEN MG

At Fire Support Base Coral Lieutenant Tony Jensen was the 2ic of the 1 RAR Mortar Platoon.

For Tony's actions on the mortar line on 13 May 1968, the Governor General, on 4 December 2020, has been pleased to announce the award of the Medal of Gallantry (MG) to Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Howard Jensen (Retd).

Tony served in 1RAR Vietnam 27 MAR 1968—28 JAN 1969



ANZAC DAY 25



ANZAC Day 25, came with the Easter weekend falling only a few days apart of each other.

Most have used that opportunity to take an extended holiday travelling.

Turn outs from many of the states was well represented and the memories of this years ANZAC Day can be seen within the State Representative's messages

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ANZAC DAY WEEKEND - NORFOLK ISLAND 2022 MEMORIES

As the ANZAC Day weekend at Norfolk Island 2022 was a great success, which was organised by Julie & Rowdy Unsworth.

Julie has provided some additional updates from that weekend and pics (seen below which were not covered in the 2022 newsletter)

The day prior to ANZAC Day 2022, Kapyong Day, members commemorated and attended the Kapyong Day service. During this service, 2/4 RAR Association member, Malcolm Gray delivered the address on behalf of the Association.



Dawn Service



Merv presents certificate of appreciation to the NI RSL Manager as Rowdy & Julie watch on



Merv lays the wreath



The Cenotaph guard



Ken Ellis & Dave Lowe

Many thanks to Julie Unsworth for providing this update and the pics shown

August 1990

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EVERYWHERE



2/4 RAR TO GAIN A TOP DUNTROON GRADUATE

One of the top cadets from the Royal Military College Duntroon this year is to serve with the 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, in Townsville.

Staff Cadet Simon Stuart, 22 (left), of Gosnells in Western Australia, received his commission as an infantry officer on June 26.

During the graduation ceremony, Simon was awarded the Major General J. S. Whitelaw Memorial Artillery Prize for the highest

combined marks in the Arms and Services examination.

Also pictured is another recent RMC graduate, Richard Shadforth, who won the RSL Prize for highest marks in staff duties and the Peter Stuckey Mitchell Travelling Award for leadership, military ability, physical fitness and personality.

Richard was commissioned as an Intelligence Corps officer and will initially serve with the Enoggera-based 6th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment.

LT Simon Stuart was posted to 2/4 RAR in Townsville, 10 Platoon, Delta Company, 2/4 RAR. He later became the Platoon commander for Recon/Sniper Platoon, Support Company, 2/4 RAR. After the delinking in 1995, He later returned to 2 RAR in Townsville in 2000 to 2002, As a Major to Bravo Company, 2 RAR, and served on OP Warden (INTERFET) and OP Tanager (UNTAET) as the OC with them.

2/4 RAR SNIPERS WIN NATIONAL COMPETITION

Story by Captain Brad Horn
Photo by Private Martin Boczan



Top snipers, Private Clay Stoddard (left) and Private Tony Walsh, of 2nd/4th Battalion.

A pair of snipers from the ODF recently won the annual Sniper Concentration held at the School of Infantry, Singleton. Private Clay Stoddard and Private Tony Walsh, from 2nd/4th Battalion, RAR, beat all challengers from within the Royal Australian Regiment.

The concentration encompassed a number of areas. These included extended range telescopic sight shooting, field firing by day and night, a live fire stalk, observation exercises and a gruelling 20km navigation exercise through thickly scrubbed, undulating terrain.

Private Walsh and Private Stoddard excelled in all areas. However Sergeant Steve Moore, Sniper Sergeant of 2/4 RAR, believed it was their performance in the

observation exercise that proved the decisive factor.

It was the first occasion either soldier had competed in the competition, both having been in the battalion's Sniper Section for only a short time.

Major Luke Foster, OC Support Company, 2/4 RAR, paid tribute to the soldiers. "It was a great effort, and generally reflects the high standard of training achieved throughout the Battalion."

It is the third time in the past four years 2/4 RAR has beaten all other battalions within the regiment.

The two soldiers are now awaiting confirmation of whether they will be rewarded for their efforts by representing the Australian Army at the annual International Sniper Concentration in Hong Kong.



Articles, Courtesy of: Jason Harrison

Curator

2 RAR Historical Collection

LANYARDS IN THE RAR - This Article By: Bob Bakkers

Lanyards: After Vietnam the direction was given to reduce the RAR from 9 Battalions to 6 Battalions as part of meeting the reduction of the army's manpower to 34,000. This was done by linking 6 Battalions. 2 and 4 RAR, 5 and 7 RAR and 8 and 9RAR.

It was proposed to seek approval for a new lanyard incorporating the colours of the battalions linked. This would take time to produce, so in the meantime, the simplest, fairest and most practical solution was to wear a combined lanyard of both battalions, neatly stitched together by the unit tailor in such a manner that the stitches do not show. For uniformity, the lanyard of the older battalion, when on the shoulder, is on the outside nearest the sleeve.



An original 2/4RAR lanyard found at an antiques store at Maryborough, Qld in 2023. Stitching is still in place. (\$20)



A 1980 2/4 RAR lanyard. Today it is worn by the Corps of the Military Police.

Did you know in a 1948 RAR

18. WHISTLES AND LANYARDS:

- (a) Lanyards will be worn by all ranks in all orders of dress except working dress.
 (b) Lanyards will be worn over the right shoulder under the shoulder strap with the whistle end passing under the right breast button and into the pocket.

Lanyards will be of the following colours:-

- BHQ Purple
- HQ Coy Green
- A Coy Red
- B Coy Light Blue
- C Coy Yellow
- D Coy White

Any questions on
The Lanyard article
feel free to call
Bob: 0411 757 331