



The Scheyvillian

Prepared on behalf of the OTU Association National Committee

OTU Association National Newsletter, No. 1, 2016

Officer Training Unit, Scheyville NSW 1965-1973
A newsletter for all Scheyvillians

Portsea 1972 Classes Reunion at Windsor/Scheyville 25/26 July 2015.

**The 1/72 Lads:
Standing: L to R:
Mike Prain, Richard
Boyce, Graham Ferguson,
Gary Barker,
Gary van Ree, Paul Brady,
Paul Cotter, Jim Gilchrist
Seated: Peter Whyntie &
Calvin Tilley.**



**The 2/72 Lads:
L to R:
Mike Stone,
Barry Greatorex,
Bill Norton,
Peter Klekner,
Steve Elphick,
Peter Morley,
Ross Gluer,
Joe McCulloch,
Graham Lacey,
Rudi Poldoja,
Chris Watt & Adrian Jackson.**



NATIONAL COMMITTEE 2015/16:

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Postal Address: OTU National Committee, 3/49 John Street, Lower Templestowe, VIC, 3107

WEBSITE: www.otu.asn.au

REQUEST FOR PHOTOGRAPHS AND MEMORABILIA: MORE NEEDED

Still needed:

OPD Church Parade Booklet: Class 3/69, Class 4/71 & Class 4/72

RC Church Parade Booklet: all but Class 3/66, Class 3/69, Class 4/71 and Class 2/72, 3/72 & 4/72.

Graduation Parade Brochure: Class 4/70 & Class 3/71

While the 'Scheyville Collection' of photographs continues to grow we still need photographs from Classes 3/67 & 4/67, 4/68, 4/69, 2/70, 1/71 & 3/71 and all Nasho classes of 1972.

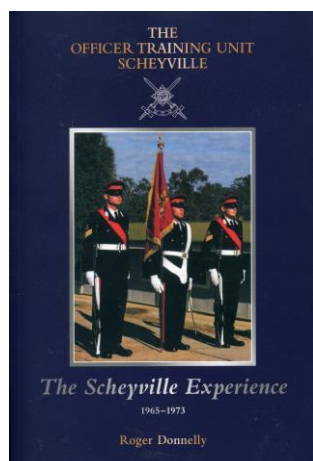
A number of O1/72 and O2/72 photographs are now available after the combined Class Reunion in Jul 2015. These are yet to be added to the Website Gallery.

There is now a set of photographs for each class held at the RMC Museum (telephone the RMC Ops Branch for an appointment). The aim is to have at least 40 photographs for each class. The above classes are well short of that number. There must be photographs out there!

Scheyvillians are encouraged to look at the Website and see what is held and check if you have anything that may compliment what is there. If you have photos, please send them either in 'jpeg' scan format or if you do not have scanning capability send the hard copies 'Registered Post' to:

Neil Leckie at: Unit 3 / 519 Peel Street North, Black Hill, Vic, 3350.

THE SCHEYVILLIAN NEXT EDITION DUE OUT August 2016: It is planned to have Edition 2 of 2016 of *The Scheyvillian* in early August. Submissions need to be received by 15 July 2016. If you have any contributions: current stories (eg. Reunions, dinners or other get-togethers) or memorabilia stories, please email them to The Editor, *The Scheyvillian*, at nkaleckie@optusnet.com.au or post to Unit 3 / 519 Peel Street North, Black Hill, Vic, 3350. **Photographs should be sent separate to the articles.** If you have large file size photos, please send individual photos to nkaleckie@hotmail.com or send a disc with multiple photos. Photos should be in jpeg format and should preferably be labelled.



As seen in this and other recent issues, the Scheyvillian is about those who attended Scheyville in one capacity or another. We all have stories to tell! Please keep the stories coming and keep the standard of this publication high!

THE SCHEYVILLE EXPERIENCE – REPRINTS AVAILABLE

For those who missed the launch of the 'The Scheyville Experience' some years ago, the association has had some copies of the book reprinted. The reprint includes an Errata/Addendum Sheet and updates figures and developments from the time the book was first published (2001) to now.

The books can be purchased through the 'Q Store' on the OTU Website at \$25 per copy including postage. www.otu.asn.au There are only 52 copies left!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT as at 23rd March 2016 (Membership Officer Graeme Chester, 2/67)

A summary of our FY15/16 membership is:

Number of Graduates	1880			
Number on Database (Includes DNG/Staff)	1989			
Number Financial		478		
Widows		8		
Number Honorary		25		
Number Deceased			159	
Number Unfinancial (Not Renewed)			1155	
Number Unfinancial (Do Not Contact)			164	
Totals	1880	1989	511	1478

Of the names on database 25.7% are financial/honorary/widows.

Of the names on the database 8.0% are deceased.

Of the names on the database 58.1% are unfinancial (not renewed)

Of the names on the database 8.2% are unfinancial (do not contact)

Since the last issue of The Scheyvillian you will note that the names on our database have increased significantly. At its February meeting, the Executive asked that all graduates be listed on the database and a check determined that 315 graduates were not previously recorded. This has now been done.

At the beginning of March we have 508 financial members which is at a level not seen for a number of years. Significantly, we have 47 members who were financial last but who are currently unfinancial. If they were to renew, then we would be in a strong position to go forward to even greater heights.

If you are uncertain whether or not you are financial, you can check via the website. Just enter the website and click on **Membership Renewal** on the Home Page and a statement will appear advising you whether you are financial, or not.

If you wish to renew for 2015/16, a Membership Renewal form is attached to this newsletter or, should you wish, you could renew using PayPal via our website. Renewal by **30 April 16** would be appreciated.

Regarding the website, did you know you can update your Profile Page in our Database. Simply go into **Profile** on the home page and update your information. Don't forget to click on the **'Update'** button (bottom left of page) to ensure the database is changed. Keeping our database updated and accurate will greatly assist classes when organising future reunions.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

When you have changed address, can you please change your address on the Association Website otu.asn.au and advise the Membership Officer Graeme Chester (contact details are on Page 2). If you wish to continue to receive a 'hard copy' of The Scheyvillian you will also need to advise The Editor of your new address (contact details also on Page 2).

MYSTERY OF THE BUCKLE (Peter Epps, 4/70)

In 1987 Peter was in Melbourne and found the attached belt buckle at a Swap Meet. He did not recognize it from his OTU days. It is a professionally made buckle and would appear to be the buckle on the belt used for carrying the Governor-General's banner. If any member can confirm this or give further details/photographs it would be appreciated.



NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Class 1/70 National Reunion, Melbourne 22 – 25 April 2016 (Co-ordinator Ray Andrews)

Friday Night Dinner: The reunion will commence on Friday evening, 22nd April with a combined dinner with the Victorian Chapter. As has been the case for a number of years the dinner will be held at the William Angliss Institute of TAFE, 550 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne at 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

Attendance at the dinner needs to be booked through the Victorian Chapter by 15th April 2016.

Cost \$75 per head. Dress: Lounge suit and tie, with miniature medals for men, and equivalent for ladies.

Send cheques payable to OTU Association - Victorian Chapter to:

Peter Hateley, 9 Frodsham Rd, Ringwood, 3134

Direct Deposit: Bank ANZ, BSB 013304, Account number 2599 69777 (Your name is the Reference)

Please advise Peter of any special dietary requirements at (pgh@foresightfinanciagroup.com.au)

Also please advise Peter if you wish to make a donation of a dinner raffle prize, including its value.

Saturday: Attendees will be free to plan their own activities or participate in a group activity.

George Giummarra (georgeig02@gmail.com) is organising a group to see the Western Bulldogs play the Brisbane Lions at Etihad Stadium on Saturday 23rd April, and Peter Balfe (peter.balfe@bigpond.com) is organising a group to see a live theatre performance.

Sunday Lunch: The lunch will be preceded by a tour of the brand-new \$45m development at the Shrine of Remembrance at 10.00am. The tour will be conducted by Shrine's Life Governor and Nonorary Life Member of the OTU Association, Peter Whitelaw, Class 3/66. The Shrine is a short tram ride from Melbourne's CBD along St Kilda Road. This is the same route that the ANZAC Day March will use. This Sunday lunch will be held at Young & Jackson Hotel lunch at midday to 3.00 pm (that's 1200 hrs to 1500 hrs for some of you) on Sunday 24 April 2016. Dress: Smart casual (and/or reunion polo). The hotel is at the corner of Swanston and Flinders Streets in the CBD of Melbourne, opposite the famous Flinders Street Railway Station. We adjourn to the bar at the same hotel, if you wish, after lunch at 3.00 pm:

- \$49.50 each (\$99 per couple) for the lunch. This includes free first drink on arrival, then other drinks at bar prices
- transfer your Young & Jackson Hotel lunch payment now to:
 - account name: Scheyville Reunion
 - BSB: 014 240 Account Number: 280 785 163
 - description: [your surname] SL

Monday, ANZAC Day:

March: See details under ANZAC Day - Melbourne. Advise Ray Andrews if you are to march.

Dress: Dark-coloured lounge suit, tie (preferably OTU tie) and medals.

Lunch: This is for all Scheyville classes. I will give you details closer to the event. Bookings and payments will be direct to the OTU Association well in advance. Dress: ANZAC Day March wear for men and smart casual for women.

If you are in Class 1/70 and have not been receiving communication on this event, or have any questions, please contact Ray Andrews via services@andrewsgroup.com.au

Ray Andrews, OTU Scheyville Class 1/70 Coordinator, Melbourne Reunion 2016.

Association Ties: If anyone has a tie for sale or would be willing to lend one for the 1/70 Reunion Weekend, please contact Owen Morgan at owenmorgan2@bigpond.com or 0419 126 065/03 9626 2480.

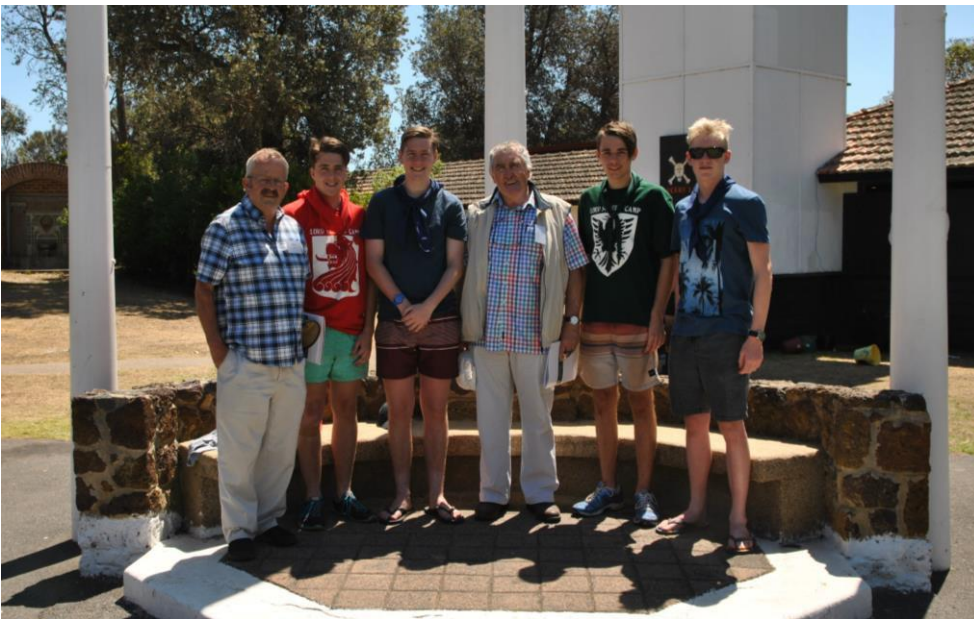
Lord and Lady Somers Camps – January 2016 (Frank Miller, 4/67)

Once more the Association was a major sponsor for young people attending the Lord and Lady Somers Camps. A long term feature of our Youth Development and Leadership initiative, this provides “groupers” in the 16 – 17 year range, with a life changing self-awareness experience – much in the way OTU did for us.

In February, on Melbourne’s 3AW Ross and John talk-back breakfast program, listeners were asked to phone in on events that had a major impact on their lives. One man spoke glowingly of all he gained from his week at Lord Somers Camp several years ago. It certainly confirmed the view taken by the Association over some three decades’ funding.

This year OTU fully or partially paid for eighteen groupers – ten boys and eight girls. Of these three boys and four girls were in partnership with the Rotary Club of Healesville.

Again Scheyvillians were invited to come to Somers (on Melbourne’s Western Port Bay) to see first-hand



the camps in operation and to join in for lunch. It is always a worthwhile day. To see the personal effort put in by all the young people and the enthusiastic teamwork they display is most gratifying. Our sponsorship is clearly being put to good use.

Left: Peter Don and Bernie Gleeson (both 3/69) with some OTU Supported ‘Groupers’.

Class 4/67 (La Crème de La Crème) Vietnam Reunion (Frank Miller)

“La Crème de La Crème” - the self-anointed title for class 4/67 - held its seventh reunion in the last two weeks of February. This was the first international venture for the group choosing a tour of Vietnam. Altogether, sixteen members, wives and partners of the elite bunch took part. Unfortunately, our unofficial father former PMC Gerry Garard and wife Renita were unable to attend. We would like to express our sincere gratitude however, for Gerry’s superb work in putting the whole thing together.

We arrived in Hanoi and our first organised event was a dinner at a local restaurant. Fortunately we were able to be joined there by former BSM Rob Hutchison (on left with Frank Miller and Graeme Wright). Rob now lives just out of the city and is a manager for a large civil engineering project being undertaken nearby. It was good to catch up with him as he was last seen by most leading our Graduation Parade on 11th of April 1968.



The next day we visited the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum in which lies the embalmed body of the country's former leader. We also saw an historical temple then walked through the bustling "shop" area of the city where so many different things are on sale. It was fascinating. After a Vietnamese puppet show in which the different characters (fish, birds, dragons and humans) all swam in and out of a large water pool we had yet another fine evening meal.



Above: At Halong Bay

From there, after a four hour drive, we spent a night on a luxury vessel in Halong Bay. This is one of the country's renowned areas and features large near-vertical rocky outcrops that rise from the sea. The next day we returned to Hanoi where, for a change, we enjoyed a Western-style meal.



Our next port of call was Da Nang, the site of a large US Air Force Base in the time of the war. The weather there was noticeably warmer than Hanoi and the area boasted beautiful beaches. We moved on to our hotel in Hoi An, a bustling city one hour away. This too was most interesting and gave yet another insight into the way of life in Vietnam.

We stayed two days in Hoi An then flew south to Saigon. (Left: Dinner in Saigon) Here it was hot, tropical and close. The traffic, like Hanoi, was packed and intense. Again

there were a huge number of smaller type motorcycles and scooters. We got used to seeing the enormous loads carried by these vehicles including families of father, mother and two children.

With Saigon as our base we visited a number of the area's highlights. These included the city's post office and the presidential residence used up to the end of the war. Other locations gave an insight into Vietnam's take on the conflict. The next day around the Mekong River area was also well worth seeing.

From Saigon we drove to Vung Tau – the city in which 1st Australian Logistic Support Group was based all those years ago. It brought back special memories for the two of our number – Phil Warwick (RAA Pro) and Graeme Wright (AAAvnC). Vung Tau today is predominantly a holidaying and tourist city with lovely beaches and sunny, warm weather. Noticeably absent is the frenetic traffic of Hanoi and Saigon.

On our second day there we visited two sites that were of great significance in Australia's Vietnam war effort. En route we called in to a supermarket to purchase gifts for children at a kindergarten that has been supported by Australian veterans over a number of years. From there we moved on to the area on which the 1st Australian Task Force had been located. For those who hadn't served in Vietnam it put some reality into what we have learned of our country's military history. There were hills and other geographical features that carried names we first heard about in Scheyville. It was strange to see them in reality.

Much of Nui Dat is now overgrown and there has been some quarrying activity in the area. A few of our more energetic number climbed to the peak of SAS Hill – not an easy feat due to the crumbly terrain.

We visited the kindergarten which was located at the end of what had been the main runway. The children and staff were delighted with our gifts.



From Nui Dat we drove to the Long Tan Memorial at the site of the historical battle. A small and simple ceremony was held where "The Ode" was recited, the Last Post played and a minute's silence observed. It was a sombre and emotional occasion.

At present the area around the memorial is bare, the last rubber plantation having been removed on reaching the end of its productive cycle. It is to be replaced. An active plantation can be seen across the road giving an understanding of the terrain in which the battle was fought.

From Long Tan we returned to our hotel in Vung Tau for a little relaxation then a fine meal at a restaurant beside the sea. The next morning we drove back to Saigon, had a final lunch together, wished each other all the very best and headed by different flights back home.

Vietnam is a fascinating country with so much to see. We learned much of its history and people. It is also beautiful.

On first arriving traffic in Vietnam seemed totally chaotic with its masses of motor cycles seemingly to flow in an almost random pattern. Yet after a while when you get the hang of things, you can walk across any road easily – they simply avoid you. The drivers are wonderfully skilled and tolerant. Australian type road rage just doesn't appear to exist.

Both Hanoi and Saigon handle huge numbers of people each day by road. Although “one swallow does not make a summer” it was our observation that the traffic flowed smoothly. We did not come across one jam where we were stuck for minutes on end – as could have been expected with the numbers of motorcycles and cars. Much of this can be attributed to personal skill and discipline for all road users. Another interesting thought is to consider how things would be if, instead of each motorcycle, there would have been a car with a single driver or, at best one passenger, as is the case back home. Gridlock would have certainly resulted. So much for my philosophising.....

As with all our reunions it is intriguing that the camaraderie of nearly fifty years ago is so quickly re-established. There really was a strong bond established between us all at Scheyville. Not only does this relate to specific classes but also, as the ongoing success of the Association attests, to all those who went through what has become called “The Scheyville Experience”. It was, and remains to this day, a special time of our lives.

O1/72 and O2/72 Reunion 25 and 26 July 2015 (Rudi Poldoja via Peter Whyntie, O2/72)

The combined O1/72 and O2/72 Reunion Weekend went ahead as planned and saw some of us gather on the Friday evening for dinner at locations in the Windsor pedestrian mall and for brunches on Saturday and Sunday mornings, also at cafés in the mall. The focal gathering, the Saturday evening at the Windsor RSL Club, saw 39 people from the O1/72 and O2/72 OCS (Scheyville) classes with spouses etc in attendance at the function room booked for us by our reconnaissance team - Mike Stone and Peter Whyntie. During the course of the evening we caught up with classmates, seeing faces from our OCS time that we hadn't in some cases come across for several decades. What had initially started as a reunion for the O2/72 Class had, pleasingly, developed into a wider gathering of the two classes and we were reminded during the evening that we had much in common as we each confronted the shared challenge of doing the OCS course at Scheyville rather than at Portsea. Our sole representative of the O1/73 Class, Brendan Sforcina, was a late apology.

Present from the O1/72 Class were: Graham Ferguson (Sydney), Gary and Jenny van Ree (Melbourne), Mike and Barb Prain (Sunshine Coast QLD), Gary Barker (Murrumbateman NSW), Richard and Jan Boyce (Jervis Bay NSW), Paul and Judy Brady (Port Macquarie NSW), Jim and Kay Gilchrist (Canberra), Paul and Anne Cotter (Lake Macquarie NSW), and Calvin and Sonia Tilley (Sydney). Late apologies were sent by Peter and Yvonne Martin, Rick and Jan Schurmann, Gary Ward, and Noel McRoberts. Of this Scheyville OCS graduating class of 26, there were nine present. (Peter Whyntie was originally a member of this class but graduated with the O2/72 Class.)

Present from the O2/72 Class were: Steve and Kris Elphick (Narooma NSW), Ross and Denise Gluer (Brisbane), Barry Greatorax (Brisbane), Adrian Jackson (Melbourne), Peter and Judy Klekner (Brisbane), Graham and Gail Lacey (Canberra), Joe and Sherena McCulloch (Hervey Bay QLD), Peter Morley (who flew in from Bangkok), Bill and Doris Norton (Brisbane), Rudi and Mary Poldoja (Brisbane), Peter and Judy Klekner (Brisbane), Mike and Lynne Stone (Sydney), Chris and Cathy Watt (Toowoomba QLD), and Peter Whyntie and Angela Nesbitt (Sydney). Late apologies were sent by Tony Nobes and Greg Flinn. From a Scheyville OCS graduating class of 23, it was pleasing to have 13 of us in attendance.

At the Saturday evening Windsor RSL gathering, items of memorabilia (below) were reviewed and a slide show of photos of our younger selves at Scheyville and around the region during our respective OCS



stints was watched, as always, with attendant character assassinations, memories and laughs. Peter Whyntie played for us a film that was used in the 1960s to recruit National Servicemen to attend OTU (titled 'National Service Officer') – much of this reflected elements of our own experience as Regular Army Officer Cadets a decade later. The apologies of those unable to attend were read out and, over a pleasant dinner and drinks, we whiled away the evening catching up with our fellow travellers who also undertook our Scheyville OCS journey. Songs from the OTU Songbook, ('The Battle of Long Weeny Creek', the 'OCS/OTU Song', and the 'OTU Song') featured as we once again bonded in a social environment, reminding us of the gatherings around the player piano in the Cadets' Mess Recreation Room at Scheyville in the 1970s; sadly, our singing ability has not at all been embellished with the passage of some 42 years. The 63 km Gaspers trek, a shared experience by both our classes, featured yet again at this gathering of classmates, with tales of hardship, endurance limits and hallucinations rating mentions as the legend was re-lived during our recollections of one particular field exercise that took place in our old stamping ground; the Colo/Putty area. A recording, provided by Gary Barker, was played during the evening; this involved an interview by Gary of former OTU Scheyville staff member CAPT Neil Turner, who provided some candid reflections and insights from his time on the staff when the concept of having OCS overflow classes at Scheyville was being advanced, to be followed by the necessity and hardships of having to re-jig the training to accommodate the new requirement and the mechanics of how this was achieved with no additional staff supplementation. We took the time during the evening to pause and remember those members of our two classes who are no longer with us – Stu Cameron, Marty Vincent, Ian Furlonger and Paul Logan (who we lost on 1 July 15); a toast To Absent Friends was marked by us all in their honour. Later, we were able to continue our review of our OCS experience, classmates and recollections.

Sunday morning (right) saw us gather at the Windsor mall area for brunch ahead of heading out to the Scheyville OTU site, now the Scheyville National Park; some had already visited the site on the Saturday. Here we were able to stroll the grounds of what used to be OTU



and visit key locations that played a part in our training regime. Amongst these were the gym and Cadets' Mess (both just hollow shells and opened for us by the Park Rangers), the OTU HQ building and parade ground (still intact), and the Cadets' Lines (now just marked by the foundation concrete slabs), where we tried to locate the sites of the rooms we occupied in our Junior and Senior terms.

For some reason, no-one took the opportunity to tackle the cross-country course. The planned visit to St Matthews Church, the site of our church parades, was negated by the clash caused by the multiple church services being conducted on this Sunday.

After our visit to the OTU site (Class 1/72 below), we went our separate ways with new perspectives of our time at Scheyville, shaped by hearing from our classmates their recollections that had matured with the passage of the years. Our next reunion will likely occur in 2018 (the O2/72 OCS [Scheyville]



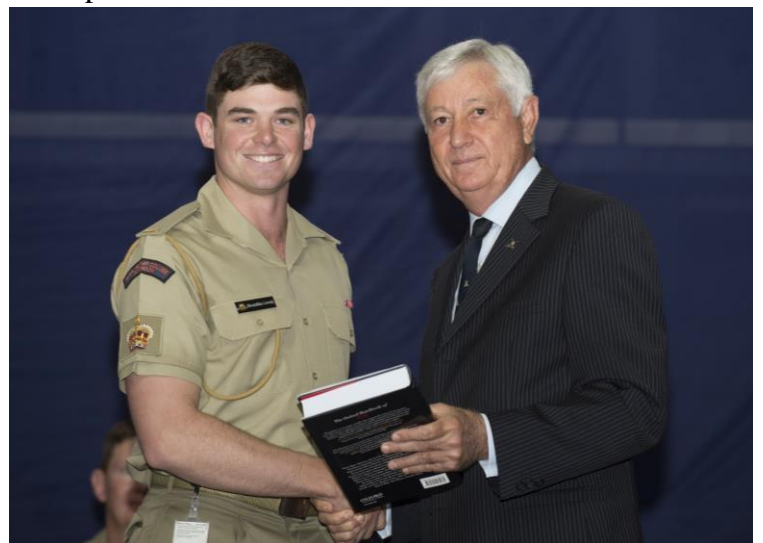
graduation 45th anniversary) and get us back on track to have these gatherings each five years; this year's event was out of synch to take advantage of the solid numbers of classmates that indicated their likelihood to be able to gather at Scheyville. At this early stage, our Portsea class classmates look like having their gathering at Kangaroo Island that year.

STATE ACTIVITIES:

ACT CHAPTER (Wal Hall, 2/68)

The ACT Chapter will continue in 2016 with its monthly lunches. Dates for lunch at the RCGC are 15th April, 20th May, 17th June, 19th August and 16th September. The 18th November lunch will be held at the Commonwealth Club. Special events will be the 15th July Members & Ladies Mid-winter lunch at the RCGC and the 14th October Annual Mixed Dinner (location tba). The Members & Ladies Christmas Lunch will be held on 16th December at the RCGC.

Presentation of the Scheyville Prize by Wal Hall (ACT Chapter) to Under Officer Maxamillian Lownds at the December 2015 RMC graduation. Following graduation he has been allocated to the Royal Australian Engineers and posted to the School of Military Engineering for special-to-corps training.



NSW CHAPTER (John Bushell, 4/69)

Calendar of Events: The OTU website has been updated to include all of the NSW events for the coming year. Chapter members are encouraged to go to the website (www.otu.asn.au) and decide upon those event in which they may wish to participate.

Of particular interest this year will be of course the Sydney ANZAC Day March being coordinated by Dick Adams (3/72), then followed by the ANZAC Day luncheon at the NSW Masonic Club. Whilst March timings are yet to be finalised, there is sufficient information posted to allow people to plan ahead.

A second and important calendar event for NSW will be the Battle for Australia commemoration Dining In Night, on Friday 9th September at the NSW Masonic Club in Castlereagh Street. The 2015 dinner was a great success and well attended by our Scheyvillians. It is hoped that this year, with a greater degree of advanced notice, there will be even stronger support.

Lastly, after a most successful 2015 Christmas lunch at the Kirribilli Club it is likely that we will revert to a harbor cruise format for this year's event on 7th December 2016.

Lunch with Jonathan Sanders (NSW Park & Wildlife Service): Many Scheyvillians will know of Jonathan, who has for many years now been the Manager of the Scheyville National Park facility. Prior to the 2003 National Reunion, Tony Sonneveld (1/70), then National President of the OTU Association, began his long and close association with Jonathan Sanders.



Dick Adams, Tony Sonneveld, Jonathon Sanders.



Dick, John Bushell and Jon

On 23rd February, Tony Sonneveld invited Jonathan, along with Dick Adams and Booka Bushell to a catch-up lunch at the Sawmillers' Family Restaurant, Quakers Hill. It seems that Dick and Booka were in the company of a pair of 'true survivors'! Jonathan has since 2001-2, managed to continue at the helm of Scheyville National Park despite numerous secondments and changes in State organisations and governance, and Tony's on-going battle with prostate cancer has been the quintessential 'Nil Bastardum Carborundum' response.

Projects currently under consideration at the site include work on restoring the Leadership Reaction Course and the Obstacle Course. It is clear that under Jonathan's stewardship, the links between Scheyville and our association remain strong, and will continue to evolve. For all of us who have in some way been through the Scheyville experience, Scheyville National Park is a welcoming and available resource to visit and enhance past memories. It was good of Tony to arrange the lunch, which was to reveal what a valuable connection we have with the ol' Alma Mater.

QUEENSLAND CHAPTER (Owen Williamson, 4/70)

Monthly Luncheons are held on the second Thursday of the month at Fridays Restaurant, Eagle Street, Brisbane. These traditional lunches were in decline but over the last year have had a resurgence in popularity with an average of 8 to 12 members each month. The most popular is the Christmas luncheon and we had about 45 attendees come along on the 10th December 2015.

The Annual Black Tie Dinner: On April 2nd we will hold our annual black tie dinner at the United Services Club in Wickham Terrace to celebrate the first intake of the OTU. This year we hope that around 45 members and guests will attend with one distinguished Directing Staff namely Dick Flint. We hope that all those members that are available will attend to make this a very enjoyable get together.

ANZAC Day March: Refer to ANZAC Day activities on a later page.

SA CHAPTER (Gary Vial, 3/69)

Foundation Day Lunch – 3rd April 2016

This year the Foundation Day Lunch will be held on Sun 3rd April at the Salopian Inn, McLaren Vale 12.30pm for 1pm. The cost will be around \$60 - and buy your own drinks. Please RSVP to FDL@ctmc.com.au no later than Wed 30th March 2016.

TASMANIAN CHAPTER (Ray Williams, 2/71)

The Tassie Chapter had the first of their quarterly lunches for 2016, which was held on Friday the 22nd January at the Hobart Salamanca Inn Restaurant. It was attended by the most of the core group; Ian & Jean Howard (1/69), James & Dianne Reade (1/71), Ross & Mary Mace (1/67), Dennis & Anne Townsend (2/70), and Ray & Pam Williams (2/71).

We had 7 members offer an apology. A great lunch that extended into the mid-afternoon and we were amply fed and ‘watered’ by a most accommodating staff. Unfortunately there is no photo this time round as the designated ‘person’ left it on the filing cabinet. We tried to get an interview with this person, but he was unavailable as he was still doing his ‘extras’!

Our next luncheon is scheduled for Friday the 29th April somewhere in the Hobart area; this will be co-ordinated by Dennis Townsend (2/70), who will in due course advise the venue and timings.

VICTORIAN CHAPTER

Monthly Lunches



The monthly lunches are still being held at the RACV Club, 501 Bourke St, at 12.30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month. The lunches attract 10 – 15 Scheyvillians with the basis being Class 3/69. Smart casual, positive thoughts and good jokes essential. Brian Cooper (3/69) remains the contact. Please advise Brian at least 2 days before the lunch of your attendance. 0418 373 874 or bjcooper@bigpond.net.au

Left: The December lunch at the RACV Club.

Annual Tennis Day:

Venue: Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, 489 Glenferrie Rd, Toorak (Park opposite in Vision Aust. car park)

Participants: OTU alumni, their families and friends.

Format: Social tennis ‘Round Robin’ for fun. All standards welcome.

Timings: Arrive by 1400 hrs with play starting at 1430 hrs. Play finishes approx. 1730 hrs
Dinner approx. 1800 hrs

Dress: Appropriate tennis attire/shoes (shirt must have a collar and no dark socks) or neat casual (shirt must have a collar)

Cost: \$15 per player. (pay on the day – cash or cheque made out to “Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club”).

Refreshments: Available at Clubhouse at bar prices.

Dinner: Many reasonably priced choices are available from the club restaurant.

Dinner: Please advise Frank Miller of numbers staying for dinner.

Acceptances: Frank Miller millerfw@netspace.net.au or 0401 140 762

Annual Dinner: The annual Victorian Chapter Dinner will be held this year in conjunction with the Class 1/70 Reunion. As has been the case for a number of years the dinner will be held at the William Angliss Institute of TAFE, 550 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne at 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

Attendance at the dinner needs to be booked by 15th April 2016.

Cost \$75 per head. Dress: Lounge suit and tie, with miniature medals for men, and equivalent for ladies.

Send cheques payable to OTU Association - Victorian Chapter to:

Peter Hateley, 9 Frodsham Rd, Ringwood, 3134

Direct Deposit: Bank ANZ, BSB 013304, Account number 2599 69777 (Use your name as the Reference)

Please advise Peter of any special dietary requirements at (pgh@foresightfinanciagroup.com.au)

Please advise Peter if you wish to make a donation of a raffle prize, including its value.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Frank LeFaucheur, 1/71)

Busselton Friday 5 Feb. – Sun 7 Feb. 2016 now our annual event!

Friday saw the usual "lunch engagement in lieu of The Romany" in Busselton. While the ladies dined at The Deck at Port Geographe, the men, after the usual long, leisurely lunch at Sensations in Geographe, all tidied up and then assembled at the beautifully located Busselton Yacht Club for a 'rustic' dinner, sundry ales and sunset over the ocean.



Saturday was free to explore the beaches and sites of the area until all 'fell-in' at (Commodore) Ken Waller and his wife (Doctor) C.J.'s lovely home in the canals. The usual twilight sail on *Major Tom* resulted in the usual stunning sunset off Geographe and the unexpected "surfing Dolphins" under the boat, which were fabulous to behold. An excellent catered meal then followed at the Waller Hacienda with the usual anecdotes and fibs being traded.

Sunday saw Ron and Phillipa Packer (1/71) hosting a long-table lunch at the Packer Ponderosa at Yallingup. The always resourceful Philippa has organised Archery kits, etc and the "to be expected" skills were on show for all to see! Most then departed and the "residual" members and wives finished with an excellent barbecue complete with (swinging) billy tea, fine reds and obligatory camp fire to celebrate another ocean sunset in Paradise!



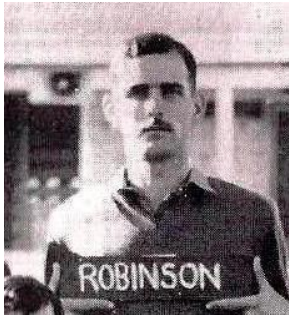
All in all an excellent weekend and all thanks go to the Busselton Committee of Waller (2/72)/McDaniel (3/69)/Eyres (3/67) for their efforts and hosting.

Left: All 'assembled' at the Yallingup Beach car-park coffee van - and excellent coffees and views they were !!

Left to right: Glenn Williams, Wayne Banks, Chris LeFaucheur, Jannie Williams, Pip Banks, Joy Paterson, Frank LeFaucheur, Philippa Packer and Ron Packer.

VALE:

John Robinson (3/72) (John Murray, 3/72)



John Charles Robinson or “Robbo” as he preferred to be called entered this life on the 10th of July 1951. Robbo’s father was an RAAF pilot who flew Lancaster bombers during the Second World War. He met Robbo’s mum in Newcastle upon Tyne while he was on active service in the UK and they subsequently married there. He returned to Australia while still on active duty with the RAAF and she subsequently came out to Australia aboard ship with hundreds of other war brides.

Robbo was an above average student at school and received six A’s in his School Certificate exams. He left school at that point with the full encouragement of his father, which was perhaps somewhat surprising considering he himself was a qualified accountant. In later life John often wondered how life might have been different had he gone on to complete his high schooling and then gone to University to study journalism, a career in which I’m sure he would have excelled.

He was a handy footballer who had a lifelong love affair with Rugby Union. He played Rugby while at Scheyville and also afterwards throughout his time in the military and beyond. Robbo, like all of us from time to time while at Scheyville, questioned his worth and his ability to complete the course. Then he pulled off a classical infantry attack when it was his turn to be Platoon Commander on our final “Bonanza” exercise. He finished up 20th out of 39 graduates in class 3/72 and was very happy with that result.

Likewise, on the Young Officers Course at the School of Artillery in 1973, he again finished ahead of a number of his classmates reinforcing for himself that he was fit to be an officer and to lead men. After the YO’s course, Robbo was posted to 8th Medium Regiment in Holsworthy. He proved to be a more than competent section commander in his Battery and was respected by his Gunners, his NCO’s and his fellow officers. So much so that his CO invited him to sign on and stay in the Army after his National Service was completed. As much as he loved his time in the Army, especially as an Artillery Officer, Robbo felt that his immediate future lay in advertising, the industry in which he was employed when he was called up.

Robbo returned to advertising in Sydney after his discharge in December 1973. He loved the work and he was very good at it, working for such well-known companies as Young and Rubicam and Grey Advertising. His favourite campaigns during that time were for iconic brands Lindeman’s and Sanitarium.

After a time living on the Central Coast of NSW he moved with his young family to Brisbane. There Robbo worked for Mojo Advertising on campaigns for Marina Mirage, Dreamworld and XXXX amongst others. He received many awards for his work including 2 Silver and 1 Gold Clio Award, which are the advertising industry’s most recognisable international awards

Life wasn’t only about his work. Robbo loved being out in or on the water. He became a fully qualified PADI Scuba Diving instructor in 1998 and logged up more than 800 dives all over Australia but mainly on the Great Barrier Reef, North Stradbroke Island and Moreton Bay.

Eventually Robbo and Bev left Brisbane behind and went in search of their own little piece of paradise. They found the little cottage of their dreams in Bilambil Heights, in the hinterland above Tweed Heads overlooking the Tweed River. Robbo’s favourite place to be was Rainbow Bay, or Snapper Rocks as the locals like to call it, surfing on his beloved Mal. Alternately, you were most likely to find him kayaking on the Tweed Broadwater in front of his home.

Robbo also loved to potter in his garden and was proud of the tool collection he inherited from his dad. He used those tools to very good effect in a number of handyman projects he undertook around the house. Robbo actually found part time employment as a handyman for a while at a couple of different TAFE

Colleges not far from his home and was in his element being a Mr. Fix-it while getting paid for it at the same time.

About 2 years ago Robbo contracted a very rare form of cancer – Osteo Sarcoma - that proved very difficult to treat and to beat. He faced the battle with typical stoicism and humour. In one email to me he mused that his later visits with his Oncologist must have been somewhat similar to attending a Commandant's interview at Scheyville.

John and Bev did not sit idly by awaiting his fate. With typical gusto they took the opportunity to travel as extensively as Robbo's treatments would allow and these trips enabled John to cross a number of long desired destinations off his bucket list. He also indulged his love of writing, entering many short stories to magazines and newspapers, some of which were published. He joined writing groups and enjoyed writing stories about his adventures overseas with Bev.



Left: 3/72 Classmates Chris Richardson from WA, Kim Turner from Brisbane and John Robinson.

Unfortunately Robbo lost his final battle with cancer on November 30th 2015. A celebration of his life was conducted at Centenary Gardens Summer in Brisbane on Monday December 7th, with a number of his 3/72 Scheyville colleagues in attendance. Robbo is survived by Bev his partner in life for over 49 years, his adoring daughters Brooke and Katie, and his 5 grandchildren who were all the apples of his eye.

Robbo never talked about his achievements in life, although he was very proud of them. He succeeded at Scheyville and then excelled in the cut-throat world of advertising for over 37 years. He taught hundreds of people to dive and to enjoy the wonders of the ocean. He could be a complex character at times, continually striving for perfection and not happy to accept any less.

He was a fantastic husband and provider, a practical man endowed with above average intelligence and common sense, a staunch and loyal friend and a man it was my privilege to have known and to have called my mate for over 43 years. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

A good man – gone too soon. Vale Robbo.

Leon Rowe (4/71)

Leon Theodore Rowe was born in Auburn, NSW, on 21st May 1948 and completed his Secondary Education at Patrician Brothers College, Fairfield, NSW. Before entering the Army as a National Servicemen he was a Theological student. Leon graduated from OTU into RAEME. His initial

appointment was as SO3 (Captain's position) RAEME Training. Not liking that job he volunteered to take on a posting as a Platoon Commander at 2 RTB, Puckapunyal. Shortly after arriving he met Deena, a Nurse at 3 Camp Hospital. In Melbourne they had three children Kelly, Patrick and Kate, before moving to Mt Gambier and later Adelaide. The next move was to Rockhampton in Queensland then Ipswich-Booval-Goodna parishes before retiring in 2010.



Leon's son Patrick served tours in Afghanistan and Timor-Leste before resigning from the Army. In his later years Leon lived at Kangaroo Point in Brisbane. He was not in good health, but made it to the 40th Reunion in Sydney in 2013 where

he took part in the Church Service at St Matthews. Sadly, Leon passed away (in Brisbane) on 15 November 2015 after a long period of ill health, he was 67 years of age. Leon leaves behind his three children and four grandchildren. A Service of Thanksgiving followed by Interment of Ashes was held at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Brisbane Street, Ipswich on Thursday, 3rd. December.

(John) David MacDonald Taylor (Ross Robbins, 2/69 and Dennis Townsend, 2/70)



Although he wasn't a Graduate, David Taylor has been a member of the OTU Association for many years. David was a regular attendee at the Tasmanian Lunches and had made several contributions to The Scheyvillian over the years and will be sadly missed.

David was with Class 4/66 but didn't make it through due to a football injury during the senior class. He completed the OTU theory but was unable to complete the field activities. David was posted to Armoured Corps and signed on to go to Vietnam with 3rd Cavalry Regiment as a Temporary Corporal. He arrived 'in country' on 9th September 1968 and some weeks later his APC hit a land mine. David suffered considerable injury and was 'Returned to Australia' on 16th December 1968.

David received a double lung transplant in 2010. The Scheyvillian 3 of 2014 reported David's activities at the Australian Transplant Games where David competed in his second games (squash, tennis, badminton, volleyball, athletics, swimming, pentanque (French version of bocce), 10 pin bowling and darts – all in one week!)

David's lung function was deteriorating rapidly in recent months. He advised Ross Robbins at the end of January that he doubted that he would make the April Tasmanian lunch. His prophesy proved correct and he passed away in early March.

David's funeral was held at the Launceston Church Grammar School Chapel, Mowbray, on 17th March. Ross and Jane Robbins along with Dennis and Annie Townsend attended David's funeral representing the OTU Association Tasmania Chapter. David always looked back at his achievements at OTU and during his time with The Army with pride and his family was pleased to see representation from that period of his life. The Georgetown RSL was well represented as well as a few other ex-servicemen in attendance.

It was a large funeral held at his old school with representation from his various interests present. Angus Waugh, a mate from his Vietnam unit, amongst others, delivered a Eulogy. Annie Taylor was very composed and his daughters and step-daughters all made a great and heartfelt contribution. David's coffin was draped in Grammar School colours, his medals and Armoured Corps beret. A bugler played The Last Post and The Rouse bringing the service to a conclusion. He will be missed. Lest we Forget. Rosco R.



Errold Frederick (Fred) Pfitzner (not OTU)

Those who served post NS may have met Fred Pfitzner. Fred joined the Australian Staff Corps on 13th December 1961 and was posted to 3 RAR where he served in Malaya. He served at HQ 6th Brigade and HQ 1st Task Force, Vietnam, from 4th February – 6th December 1968, with a detachment to 5 RAR. Other postings included as an Instructor at RMC Duntroon, 9 RAR, CO 8/9 RAR, Commander 6th Brigade and Director of Infantry. Following retirement, Brig Pfitzner ran a cattle stud south of Canberra. He was active in Legacy and as President of the RAR Association (ACT). In March 2015, Brig Fred Pfitzner passed away at home in Adelaide after a long illness.



ANZAC DAY SERVICES

For those attending ANZAC Day services in their local Capitol city or for those travelling interstate on ANZAC Day, the following are the latest details on ANZAC Day Services in the major cities:

Adelaide: http://rslsa.org.au/Media/Default/Media%20Releases/Adelaide_ANZAC_March_2015.pdf

Preparatory: Timings 8.00 am road closures (Assembly Areas & Route) 8.00 am Marchers, bands & vehicles begin to assemble 9.30 am

Parade: March commences - North Terrace Saluting Points South Australian National War Memorial South African War Memorial Pathway of Honour (optional) Vice-Regal Saluting Base Defence Health Services Memorial (optional).

OTU: We have again been accepted to march as a unit this ANZAC Day. The March will commence at 9.30am from the corner of North Terrace and Gawler place. However the Committee won't be advising the Order of March, FUP and their timings until around 2 weeks before the March. As soon as the details are to hand, we will email local members.

Post-March: Because of the success of last year, after the March we will retire to The Exeter, 246 Rundle Street, for post-march rehydration.

Brisbane:

Every year the Dawn Service will start at 4:28am sharp on the 25th April at the Brisbane Shrine of Remembrance, ANZAC Square, located between Ann and Adelaide Streets Brisbane.

The ANZAC Day March will commence at 9:30am on the 25th April.

OTU: FUP George St near the top end of Charlotte St at 10.15 for an expected march off at 10.30am.

Post-March: Booking for 15 members at the United Service Club for lunch, so remember that the first to book with Owen Williamson will secure their lunch as there are limited spots.

Canberra:

The Australian War Memorial hosts the Dawn Service in close cooperation with the Returned and Services League of Australia ACT. This year, Monday 25 April 2016 marks the 101st anniversary of landing of ANZAC troops on Gallipoli.

Timings

ANZAC Day commemorations will begin at dusk on Saturday 23 April, when images of Australian servicemen and servicewomen, drawn from the Memorial's rich photographic collection, are projected onto the Memorial building.

Dawn Service: On Monday 25 April, at 4.30 am excerpts will be read from the letters and diaries of Australians who experienced war firsthand. At 5.15 am all will be quiet before the Dawn Service commences in darkness at 5.30 am.

ANZAC Day National Ceremony: The Australian War Memorial will host the ANZAC Day National Ceremony, commencing at 10.30 am. The ceremony begins with the traditional order of service, including the National Anthems of Australia and New Zealand, the Commemorative Address, the laying of wreaths, the reading of hymns, the sounding of the Last Post, and the observance of one minute's silence.

Melbourne: <http://www.shrine.org.au/Remembrance/Ceremonies/ANZAC-Day-2016>

Dawn Service: 6am Dawn Service. Join millions across the world to honour Australian service and sacrifice. One minute of silence will be observed. Assemble on the Shrine Forecourt by 4.30am.

The Visitor Centre Courtyard will be reserved for persons with mobility, sight and hearing impairments. To reserve a space please contact the Shrine on 9661 8100 or reception@shrine.org.au. Please include the number of spaces, seating requirements and the nature of impairment.

Official Wreath Laying Service: 8.15am

Parade: The parade commences assembly at 7.45am for the 9.00am ANZAC Day March. Unit wreaths will be laid at The Shrine progressively during the march which will conclude at approximately 1pm. The OTU Association will assemble at 1130 hrs for 1200 hrs march off on the North side of Collins Street just West of Swanston Street. Dress. Suit and tie (preferably the OTU). Please wear all medals you have been awarded (and relatives medals on the right breast).

Commemorative Service: At the conclusion of the March a service will take place on the Shrine Forecourt.

Post march: Lunch at the Heroes Club (Toorak Services Club- 72 Clendon Road, Toorak) for a sit down lunch. Drinks at bar prices. Ladies are welcome. Lunch bookings through the Vic Chapter OTU are essential. Advise Frank Miller millerfw@netspace.net.au or 0401 140 762

Sydney: <http://www.sydney.com/destinations/sydney/public-holidays/ANZAC-day>

Dawn Service: At The Cenotaph in Sydney's Martin Place beginning at 4.15am. Thousands gather in the pre-dawn darkness to pay their respects and lay wreaths in honour of fallen soldiers.

Parade: The ANZAC Day March begins at 9am on the corner of Pitt Street and Martin Place. It journeys through George and Bathurst Streets before ending at Elizabeth Street opposite Hyde Park.

Service: At the conclusion of the parade a Commemoration Service is held next to The Pool of Remembrance at the ANZAC War Memorial in Hyde Park South at 12.30pm.

Sunset Service: Sydney's official ANZAC Day commemorations conclude in the evening with a short Sunset Service which begins at 5pm at the Cenotaph in Martin Place.

OTU: FUP is corner Pitt Street & Curtain Place NLT 10:30am

Post-March: Lunch is at the NSW Masonic Club, Castlereagh Street. You must warn in & pre-pay \$60 to gain entry. Contact for both the March and the Lunch is Dick Adams (3/72) mobile: 0408 266 805.

Perth: <http://www.rslwahq.org.au/Assets/ANZAC-day-2016/ANZAC-Day-2016-FAQ-V6-2016-02-28.pdf>

Dawn Service: Kings Park & Botanic Garden from 5.50am – 7.00am

The Dawn Service will be conducted at the State War Memorial on Fraser Avenue commencing 6.00am.

Gunfire Breakfast: Stirling Gardens from 7.00am – 9.00am The community is invited to attend a Gunfire Breakfast for a gold coin donation, to share the spirit of ANZAC Day. The breakfast will be in Stirling Gardens on St Georges Terrace (next to Council House). The event caters for up to 2,000 people.

Parade: Perth City Streets from 9.00am (Note: Earlier start and different route in 2016) The Australian Defence Force will step off from the corner of Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace at 9.00am, followed by veteran-carrying vehicles and military jeeps, and the Ex-Services Unit, Corps, Regimental Associations. The Parade will march east along St Georges Terrace, turn right onto Victoria Avenue and into Langley Park.

Commemorative Service: Langley Park from 11.00am (Note: Different location in 2016) The Parade will enter Langley Park off Victoria Street. The Commemorative Service program will feature the Salvation Army Perth Fortress Band and an 80-strong choir brought together from Schola Cantori, Chorus Angelicus, Phoenix, The Alumni Singers and Aaralyn Children's Choir. The Commemorative Service will conclude at 12.00pm

OTU: The FUP for the OTU is at 0850 hrs on St Georges Terrace, between William & Barrack Street. Our leader is Andrew Martindale 1/72 with banner bearers Bernie Houston & John O'Halloran (both 1/65).

Post-March: After the service at Langley Park, we then meet at the Barrack Street Tavern known as *43 Below* for drinks & lunch.

FEATURES:

Aircraft Wrecks At Scheyville

From Greg Rogers, Writer & Publisher, Media & Corporate Communications Department, Rogers DIGITAL.com

Thank you for the latest Scheyvillian.... I was 3/71 DNG... You asked about aircraft parts.... In the late 1980's I paid a nostalgia visit to Scheyville while I was living in Queensland... it was a Saturday morning.... The front of the Cadet's Mess was completely missing and inside but still protruding from the front was a complete Beaufort aircraft under restoration by a bunch of private aircraft enthusiasts who were using the Mess as a workshop.

The wings had been removed and the fuselage resided where we purchased drinks before reading the SMH.. and watched 2001 A Space Odyssey on movie night. About the same time, the NSW Police were using the still largely intact accommodation buildings for fairly destructive training exercises.

So, the aircraft parts may have been leftovers from what was a well organised (but disrespectful to our building) aircraft restoration group operating in the Cadet's Mess.

The Full Story (Our thanks to Paul Rees, 3/68)

Dear Paul, the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society inc (or HARS), members leased the site at Scheyville in the early 80's to store the growing collection of aircraft parts and airframes. HARS also leased a site on Schofields Aerodrome to build a hanger for future operations. A hanger floor pad was laid down but before the hanger was completed the airfield was closed.

Two Beaufighter airframes were stored at Scheyville with lots of parts as well as an F86 /Fairey Gannet and others. Outside was a frame from an Averger Bomber dragged up by fisherman off Sydney Heads where hundreds of aircraft were dumped from three Royal Navy carriers. Those aircraft had been at Bankstown awaiting the invasion of Japan that became unnecessary. The two Beaufighters were located at Truscot WW2 Airfield in north Western Australia and recovered by HARS Members in the 1970's One Beaufighter was restored and exchanged with the US AIRFORCE Museum in Dayton Ohio for our Super Connie in 1991. That aircraft is on display in Dayton.

The other Beaufighter is being restored to fly at our Facility at the Illawarra Regional Airport . HARS has on display some 40 aircraft with half either flying or being restored to fly with others waiting in the wings for their turn.

Regards, Bob De La Hunty OAM, President and Chief Pilot HARS 0433 941 306.

See the HARS Facebook or www.HARS.org.au for more.



Pilots in Class 3/68 (Paul Rees, 3/68)

While OTU trained Air Cadets as well as Nashos there were many Nashos who were already Commercial Pilots at Call-up. According to Paul Rees there were seven Nasho commercial pilots in Class 3/68:

Ken Hoy, ended up in Armour;

Jim McAvoy, ended up in Artillery;

Greg Lambert & Peter MacMillan who both went to AAAvn;

Ken Devenish (DNG) spent his time in RAE with small ships. Ken went back into QANTAS and was the senior Check and Training Capt on B747's;

Peter Kilpatrick broke his ankle at the end so graduated with 4/68. Peter went to RAA, signed on, and left the Army as a Brigadier.

Paul Rees was a Recruit at Singleton and post OTU returned as an RAInf Platoon Commander. Post NS for many years he ran his own small airline out of an airstrip off the road to the Singleton Army Base.

Of the seven Commercial Pilots six graduated, which I would think was above the average for any particular occupation group on call up (and we were all good looking as well!!)

Public Hearings for Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal's Long Tan Honours Review

(John Barnes, 2/67 via Franck LeFaucheur, 1/71)

In April 2015, Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC (Retd) (former Officer Commanding D Company 6th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) at the Battle of Long Tan in Vietnam on 18 August 1966), applied to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) for review of a decision by the Chief of Army to refuse to recommend 13 members of the Australian Army who fought at the Battle of Long Tan for a range of gallantry awards, including a Victoria Cross for the late Warrant Officer John 'Jack' Kirby DCM.

The Chief of Army's decision was made in respect of submissions by Lieutenant Colonel Smith to the Tribunal's *Inquiry into unresolved recognition for past acts of naval and military gallantry and valour*. Despite any previous considerations, Lieutenant Colonel Smith has a statutory entitlement under the *Defence Act 1903* to seek review of the Chief of Army's most recent decision in the Tribunal. The issue of recognition for Australian soldiers who fought in the Battle of Long Tan, Vietnam is to be reviewed by the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal. The review follows an application on behalf of 13 soldiers by Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC (Retd), one of the commanders, in the battle regarded as a watershed moment in Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

Assistant Minister for Defence Darren Chester said he was pleased the Tribunal was progressing to public hearings for the review. "I'm confident that the Tribunal's review will finally resolve this important issue for veterans and their families," Mr Chester said. "I look forward to receiving the Tribunal's recommendations, once the hearings and the Tribunal's further deliberations are completed."

Seventeen Australians were killed (with one dying the following day) and 25 wounded when on 18 August 1966, 108 men of D Company, 6RAR held off an assault by more than 2,000 enemies in the middle of a tropical downpour. They were greatly assisted by a timely ammunition resupply by RAAF helicopters, close fire support from Australian artillery, and the arrival of reinforcements in Armoured Personnel Carriers late in the battle.

The Tribunal will consider honours for 13 veterans of the Battle of Long Tan, including a Victoria Cross for the late Warrant Officer 2 Jack Kirby, who received a Distinguished Conduct Medal for his gallantry during the battle. The Tribunal will hear evidence from veterans of the battle, representatives of the Department of Defence, and witnesses called by the applicant, Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith SG MC (Retd).

The Tribunal held public hearings from 1st to 3rd March 2016, at Maroochydore.

Further information is available on the Tribunal's website at: www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au

Adventure into the Victorian High Country, November 2015 (Wayne Banks, 1/70)

It was Tony Sonneveld's (1/70) earnest wish to go camping in the Victorian high country again and contacted Scheyvillians Dick Adams (3/72) and Wayne Banks (1/70) together with other mates Dan McCrohan and Dennis Elford to join him. Thorough and meticulous planning was undertaken by Dick Adams to ensure that nothing was to be left to chance. Dick also organised the food for the trip to be dispensed from his purpose built trailer (with a place for everything and everything in its place). I cannot believe how organised this guy is.

Lunch on the 4th November at Albury was at friends Peter and Dorothy Campbell's home and then it was on to Bright to spend the night at the Pine Valley Caravan Park. A delightful stay in chalets all the better as it was raining. Dick demonstrated his culinary skills with a fantastic dinner followed by a full breakfast the following morning.



Left: Dick Adams preparing a 'light' breakfast

Onward and upward towards Hotham in continued rain with a cold wind. A stop at Danny's Lookout would have provided spectacular views except for the rain.

From Hotham down to Dargo – a town of one shop, one pub and a few houses. Still raining and an enquiry resulted in an available house next to the shop. Still raining so no sense in camping so made a booking for two nights. You know when the rain is really coming down when the locals are taking photos on the rain coming down through the window of the pub. 15

mm in 9 minutes – glad we had waterproof accommodation

Right: The vehicles at Danny's Lookout



We had to get into the bush so a tour was arranged from Dargo. Fantastic country for 4 wheel driving. Twenty four river crossings in eight kilometres. Certainly learnt a lot about fording creeks. Glad none of them were in flood.

Back to Dargo for the second night and a fantastic feast prepared by chef Dick. We had a prearranged lunch meeting with Tim Fisher at the most exclusive dining establishment in Dargo – the pub.



Left: PubTime with Tim, Dick, Tony, Dan, Wayne and Dennis at the Dargo Hotel.

Onward to a campsite at the Crooked River. What a fantastic spot! Again an excellent meal prepared by Dick. Campfire with a couple of scotch's and a few reds before hitting the sack and listening to the river flowing not 20 metres away.

Lousy news! Organiser extraordinaire, supreme chef and great companion had news of a major problem at home and had to leave. Left his pride and joy trailer with those who were to continue and left to go home. For those who have seen this exceptional towed

kitchen on wheels it was a leap of faith and would only entrust Schevillian mates to look after it.

Left Crooked River with trailer in tow to head for Wonnangatta Station and Conglomerate Creek. Those that have travelled this route would understand that this is no doddle. Two wheel tracks up over the mountain looking down over the edge to creek hundreds of metres below. Track rated 8 out of 10 in 4WD difficulty especially towing a two ton trailer where the draw bar bottomed out every 50 metres destroying the jockey wheel.

But the Wonnangatta Station was fantastic. Campsite (below) right beside the creek and the temperature in the mid-20s. What a life!



However getting into the station was not easy, especially for Tony who was tossed around like a rag doll and in his condition rated the pain 9 out of 10. He admitted he would have ordered a helicopter to get him out if we had had mobile reception. Decision was made by the troops that we needed to get him out by the shortest smoothest route. The plan was made after two days of camping at the station.

Out via a much more comfortable route to overnight at Mansfield Holiday Park. Goodbye to great mates Dan and Dennis and on to Canberra as Tony could not see that he would make the trip straight to Sydney.

On the return to Sydney we stopped at the Remembrance Day Service in Holbrook and then visited the HMAS Otway. We also stopped at the "Dog on a Tuckerbox" at Gundagai, the song that gave us our (Nasho) the Scheyville song. An invitation to spend the night at David Coulter's uncle's farm at Stromlo with David (1/69) on the outskirts of Canberra. What a fantastic spot with a heritage listed property, peacocks perched on the roof calling for a mate and a few reds dating back to '87. Mind that some had to be ditched as they were well past their prime.



Left: Planning to get out with a view of Dick's trailer ONDAWALABY with 'a place for everything and everything in its place'. Wayne Banks (1/70) with Dan McCrohan and Dennis Elford.

And so the adventure ends, shorter than anticipated but thoroughly enjoyable nevertheless. I can highly recommend this area to any that have not had the opportunity to see it. Dick Adams is the one for advice to ensure that it is a memorable and thoroughly enjoyable time. After all some of our greatest mates have experienced Scheyville.

Long Tan Memorial Visit: (Owen Williamson, 4/70)

During February 2016 Linda and I travelled to Vietnam and Cambodia to see the country that has so intrigued me since I was called up for National Service in 1970. I was never posted to Vietnam, but have heard all the war stories for the last 45 years. It was finally time to see the fabled place. Time has changed Vietnam physically but you could still sense the moment that the guys all talked about. We visited Long Tan Memorial and laid a wreath to Lt Gordon Sharp from OTU who lost his life in the first encounter with the VC at Long Tan. It was a stirring moment as I read the "Ode to the Fallen", paid my respects to Gordon and all the other soldiers who had lost their lives and laid the wreath in their memory. The iconic rubber plantation has now been cleared and has been planted with a commercial nut plantation which unfortunately destroyed my mind's eye view of the battle field built up over many stories of the famous battle. However, I would not have wanted to miss this most poignant day of our trip.

THE FORMER OCS PORTSEA SITE

Jason Dowling, Senior Reporter for The Age, wrote an article on 28th November 2015 entitled:

It's Groundhog Day at Point Nepean as master plan goes back to drawing board!

1967 OCS Graduate Robert (Bob) de Haas sent a letter to Jason outlining the feelings of the OCS Alumni on future development of the Portsea site. One would hate to see Portsea look like OTU did by the 1980s!

Jason Dowling: It's 2003 and the Brisbane Lions have won the AFL premiership, no one has an iPhone and Mark Zuckerberg is creating havoc at Harvard University experimenting with social networking sites. In Victoria, no one can agree on the future of 90 hectares of invaluable former defence land at Point Nepean. A decade later a few things have changed – not Point Nepean.

Environment Minister Lisa Neville will soon release a discussion paper to help refresh a 2010 master plan for the site. It follows the government fulfilling an election commitment to scrap a lease for 64 hectares of the site with the Point Leisure Group. The 50-year lease (with an options to extend for another 49 years) was one of the last acts of the former Napthine government.

The Andrews government has paid out \$1 million to the Point Leisure Group for expenses and has gone back to the drawing board. Architect Shelley Penn has been appointed to co-ordinate a new round of community consultation on the future use of the site and will rely heavily on the 2010 master plan. Ms Neville said it would be wrong to think nothing had happened at Point Nepean in a decade. "I get that people feel it's been a while, but in that time we actually have achieved a national park and hopefully now we are not far off getting a master plan that the community itself has a sense of ownership of," she said. "This process will lead us relatively quickly to a sense of what is appropriate, what's not." The new plan will include a "tightening of the quarantine station development envelope" and the potential for smaller investors and operators under short-term leases. Community consultation will occur in January with a draft plan to be released in April and a final plan in June.

Local Nepean MP, Martin Dixon, called on the state government to "get on with it". "Let's make sure the outcome is one that is going to sustain the place long into the future, both economically and environmentally," he said. Chris Smyth from the Victorian National Parks Association said they were delighted a new process for determining the future use of the site had been announced. "We look forward to being involved in ongoing consultation and basically determining the best future for Point Nepean," he said. Mr Smyth said the previous plan for Point Nepean had been "over the top". "We're happy to see commercial activity there, but the thing we are concerned about is major commercial development," he said.



Nepean Ratepayers Association president Colin Watson said they were disappointed the Point Leisure Group plan was cancelled. He said Point Nepean could become a popular national and international tourist destination with the right investment. In a letter sent to Ms Neville last month, he said "the vast majority of the local community is becoming frustrated and disillusioned about the lack of progress since the state government took management control of Point Nepean from the Commonwealth government". Opposition environment spokesman Brad Battin said scrapping the former plan was "bad for tourism and bad for local jobs in Victoria".

Bob De Haas wrote: I'm Bob de Haas, founder of the Officer Cadet School Portsea Alumni (OCS Portsea Alumni), and webmaster of the www.ocsportsea.com website, currently in major redevelopment. The OCS Alumni is a major stakeholder in the development of the Point Nepean National Park.

I'm a graduate of the Class of December 1967 (at the time of the Prime Minister Holt's disappearance). In my career, I rose to Lieutenant Colonel, saw service in South Vietnam as an Infantry Platoon Commander, later raised the first Army Counter Terrorist Unit in Townsville in 1978 (after the Sydney Hilton bombing), and eleven months later, subsequently handed over the CT tasks to the SAS CT Squadron, several of my younger officers joining that unit and continuing their CT training and tasks.

I was a Captain Instructor (Advanced Field Training Wing) at the National Service Officer Training Unit Scheyville (OTU Scheyville) in the two years prior to National Service being abolished and the OTU being closed and..... unfortunately abandoned, and mostly demolished. I mention this in particular because the "Scheyvillians", graduates of the OTU, are a very tightly knit group and, since then, no longer really have an Alma Mater, from which most of the graduates freely admit their "careers began". Two prominent graduates, you may recall, are Tim Fischer, and Jeff Kennett.

As a result of seeing this happen at the time, when the Federal Government wanted to hand over the Point Nepean area to the Victoria Government, I immediately became a "member" of the then formed "caretaker" group, the Point Nepean Community Trust, to add my endeavours to secure the Alma Mater for the OCS Portsea Graduates. The Trust which, with a few generous donations, was able to reasonably restore the older structures that once were the Quarantine Station and later the Officer Cadet School. The OCS, in the period 1952 to 1985 graduated more than 3,000 young Army Officers, bearing in mind the actual entry numbers were far higher as the annual attrition rate was sometimes horrendous. Staff numbers (most specifically selected) were considerable throughout the period.

Graduates of the OCS have included past Chiefs of Defence, Chiefs of Army, and a past Chief of New Zealand Army, who currently is Governor General of New Zealand. Graduates of other nationalities have also risen to extremely high ranks - Malaysia, Singapore, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Fiji, to name a few. The OCS Portsea, is still the **only officer producing establishment** that has produced a Victoria Cross recipient (Major Peter Badcoe, VC) (KIA in South Vietnam), since Sir Roden Cutler. A number of other graduates have also been killed in action (KIA), in various conflicts since the School was established.

The fine work of the Point Nepean Community Trust managed to achieve "Heritage" status for much of the Quarantine Station/Officer cadet School, thus securing lasting structures that ensure the OCS Portsea Alumni have a lasting Alma Mater (unlike the demolished site of the OTU, Scheyville), which is visited many times a year by graduate classes holding reunions, and visitations by their families and friends. The Rangers at Point Nepean have sought us out on a constant basis to provide "interpretations" of the area - which we obviously can, and justifiably take great pride in, while we still live. The Rangers, individually and as a group, freely admit the ambience of the area is indeed beautiful, historical, mysterious, and absolutely unlike any other National Park in Australia.

Reports from the Rangers are that the park visitors are extremely interested in the military aspects of the Park, not only the OCS, but also the old battlements at the end of the Peninsular, and constantly ask about living and training conditions in the area. Unfortunately, being granted heritage listing, the area is extremely expensive to maintain....but worth it, as the park is truly unique in Australia. There is absolutely no other National Park that has such an outlook, such a diverse variety of flora and fauna, historical buildings, and personal histories.

So, the question remains - how to pay for the very expensive on-going maintenance of the area and its structures. I acknowledge that the local community groups are keenly interested in being able to call the park "theirs", but the area is most definitely more for the Nation, the State, and interstate and international visitors - which obviously will benefit the "locals", if not the "retired gentry", but certainly the local

businesses along the Peninsular. I would question the reliance on “small” or “smaller” leases being granted, providing only a comparative pittance to the coffers of maintenance. Some much “grandier” proposals are required - that would draw much larger crowds, national and international. The previous Victorian Government granted a lease to developers of a very seriously attractive Health Spa environment based on the underground flow of mineral springs through the area. Such a venture would not only occasion “spin off” smaller leases that would enhance the total environment, but would have a greater potential to attract investors in re-furbishing and utilizing existing accommodation buildings and restaurant/kitchens, providing a greater incentive for tourist or corporate use of the facilities, further adding to the potential of increased funding for maintenance of the area, so that it would not have to be so reliant on State Government funding.

I would suggest some research into the actual cost of maintenance, before any decisions are made for the granting of leases. And that these leases more than adequately provide for the maintenance funding. However, I’m afraid reliance on such “small leases” would not adequately provide anywhere near the level of funding required for maintenance, which would mean an extra ongoing impost on State “public” funds.

Jason - unfortunately (but fortunately for me), I sold up in Vermont South, Melbourne last year and moved to Bribie Island, Qld. I still remain in contact with the Ranger Team, and will be visiting them in the couple of weeks prior to Christmas. I’m happy for you to contact me at any time regarding the ongoing situation of the Point Nepean National Park. **You can also be assured that the Alumni, families and friends will vigorously have input into the future of the Point Nepean National Park.**

What Scheyvillians Did

Bringing back the car: Noel Osborne’s first weekend leave in Class 3/66 was spent going home to bring his car back. This entailed a Saturday 6pm flight from Sydney to Melbourne and his father picking him up at Essendon airport and driving him home to Bendigo. On Sunday Noel was back on the road to Sydney travelling via Borree Creek where he picked up Classmate. The boys were back at Scheyville before midnight – no extras! (Note: neither Tim Fischer or Noel can confirm who was picked up!)

A night at the beach: Like most Scheyvillians Noel’s class spent at least one Saturday night at the Oceanic Hotel at Coogee Beach. In those days Queen Size beds were unknown and standard beds way too short. Being tall Noel was able to get the room with the bed brought to Australia for the visit of French President Charles de Gaulle in the "Belvedere Suite". It was massive and slept four in comfort. As well as the four already in the room one of the classmates threw the keys down from the window to four more Scheyvillians who also came up and slept in the suite’s entry lounge. Which Class 3/66 members remember that night?

International Cricket: How many Scheyvillians have participated in an international cricket match? Greg Woods (2/68) is one! He played with some South Africans, English and Australians against a team from India, Pakistan and Shri Lanka. The match was played in Bergen in Norway (and Greg’s team won).

What Scheyvillians Do

Tim Fischer AC, 3/66 Author and Lobbyist:



The Independent Member for Indi, Cathy McGowan, has added her voice to Tim Fischer’s in pushing the case for Sir John Monash to be posthumously promoted to Field Marshal.

CATHY McGOWAN (Indi): On this Remembrance Day, I am pleased to add the voice of Indi to the push for one of Australia's most endearing and enduring war heroes, Sir John Monash, to be posthumously promoted to the rank of Field Marshal. The former Nationals leader Tim Fischer has long supported this cause. I joined Tim at

an event in Flowerdale in my electorate where a show of hands of more than 80 people showed the vast majority were in favour of this promotion. Direct support was given by Jim Osborne, the then president of the Rotary Club of Yea, Steve Joblin, Secretary of the Flowerdale Men's Shed and John Brown, President of the Flowerdale Community House.

I note that the Jerilderie Shire Council adopted the Jerilderie proposition in late October and I congratulate my electorate neighbour, the member for Farrer, Sussan Ley, on behalf of her constituents for agreeing to take this proposition to the Prime Minister for consideration. It would be proper and fitting to mark this promotion on the 100th anniversary of Monash conducting the first ANZAC Day service in the field, which occurred near the Suez Canal on 25 April 1916. The support that the Prime Minister has already shown is encouraging and I urge him, on behalf of my electorate and others in the this House today, to give serious consideration to this proposition for April next year.

THE JERILDERIE PROPOSITION as adopted by Jerilderie Shire Council, November 2015. Following on the outstanding contribution of Sir John Monash to State and Nation before, during and after World War 1 and reflecting the fact that Sir John Monash received no Australian Awards or Honours post 11 November 1918, the Prime Minister approve by Government Gazette publication, the posthumous promotion of one step in rank of General Sir John Monash to the rank of Australian Field Marshal, with effect 11 November 1930, one year after Sir John Monash was eventually promoted to the rank of General.

SIR JOHN MONASH: THE JERILDERIE PROPOSITION: Against and For!

Reasons against:

It would alter the portrayal of WW 1 history.

An Australian further 'military posthumous precedent' would be created, albeit in 2013 a posthumous VC was awarded but no formal posthumous rank promotion exists.

Yes Sir John Monash was jammed at Lt General from 1918 to 1929 (initially by the jealousy of W M Hughes) and yes had he been a General in July 1919 he may have been made a Field Marshal by King George V when French overall commander Ferdinand Foch and others were made British Field Marshals, but he was not - so be it.

Reasons for:

It would constitute a symbolic gesture as a salute to all members of the AIF by promoting the man who eventually became their ultimate brilliant leader, helping to deliver victory in 1918.

Decades of discrimination against Monash at various levels would finally be rebalanced.

Floodgates of posthumous promotion demands would not open up as it is only one step in rank (General 4 star to Field Marshal 5 star), the only other possible contender might be Sir Harry Chauvel of Light Horse fame, down the track.

Precedent exists within the British system but also more generally, the US promoted George Washington to Field Marshal equivalent in 1776, he had been dead 176 years at the time.

The JERILDERIE PROPOSITION emanates from the grassroots, it is not being imposed from on high. In addition to Jerilderie Council, there is growing support across the board. EG unanimously by the Australian Israel Chamber of Commerce recently plus many individuals.

Conclusion:

As written in the West Australian recently: nothing would do more to promote a better balance with the history of WW 1 and give the Western Front - the AIF success after success in battle there - due recognition than to posthumously promote Monash one step in rank to Field Marshal. Can I add this

would highlight AIF battle wins rather than the Gallipoli defeat - long overdue. In 2013, the promotion idea was supported by now PM Malcolm Turnbull. Finally if Australia acted, it would result in 50% of Australian Field Marshals actually being Australian (Birdwood 1925, Blamey 1950, Prince Philip 1954 and if promoted Monash 2016 or 2018)! NB My recent book “Maestro John Monash” provides further information.

Legacy: Are you interested in becoming a Legatee? (Andrew Marr, 1/67)



The Chatswood Division of Sydney Legacy is looking for volunteers to join their team as Legatees.

Legacy throughout Australia assists around 90,000 widows and partners and over 1,900 children and persons with a disability to cope when the veteran has given their life or health.

After some initial training and mentoring Legatees maintain contact with the families allocated to their care and ensure they are soundly advised about all entitlements due to them from Government agencies. Legatees with the interest and skills can also serve on Sydney Legacy specialty and policy committees.

If you are interested in becoming a Legatee either in the Chatswood Division or other areas in Sydney then contact can be made with Andrew Marr (Class 1/67) via email (aggmarr@gmail.com) or mobile (0414 221 091)

The Schey Grave (Dick Whitaker, 1/69)

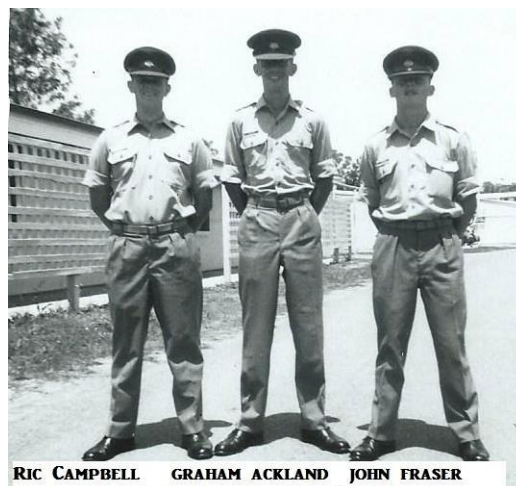
Over the last couple of years some of the NSW Chapter members have attempted to get funding for the restoration of the Francis Schey grave. Schey died in 1913.



The project became very expensive and involved all sorts of red tape and the project was cancelled. In an attempt to improve the condition of the grave some of the members used ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ on 6th March to give the grave a ‘spruce up’. Some weeds were removed and with some elbow grease some of the century of grime was removed and a handsome black and white tile pattern was revealed. This is the first stage and the members will endeavour to repeat the process and further improve look of the grave. Schey – ville lives on! Since that day Dick has become a Facebook friend with Schey’s Great-grand-daughter, Barbara.

HELP NEEDED – problem not solved

Still not resolved: The Class 2/65 photograph shown is labelled as Graham Ackland in the centre. Ric Campbell has spoken to Graham and Graham stated ‘That’s not me!’ Ric has a feeling the Cadet’s name was Graham/Graeme. There weren’t Graduates Booklets with photographs produced for the 1965 and 1966 classes, so we can’t use such a resource to check. Graeme Loadsman was the only other Graham/Graeme to graduate with Class 2/65. However, if the Cadet in the photo ‘Repeated’ then it could have been Graham Gibbons, Graeme Parker or Graeme Thomson (1/66). Maybe he is not a Graham/Graeme at all! Help is still needed to identify the Cadet and correct the photograph label.



Ric Campbell (2/65) said he mistakenly attributed Graham Ackland’s name to the mystery man (MM) in the subject photo. He further said that his fading memory tells him that the MM was definitely an initial member of class 2/65 and not a repeat from 1/65. MM may not have graduated from OTU.

BOOK/MAGAZINE/WEBSITE REVIEWS

An Abundant Life: from MP to Missionary: (John Bradford, 1/68)

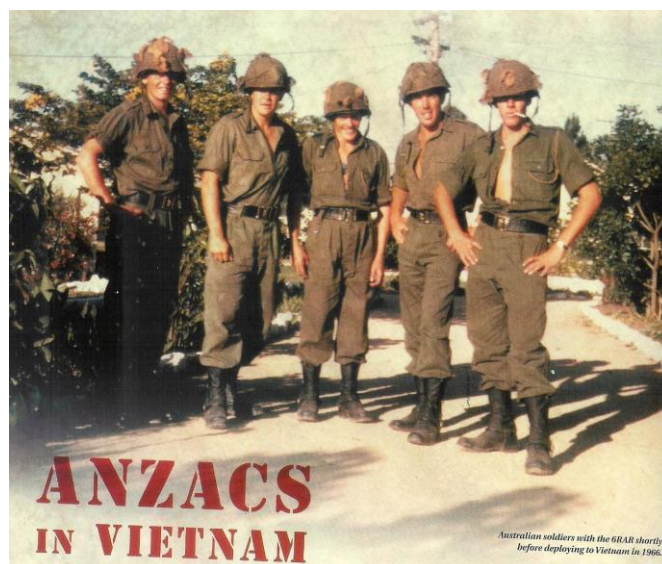
“John Bradford, one-time federal politician and passionate Christian recounts his multifaceted life story in this lively memoir. From high school captain to Vietnam conscript, Federal parliamentarian to overseas missionary, John reveals the challenges of life of public service, not shying away from sharing anecdotes about his more humbling moments, his fervent ideological views on issues of public significance, nor some of Australia’s more interesting and well-known political figures.

Readers will relish his descriptions of surfing the East Coast of Australia and overseas travels and appreciate his insights into the surf, retail, political and modern missionary worlds. Ever the family man, the book is dedicated to his devoted wife, Judy, who has weathered the ups and downs by his side while raising their three accomplished children.”

The book is available via Amazon, however, if anybody wants a hard copy John is happy to post one for \$10 which just covers p&p. His contact details are 0478 521 505 or www.john-bradford.com.au

Modern War, March-April 2016 (from Alistair Pope, 3/66)

Following the question asked in issue 3 of 2015 ‘Where you an ANZAC?’ Gary McKay (2/68) responded (see emails to the Editor below. Alistair Pope emailed details of Modern War, March-April 2016 issue. One of the articles in titles ‘ANZACs in Vietnam’. Al poses the question – Does anyone know the Aussie soldiers in the photographs.



Beijing and the South China Sea

Alistair Pope has recently had an article published in Quadrant. Quadrant is an Australian literary and cultural journal. Quadrant reviews literature, as well as featuring essays on ideas and topics such as politics, history, universities, and the arts. It also publishes poetry and short stories.

Alistair’s article begins with:

'The South China Sea is a key militarily strategic and economic waterway for the nations bordering it. The area's economic importance is clear: roughly one-third of the world's shipping sails through its waters and huge oil and gas reserves are believed to be found beneath its seabed. As there are few resources on the various sets of islands dotting its surface, many not much more than tidal shoals, and because there is almost no fresh water on any of them, they have remained uninhabited, except for seasonal visits by fishermen or, more recently, sporadic occupation by military forces.'

The article is available online at: <https://quadrant.org.au/opinion/qed/2016/03/beijing-south-china-sea/>

Alistair was interviewed on the article by Sydney Radio Station 2GB. The interview can be heard on a podcast at: <http://www.2gb.com/article/concerns-about-beijings-activity-south-china-sea>

Alistair has also had another Quadrant article on Multiculturalism. It is available at: <https://quadrant.org.au/opinion/qed/2016/01/multiculturalism-real-racism/>

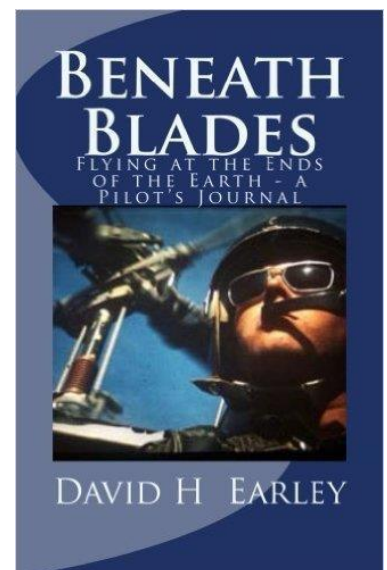
Camaraderie Volume 47, Number 1.

Al Pope also emailed in details of an article on his daughter, Major Christine Pope (below), who is now on her sixth operational deployment since 2003, is one of the most operationally experienced serving RACT officer. The article is on Page 19 of Camaraderie, Vol 47, No. 1.



Beneath Blades (David Earley, 3/66)

David Earley shares his flying journey over a period of 46 years in aviation and management. His journey as a pilot in helicopters and fixed wing has taken place in over 18 countries, including Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Vietnam. David's exciting and sometimes hazardous career speaks for itself in this volume, especially to those who are interested in aviation and aviation management. David shares some of his most memorable stories, with photographs, maps and valuable aircraft details also included for the reader's enjoyment.



Dave Earley has a photo of himself singing hymns in this church (left) in November 1969 in the book.



Book Titles on the Bookshelf (Robin Hunt, 3/69)

Charles Bean – Ross Coulthart

Honours and Awards of the Army – Maj-Gen Gordon Maitland

Long Tan – The Start of a Lifelong Battle – Harry Smith

Preserving our Proud History – Customs and Traditions of The Australian Army – Terrett and Taubert

Note: The Editor was able to view a Draft of *Preserving our Proud History* in November 2015, when the book was at the printers – too late, too late, she cried. There are a number of errors and omissions (especially where OTU is concerned). The authors are looking for feedback so that the Second Edition can be a corrected version of the First Edition.

EMAILS TO THE EDITOR

From: Warren Thatcher (2/65)

Sent: 11th November 2015

Subject: Peter Brock Movie



My brother was checking things out yesterday. They are making the movie *Brocky* apparently. Hughie McArthur and Ken James would love it. Not sure about Larry Moon.

(Ed notes:

1. The former OTU Parade Ground was being used as a set for the Pit Area.
2. Warren Thatcher featured in the film 'National Service Officer', taken during Class 2/65 that was shown at the RTBs to tell all recruits about Officer Training at Scheyville)

From: Peter Tomlinson (Staff)

Sent: 5th December 2015

Subject: The Scheyvillian

The photo came out really well! I never expected to see it look that good. The Scheyvillian was a great read, a lot of names I remember and the bit about Harry Neesham getting three weekends off to play footy. I think he must have had a plane load of West Aussie wild flowers when he came back to OTU, they were everywhere. Thanks again for the Newsletter I will have to keep an eye out for the next edition.

From: Rob Youl (2/65)

Sent: 8th December 2015

Subject: Vales

One thing about 2/65 - although forever overshadowed by the pioneers of 1/65, we were filmed for the official documentary that would have been screened four times annually thereafter until NS ended..

Really enjoyed the obits this issue - Messrs Scrivenor, Bailey (Alistair P is an amazing storyteller) - knew them both, but Bailey was rarely sighted. (There were not many lieutenants on the staff, but of course heaps of captains. Scrivenor hammered me once for slightly flamboyant dress going on leave - he was right. I'd borrowed Rob Constable's linen sports coat; later unfortunately I went to sleep in my sweet and sour pork at the Windsor Chinese restaurant, necessitating major dry cleaning.

As for Tony Hammett, a very fine bloke - gifted I would say. (It may have been me rather than Peter Don that gave you the dope on TH. I recall also sending you the webpage detail on his memorial in Queensland. Maybe we both responded?) How many Corps did he serve in? At least three! Four if you count staff cadets! Oh!! Perhaps ASC stood for the staff cadets, not RAASC. But I always marvelled that he had been in aviation, but became an infantry company commander. Maybe he was too old to fly on SVN ops? Pretty sure he attended the early Canberra reunion. Had a tie-up with the National Farmers Federation. Was the Class 2/65 Mystery Man 'Bugs' Bugden?

From: Gary McKay (2/68) **Sent:** 8th December 2015 **Subject:** Were you an ANZAC
The question was asked 'Are you an ANZAC?' and the answer is for our generation, anyone who served in 2, 4, or 6 RAR in Vietnam were in ANZAC Battalions with the full title on posting/service being for example in my case: 4 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Battalion.
Regards, Gary McKay, 11 Platoon, Delta Company, 4 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) 1971

From: John Bradford 1/68 **Sent:** 16th January 2016 **Subject:** Jock Holland
Jock Holland is in the USA at the moment but will be back in a couple of weeks.
(Ed. Classmates of Jock should encourage him to join the association).

From: Kevin Dixon 4/69 **Sent:** 10th February 2016 **Subject:** NSW Transport Changes
Many interstate seniors may well have been able to take advantage of the \$2.50 all day paper ticket that was available in NSW. This ticket is no longer available. The following link to a website might help with the new option, an OPAL card which must be purchased online before travel to NSW.
The cards have a time limit, can be topped up. They cannot be extended, but the remaining funds can be recovered by a tortuous application process.
For your next trip to Sydney.

https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal_for_interstate_seniors/

Paper tickets are no longer available. \$2.50 could be short-lived. Idea has been floated that the fee be increased to \$3.60 in July, and limited to Pension and DVA cardholders. Seniors might still be capped at a concessional rate, perhaps \$9 per day.

From: Noel Osborne 4/66 **Sent:** 10th March 2016 **Subject:** Missing Classmate
Does anyone remember a Jim Bock 1 Platoon, A Company, Class 3/66. Thought to have been from Boree Creek, but Tim Fischer didn't know him. (Ed. No Jim Bock graduated from OTU).

Cross Country Shield

In 1978 a shield was collected from Scheyville when it was the Hawkesbury Agricultural College by Tony Sonneveld and Dick Whitaker from the Resident Caretaker Ern Lundgren

TROPHY (Presumed to be the Cross Country Trophy)

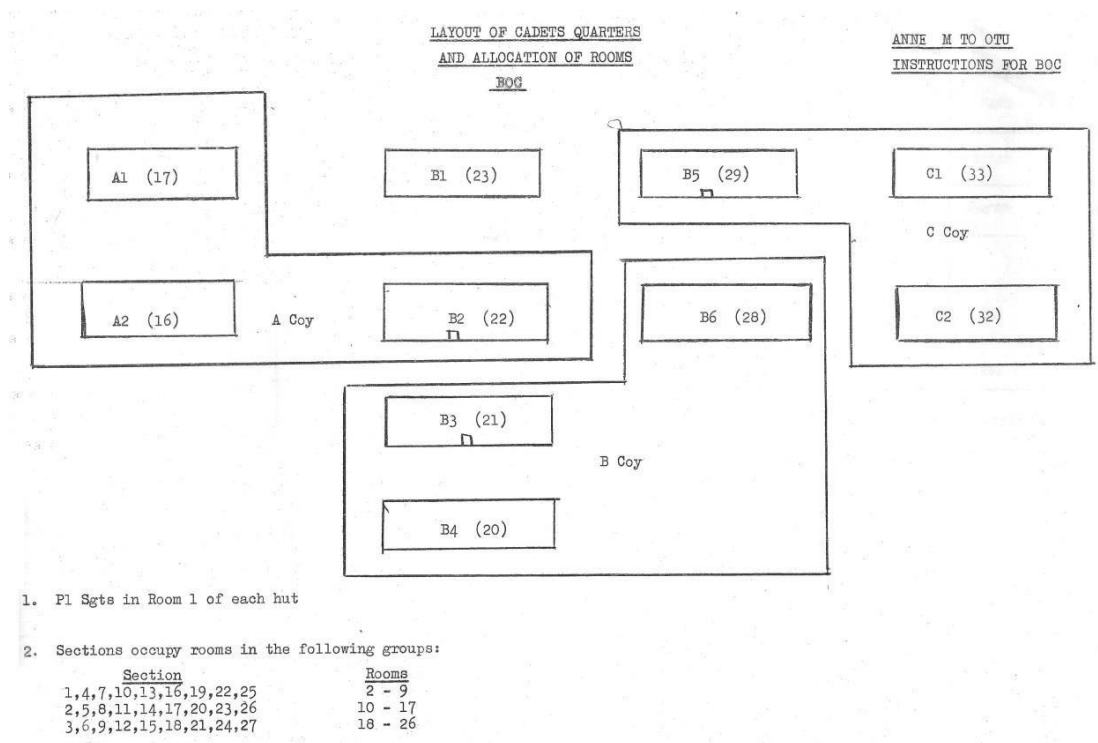
**DONATED BY THE RIVERSTONE-SCHOLFILEDS R.S.L.
AND EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB
MEMORIAL CLUB TO O.T.U. SCHEYVILLE**

1/67	U.O.	D. B. Coffey	27m	52sec
3/67	O.C.	J. R. Childs	29m	7sec
4/67	O.C.	D.G. Christie	27m	21sec
1/68	Cpl	D.G. Christie	29m	14sec
1/68	U.O.	A.D. Sullivan	27m	40sec
2/68		W.F. Beencke	20m	5sec
New Course				
4/68	O.C.	D.E. Barton	19m	12sec
1/69	O.C.	P.W. Busby	20m	6sec
3/69	O.C.	F.W. Cook	20m	6sec
1/70	O.C.	M.L. Higgs	20m	10sec
4/70	Col.Sgt.	M.L. Piper		
1/71	Sgt.	D.H. Byrnes	19m	36sec
4/71	Cpl.	P.C. Moran	21m	18sec
2/72	O.C.	K.A. Shields	O.C.S.	

Can anyone advise who won the races in the classes not listed?
There is no record of a K. A. Shields graduating from OTU or OCS.

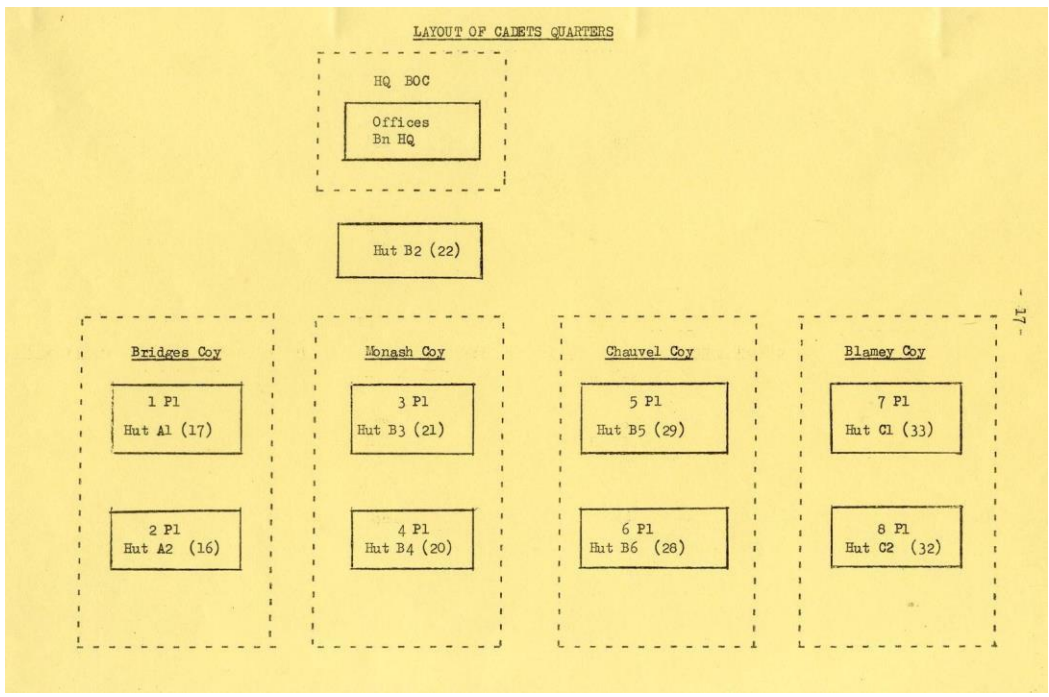
THREE COMPANIES OR FOUR? (Neil Leckie, 3/68)

In 1968 I started as a Cadet in 7 Platoon, C Company (Hut 33), OTU.



In speaking with Cadets from later Classes I hear them refer to the Companies as Bridges, Monash, Chauvel or Blamey Company.

Bruce Clisdell from Class 3/70 provided the association with a Company Layout showing the four company layout. Can anyone tell me when the Company Layout changed from three companies to four?





OTU ASSOCIATION

2015/16 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Website: www.otu.asn.au

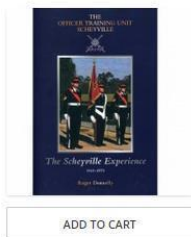
INVOICE		Please return by NLT 30 April 2016	
ABN 26 390 124 006		Cheques payable to OTU Association	
MAIL TO: Treasurer OTU Association PO Box 540 BLACK ROCK VIC 3193	Annual Subscription July 2015 to June 2016 Donation to Youth Leadership Development Total Cheque/Cash Enclosed <i>(For Direct Debit payment see below and please remember to update our database or return this form so that your contact details can be confirmed)</i>	\$50.00 \$ _____ \$ _____	
CONTACT: (03) 9533 1810 rayelder45@gmail.com			
MEMBERSHIP DETAILS UPDATE			
Personal Details:		I Have Retired Yes / No	
Title/Rank:		Work Details (If Applicable):	
First Names:		Position:	
Last Name:		Organisation:	
Wife/Partner:		Industry:	
Address:		Address:	
Town/Suburb:		Town/Suburb:	Postcode:
State:	Postcode:	Work Phone:	
Home Phone:		Work Fax:	
Personal Mobile:		Work Mobile:	
Personal Email:		Work Email:	
Personal Web Address:		Work Website:	
Class:		Any Comments:	
Corps:			
Regimental No:			
Awards:			
I am a new member:		I am no longer interested.	
I am a continuing member:		Please delete me from the database: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(Please Indicate)</i>	
For Office Use:		You will need to know the following information to pay your Membership using Direct Debit: Bank – National, BSB – 083 298, Account No. 56-687-0611, Reference – Surname and/or Regt No.	

Membership Drive

Please list details below of those who shared the Scheyville experience who you think **may not be current financial members** of the OTU Association. We will check against current membership lists and follow up non-members.

	NAME	CLASS	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE NO
1					
2					
3					

Q STORE (Order through the Website)



For those who may have misplaced their 40th Reunion Badge or would like one:
\$5 per badge incl P&H.

The Scheyville Experience”
\$25 incl P & H.



OTU Sticker:
\$1 plus \$2 P & H.

Other badges:
\$5 plus \$4 P & H.

STATE CHAPTER ACTIVITIES & CONTACTS:

Queensland: Owen Williamson (4/70) olwilliamson@bigpond.com or WilliamsonO@AureconHatch.com
Back-up: Stephanie Mauchlan (Mick Hart's secretary) smauchlan@clearlyhoare.com.au
07 3230 5252 or Mick Hart mhart@clearlyhoare.com.au
Monthly Luncheons: 2nd Thursday of the month

NSW: John Bushell (4/69) 0400 136 517 jb@shoehornconsulting.com.au
Monthly Luncheons 3rd Wednesday @ Greek Athenian Restaurant, in Barrack Street

ACT: Wal Hall (2/68) 02 6288 5251 0418 659 010 walhall@ozemail.com.au
Winston Bucknall (2/68) 0408 492 405 wnbsec@bigpond.net.au
2016 activity dates – see ACT Report

SA: Gary Vial (3/69) 0414 762 525 garyvial@ctmc.com.au
Advised through SA Contact List

Tasmania: Dennis Townsend (2/70) 03 6247 3892 det47@y7mail.com
Ray Williams (2/71) 0447 006 034 adaptbm@bigpond.net.au
Quarterly lunches advertised by email

Victoria: Frank Miller 0401 140 762 millerfw@netspace.net.au
Bernie Gleeson 0427 601 983 berjungleeson@bigpond.com
Monthly Lunches, 2nd Wednesday bjcooper@bigpond.net.au 0418 373 874

WA: David Ward (2/66) State Chapter Chairman & Hon Treas 0417 927 146 david.ward@taxhut.com.au
Frank LeFaucheur (1/71) Lunch Co-ordinator 08 9246 2666 lefauche@inet.net.au
Jay McDaniell (3/69): 0438 959 050 mcdaniell@ozemail.com.au

Quarterly lunches on the first Friday of the month of February, May, August and November at The Romany Restaurant (cnr Lake & Aberdeen Streets in Northbridge). Parade time is 1300 hr. Warning-in is needed with bookings to be confirmed C of B on the Wednesday before via email to Frank LeFaucheur.

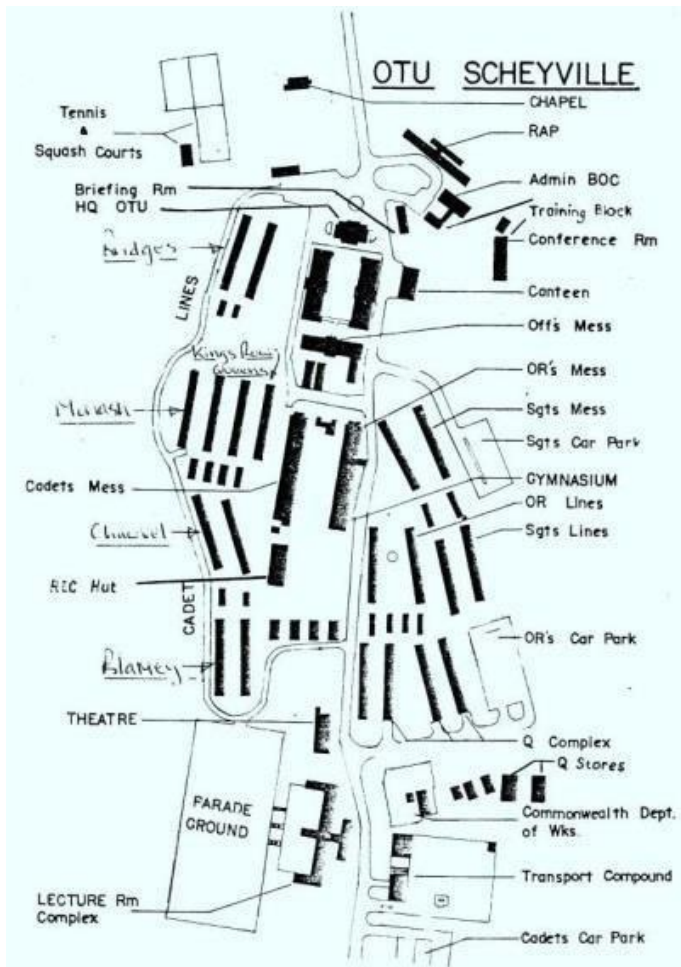
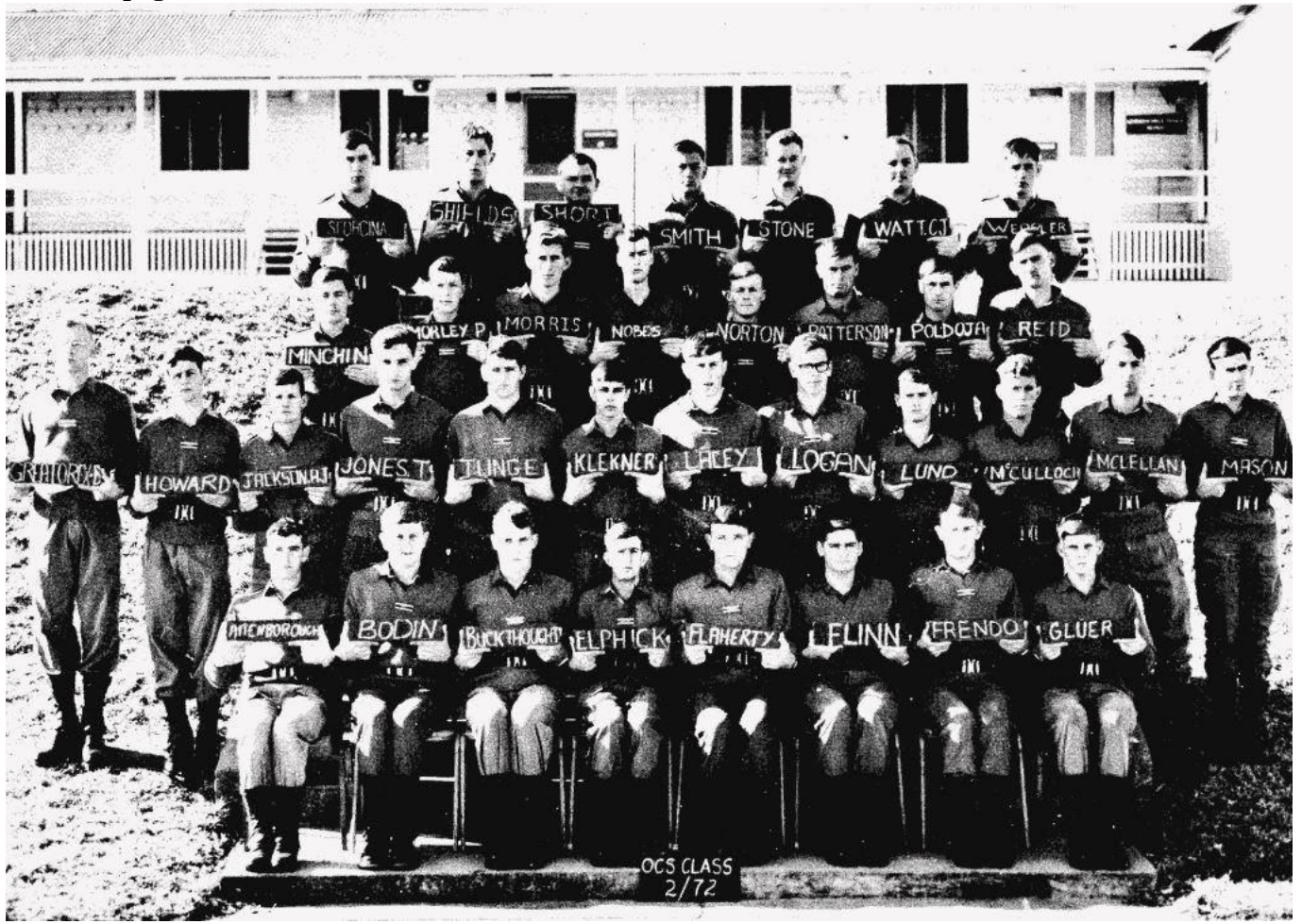
TRAVEL

National Network Travel and Cruise Di and Dave Sabben (1/65)

David advises that their two tours to Vietnam, the 50th Anniversary Long Tan Trek and the Decisive Battlefields of the 3 Vietnam Wars are fully subscribed. He will give a report for The Scheyvillian 3 of 2016.

For more details on other tours contact Di on 03 9787 8888, 0412 278 888 or disabben@ozemail.com.au

The back pages:



Left: Where did you live?

Looking for photographs:

The OCS 1972 Classes reunion report has produced a number of 1972 photographs not seen before. They will be added to the Website Galleries. Other classes are also 'a bit short' of photos. Gerrit te Grotenhuis has found one for the 3/66 Gallery. There are still a lot of photos out there!





Left: Class 4/67 in Vung Tau.
 Rear: Graeme Wright, Frank Miller,
 Rod Mendham, Colin Scott
 Front: Ted Clark,
 David Maddison (holding Gerry Garard –
 there in spirit), Phil Warwick and
 Ian Bloodworth.

Below: The combined Portsea 1972 Class
 reunion participants in the former OTU
 Gymnasium.



Right: Scheyvillians Dick Adams, Tim Fisher,
 Tony Sonneveld and Wayne Banks outside
 the Dargo Hotel.

