

# Southern Highlands Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Association

Website: [www.shvva.com](http://www.shvva.com) CFN 23847

## FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

### DINNER MEETING

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

MOSS VALE HOTEL 6 for 6:30

Please RSVP to Ian Humby

[ianhumby@bigpond.com](mailto:ianhumby@bigpond.com) by 12:00 noon on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February

**COFFEE CLUB** This Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February  
Military Vehicle Museum at 10:00am

**MEN'S LUNCH** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March Scottish Arms Hotel 12noon

### CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

The Highlands Hotel proved to be a great venue for this event with 28 people enjoying good food in a very Christmassy atmosphere created by the hotel staff. Judy Burt and four other lucky door prize winners wore a smile for some time.



### CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Vinh Tran hosted this event at the Military Vehicle Museum in perfect weather. There was a fairly large gathering of veterans, and museum supporters. Well done and thanks go to Vin for his hospitality.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our biennial General Meeting will be held at the Mittagong RSL Club on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022. This is an election year and all members are encouraged to participate and think about nominating for the Committee. Whilst the present members have indicated their intention stand the more people on the Committee the more democratic we are. Full details will be provided later.

### SOCIAL CALENDAR

This year's social calendar is attached – please print it out and keep it handy so that you do not miss a function.

## BOWRAL VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL RESTORATION PROJECT

In the November 2021 Newsletter, we informed you that the Committee had agreed to a proposal to restore the Bowral Vietnam War Memorial in accordance with a Project Brief prepared by Phill Moscott and Ray McCann. The Newsletter item outlined the need, justification, and scope of works and invited comments from members. You are encouraged to review the November newsletter and provide comments to Phill or Ray if you have not already done so.

Much has happened since the last Newsletter was published. On 25 November 2021, we made a submission to Council seeking their agreement to the project. Council responded on 3 December notifying their agreement in principle subject to a successful grant application. Council also agreed to work with us on preparing an application for a *Saluting Their Service* - Major Grant to DVA via the Commonwealth Grants Hub.

As a result of early consultation with Council staff, we agreed to increase the scope of works to include replacement of cracked granite panels and the development of an Asset Management Plan that will inform longer term maintenance and conservation issues.

The grant application was prepared by Phill and Ray working in collaboration with Council staff. It was submitted on 8 February 2022, and we now await a decision on whether the bid is successful. An announcement is expected in May 2022. Our application has been put forward on the basis that it would be a suitable project for DVA's planned 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of the Vietnam War that falls in 2023.

If the bid is successful, Council will prepare design and contract documentation in accordance with its usual development processes including community consultation. Council will be responsible for construction management and certification and ongoing maintenance in accordance with the Asset Management Plan prepared by an expert consultant as part of the project.

Because the grant application is the major category, funding, if approved, will go to Council and not to our Association. We do not have the necessary corporate and tax structures to qualify for other than minor grants (ie up to \$10,000). Given the need for consultation and other Council procedures, we wouldn't expect physical work to occur until late 2022/early 2023. One of the grant conditions is that grant funds be expended by May 2023.

The condition of the Bowral Vietnam War Memorial has worsened in recent years as clearly evidenced by the photos below. Doing nothing is not an option and we seek your ongoing support to have the situation rectified through a long-term solution.



## VALE BRADLEY PARKER

Brad, one of our esteemed members, passed away last week after a long battle with cancer. Brad who lived in Bundanoon, never failed to attend our Vietnam Veterans' Day Services to lay a wreath in memory of his comrades.

Brad retired from the Navy as a Chief Petty Officer after a long stint in the Navy. Between 1966 and 1970 he served in Vietnamese waters for 451 days on HMAS Derwent and HMAS Hobart.

Brad's funeral will be held at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 15 Church Street Bundanoon on Thursday 24th February at 10am.

A wake will be held at The Bundanoon Club, Bundanoon Oval, 70B Erith Street Bundanoon.



*Brad Laying aWreath at the Memorial 2018*

## PLANNING AHEAD PRESENTATION 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2022

This event will be hosted by the Nowra Veteran Wellbeing Center at the **Mittagong RSL Club** from 9am on **Thursday 03 March 2022**.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide useful information for you and your family members, as we get that little bit older – most members are over 70.

Presenting on the day will be representatives of RSL Lifecare Veteran's Services, Open Arms, and a legal professional. Following the presentations there will be ample opportunity to answer questions and provide information specific to your needs.

The presentation will cover issues relating to aged care services, legal requirements, and support services.

It is hoped that presentation segments will be concluded before lunch with a Q&A session afterwards. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided – yes, a free lunch.

President Phill initiated this event and has worked hard to ensure it happened. He believes that all members and partners will benefit. He is therefore seeking solid support for this one-off event. Obviously, we need numbers for catering so early nomination would be appreciated.

Please RSVP to Secretary Norm at [shvvppa@gmail.com](mailto:shvvppa@gmail.com)

## HEART HEALTH PROGRAM

This program is FREE and open to all veterans who have not previously participated and have a medical clearance.

The program aims to increase physical health and wellbeing through practical exercise, nutrition, and lifestyle management support. The program runs for 52 weeks and includes regular physical activity sessions tailored to needs and fitness levels, and 12 health education modules. It is offered in two formats – the Group and Individual.

In fact, the momentum for forming our Sub-Branch came from a group program held in the Southern Highlands and I am sure that many members have fond memories of those days. So, we can strongly recommend it.

For further information and to check on eligibility and availability contact:

[www.veteranshearthealth.com.au](http://www.veteranshearthealth.com.au) or phone 1300 246 262

## ANZAC DAY 2022

All indications are that Anzac Day 2022 will go ahead as normal.

The SHVPPA be joining the march at Mittagong.

After the march the Springs Room at the RSL Club is booked for our use. You can purchase your own lunch at the Bistro; and drink vouchers will be supplied to our members.

For Mittagong RSL Sub Branch members there will be a lunch at the Club.

On the Sunday before ANZAC Day, 24<sup>th</sup> April at 2:00pm we will hold a short ceremony at the Bowral Vietnam War Memorial. This will be followed by afternoon tea and drinks at the Nui Dat RnR compound in the Military Vehicle Museum behind the Mill at Bowral.

These arrangements are preliminary and subject to change depending on the Covid situation at the time. Confirmation of proceedings will be announced closer to the day.

**COFFEE CLUB.** Every Thursday at 10:00 in the Café at Mittagong RSL Club – **except on the last Thursday of the month** where it is at the Vets' Shed in the Military Vehicle compound.

**WALKING GROUP.** Every Tuesday at 8.00 am – meeting at the Vietnam War Memorial, Bowral.

Norm Austin – Newsletter Editor, Secretary and Treasurer

Ph 0427 854 141

shvppa@gamil.com

**Southern Highlands Vietnam Veterans  
Peacemakers and Peacekeepers Association**

**SOCIAL CALENDAR 2022**

2 <sup>nd</sup> March - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Moss Vale Hotel Bistro
18 <sup>th</sup> March - Friday	Men's Lunch 12 Noon	Scottish Arms Hotel, East Bowral
6 <sup>TH</sup> April - Wednesday	Dinner 5:30 pm - After the AGM	Mittagong RSL Club
4 <sup>th</sup> May - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Scottish Arms Hotel, East Bowral
1 <sup>st</sup> June - Wednesday	Lunch 12 Noon	Carca Restobar, Moss Vale
17 <sup>th</sup> June - Wednesday	Men's Lunch 12 Noon	Scottish Arms Hotel, East Bowral
6 <sup>th</sup> July - Wednesday	Lunch 12 Noon	Sutton Forest Inn
August – details to be advised.		
7 <sup>TH</sup> September - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Highlands Hotel Mittagong
16 <sup>th</sup> September - Friday	Men's Lunch 12 Noon	Scottish Arms Hotel, East Bowral
5 <sup>th</sup> October - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Mittagong RSL Club
2 <sup>nd</sup> November - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Moss Vale Hotel Bistro
7 <sup>th</sup> December - Wednesday	Dinner 6 pm	Highlands Hotel, Mittagong
16 <sup>th</sup> December - Friday	Men's Lunch 12 Noon	Scottish Arms Hotel, East Bowral

COFFEE is EVERY THURSDAY 10:00AM in the Café at Mittagong RSL **except** for the last Thursday of the month when it is at the Men's Shed in the Military Vehicles Museum behind The Mill in Bowral.