

# CHARGE SHEET

## MAGAZINE OF THE COFFS HARBOUR RSL SUB-BRANCH

SISTER ASSOCIATION OF PAPANUI RSA NEW ZEALAND



### Serving Coffs Harbour Veterans for over 100 years.

- December Monthly Meetings is Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.25am. All Members and partners are invited. The meeting will be followed by lunch in the Bistro.
- We have had to defer our Christmas party to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in 2022, being 22<sup>nd</sup> January, due to Club space restrictions.
- ChargeSheet is available at the Vernon St Reception.
- AGM: Sat 19th Feb 2022 at 10.25am.
- RSL NSW membership now fee-free and available online.
- Join us for "Coffee@C.ex" every Thursday from 10am.

ISSUE No. 191 December 2021

Email: [coffsrsl@hotmail.com](mailto:coffsrsl@hotmail.com) Phone: 02 6691 9234

<https://cex.com.au/community/rsl-sub-branch/>

#### 2021 Executive

##### President:

John Lloyd  
0438 325 205

##### Hon. Secretary:

Col Sztorch  
0488 251 034

##### Hon. Treasurer:

Garry Heskett  
0414 512 302

##### Assistant Treasurer:

Margaret Black

##### Vice Presidents:

Garry Heskett  
Ian Johnston

##### Assistant Secretary:

vacant

#### Office Hours:

Mon. Open 10.00am-12.00pm. Other times by appointment.

Thur. Office closed; but please join us for "Coffee at C.ex" every Thursday: 10am – 12pm, in the *Papaveros Italian Cafe*. Everyone welcome to chat and catch up.

#### Visitation Team:

Rev. Dr. Graham Whelan OAM  
Ray Squires  
Darrell Groth

#### Indigenous Liaison Officer:

vacant

#### Cenotaph Custodian:

Paul Bamford Jnr.



**VALE: Woolgoolga S.B. advises deceased member Errol Stevens**, a beloved member of Woolgoolga RSL Sub Branch, on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. Errol was a true Australian Service hero and all-round good bloke. He was XO on HMAS Melbourne when the tragedy with the USS Evans occurred and I have been told that due to Errol's co-ordination and rescue procedures, many of the young US sailors lives were saved on that terrible day.

## **WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**



### **North Coast Veterans Centre - Pensions and Welfare Matters**

All Pensions officers are TIP or ATDP-trained, which means they have completed training accepted by Department of Veterans Affairs, are authorised to practice and follow a strict Code of Ethics.

An appointment is preferred for pension interviews, please contact our Pensions officers.

**LOCATION:** 4 Scarba Street. (Inside the Legacy Shop). Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

**POSTAL:** Veterans Centre Mid North Coast  
PO Box 736, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450.

**Phone:** 02 5621 8108

The Centre is open on **Tuesdays and Thursdays (10.00AM - 2.00PM)** to assist with welfare matters at the Veterans Centre. Other times by appointment.

**Sub-branch Contact Phones:** John Lloyd – 0438 325 205

Col Sztorch – 0488 251 034

Garry Heskett – 0414 512 302

Paul Bamford – 0417 689 654

Padre Graham Whelan OAM – 02 665 095

## **Monthly General Meetings**

**PLEASE NOTE:** During 2021 Sub-branch Monthly Meetings were held alternatively on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at 10.25AM; 2022 GM times and dates will be the subject of a decision by members at our AGM.

**Location:** in the Ground Floor Bistro area (for the moment)

**Dates:** Sat 18 Dec. Partners cordially invited.

**E-mail:** coffsrs1@hotmail.com, lloyd\_adapt@yahoo.com.au

Subs and other payments may be paid directly to our BCU Account as follows:

**A/C name:** "Coffs Harbour RSL Sub-branch"

**BCU BSB:** 533 – 000

**A/C number:** 3285 6268

**Catch up with 'Coffee @ C.ex'** every Thursday, 10.00am till 12.00pm in the Papaveros Italian café or ground floor Vista Lounge area. All members and partners are invited to come along for a coffee, a chat, raise issues, just say G'day, **Pay Subs**, etc.

## **We're operating for all Veterans & Members in a COVID safe way!**

**Sub-branch Office is open Mondays 10.00am till 12.00noon; but we are happy to make an appointment to suit at any mutually convenient time.**

### **Keeping in touch**

We urgently need members to advise their mobile phone numbers and **E-mail addresses**. Please advise details to any Committee member, e-mail to [coffsrsl@hotmail.com](mailto:coffsrsl@hotmail.com) or leave written details at the C.ex Reception. Our aim is to SMS and E-mail our notices, news and *ChargeSheet* to members as the most efficient means of keeping in touch.

Please also check out our Sub-branch page on the C.ex web site:

***<https://cex.com.au/community/rsl-sub-branch/>***

### **Booked Car with Driver (BCWD) Scheme.**

Under DVA's Repatriation Transport Scheme, DVA will pay for your travel by a taxi car. Veteran Gold Card and Veterans White card Holders are eligible. DVA will pay for your travel to and from your home to medical treatment. We call this the Booked Car with Driver (BCWD) Scheme. **Ph: 1800 550 455**

### ***Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling.***

*provides 24/7 free confidential crisis support for current and ex-serving ADF personnel and their families on 1800 011 046. Safe Zone Support provides anonymous counselling on 1800 142 072. Defence All-Hours Support Line provides support for ADF personnel on 1800 628 036. Defence Member and Family Helpline provides support for Defence families on 1800 624 608.*

### **Veterans' Home Care Services Available.**

Our Veterans' Home Care (VHC) program provides eligible DVA clients and eligible dependants with access to services to help them remain independent and in their homes. It offers the following services:

- domestic assistance
- personal care
- respite care, and
- safety-related home and garden maintenance.

To receive these services you will first need an assessment. You're eligible for an assessment if you hold either a Veteran White Card for an accepted service-related injury or condition or a Veteran Gold Card. Carers and family members of Gold and White Card holders with an accepted service-related condition may also be eligible for an assessment.

**Call the VHC Assessment Agency directly on 1300 550 450** if you would like an assessment.

Please also call if you suspended your VHC services during lockdown and want them to resume. Further information about VHC can be found on the VHC page of the DVA website.

## **RSL NSW membership now fee-free and available online**

There should be no barrier for any current serving member or veteran of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to join RSL NSW. That's why we've made membership fee-free for any current serving or veteran of the ADF.

### **Know somebody? Invite them to Join!**

The ADF and Armed Forces are a family of committed people who thrive on camaraderie and friendship. When retiring from service, that bond is continued via your local RSL NSW sub-Branch. Staying connected to people who understand what you have been through is the most valuable support an ADF member can have.

**The wait is over – prospective members can now join RSL NSW online from the website.**

Together with making memberships free, RSL NSW makes it easier than ever for members of the ADF and veteran community to come onboard, connect with their local sub-Branch and participate in the camaraderie, mateship, recreation, and commemoration of service that distinguishes us as the largest member-based veterans' charity in Australia.

#### **What you will receive**

- A membership badge that is recognised and respected in communities across Australia
- A free, quarterly membership magazine
- Services and support for you and your family
- Connection to camaraderie and mateship

RSL NSW is not just for member and veterans of the ADF or Armed Forces. There are options for partners, spouses and families to join some sub-Branches as Affiliate or Auxiliary Members so they can feel a part of their loved one's post-service life and can support other members who are on the road to recovery from mental or physical health issues, need help with Department of Veteran Affairs claims, employment support, or just need a good mate to lean on.

**Who do you know that might want to join the RSL? Let them know that membership is free, and they can **join instantly now!****

**From our Padre Rev Graham Whelan OAM**

**CHRISTMAS**  
**Remembering Jesus' Birthday**



**OLD TESTAMENT**

Truths pointing to Jesus Coming:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14) (c 700 BC).

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6-7) (c 700 BC).

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord - and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. (Isaiah 11:1-5) (c 700 BC) (cf Revelation 19) (AD 95).

"The time is coming," declares the Lord , "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, " declares the Lord . "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the Lord . "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. (Jeremiah 31:31-33 (c 600 BC).

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. " (Micah 5:2) (c 700 BC).

"See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. (Malachi 3:1, 4:5) (c430BC).

The Messenger (Elijah) is John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus and His New Covenant.



## **NEW TESTAMENT**

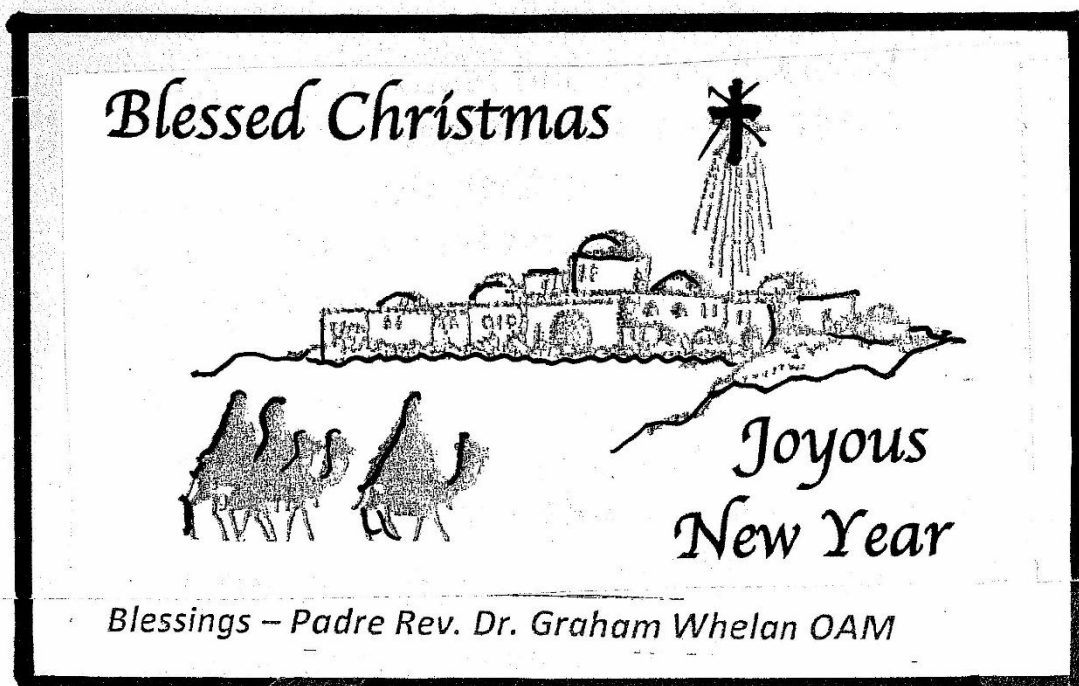
### **Jesus is born:**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" --which means, "God with us." (Matthew 1:18-23) .

In the time of Herod King of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord

appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. (Luke 1:5-13).

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." (Luke 1:26-33).





# Remembering Bill the Bastard — Australia's Greatest War Horse

## From pack horse to legend

Bill's military life began at Sydney's Liverpool Army Camp, used by recruiting officers to test the skill and strength of would-be light horsemen.

After bucking each eager recruit with ease, Bill was labelled unrideable and delegated to work as a pack horse carting supplies and munitions.

Along with 130,000 other Australian war horses, Bill began his voyage to the Middle East in late 1914, **cared for by bush poet and war correspondent 'Banjo' Paterson**, who later commanded the Australian Remount Squadron.

During the journey, Paterson noted in his diary: "you can't lead Bill the Bastard to anything and you certainly can't make him drink".

After arriving in Egypt, Bill was sent with Anzac troops to the shores of Gallipoli.

He began work as a pack horse and eventually carried the body of war hero John Simpson from the battlefield after his death on May 19, 1915.

Journeying between Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove, Bill suffered two gunshot wounds. One bullet was never removed.

It was during his recovery that Bill became inseparable from Major Michael Shanahan, who grew determined to break-in Bill and become his rider.

Major Shanahan adopted a strategy of whispers, pats and licorice all-sorts, soon earning Bill's trust and becoming the only man to ever ride him in battle.

It wasn't until the **Battle of Romani on August 5, 1916**, however, that Bill and Major Shanahan's heroics would become legendary.



*Major Shanahan on Bill in 1915. (Supplied: Terry Shanahan)*

Fighting off Turkish troops, the pair rescued four stranded Tasmanian soldiers, who piled onto Bill as he rode almost three miles to return them to safety. (**Ed. Bill carried 5 men, 3 on top and one on each stirrup!**)

Returning to battle, Major Shanahan passed out on top of Bill after suffering a gunshot wound to his left leg, which was later amputated once Bill returned him safely to base.

Bill survived the war but was unable to return to Australia. He died in 1924 at the age of 21 and is buried at Walker's Ridge in Gallipoli.

Major Shanahan's grandson Terry Shanahan is still affected by the weight of his grandfather's bravery. "It's hard to describe. You're very proud of him, it brings tears to the eyes," he said.



"You wish to hell that you'd spent more time with him."

After losing his leg in the Battle of Romani, Major Shanahan continued to ride horses. (Supplied: Terry Shanahan)

Helping to capture the likeness of Major Shanahan in the statue, Terry Shanahan said his grandfather's loyalty to his fellow soldiers had no limits.

"Just imagine doing that, riding the horse up and down, the shell fire going, the bullets whizzing here and there and taking complete disregard for that, just looking after all of his men." After a century's passage, Mr Shanahan said the stories of the First World War were just as relevant as ever, despite the reluctance of traumatised soldiers to recount them.

"After we go through wars, we try to forget," he said. "A lot of people don't talk about what they did in the war. "It's only now when people are recognised or have physical or

mental damage that people are accepting that."



Sculptor Carl Valerius enlisted the help of a vet to build a skeleton for Bill's statue to ensure accuracy.

## AK-47 gun-maker Kalashnikov to launch fleet of electric vehicles

The infamous Russian arms giant is going green, with two production electric vehicles seemingly in development.



Russian arms maker Kalashnikov – best known for inventing the AK-47 semi-automatic rifle – could be preparing to launch a fleet of small electric vehicles, new patent images suggest. ©

The filings – which were uncovered by international motoring outlet *Carscoops*© – reveal a five-door four-wheeler largely inspired by the 2018 Izh UV-4 concept, and an open-sided three-wheeler.

According to the documents, the former measures 3400mm from nose to tail, 1500mm from side to side, and 1700mm at its tallest point.

**Comment:** It's bound to be a 'killer' in its field.  
Able to use our batteries; but won't be able to use theirs!

Probably an all-Terrain 24/7 also known as: 'The AK 247'?

Highly efficient under all conditions.

Loves the wet.

Simple to use & highly reliable.

Will probably outlive its operator.

Handles abuse with ease.

Comes with shrapnel repellent body panels.

Available in 'Drab Olive Green' or 'Road Cam Grey' to deceive speed cameras.

Keenly taken up by every expanding Regime East of Moscow!

## **May 20th, 1915, and Courtney's Post – the forward most trench of the ANZAC sector at Gallipoli – is about to be overrun.**

22-year-old Australian Albert Jacka is alone amongst his dead comrades, waiting for reinforcements, whilst firing shots along the trench, stemming the flow of advancing Turks who now hold the majority of the position.

When the reinforcements arrive, the Aussies are quick to launch a counter-attack, however the entire squad were soon pinned down, injured or killed - all except L/Cpl Jacka. Deciding to go alone, Jacka crept out of the trench system and into no-man's land. Crawling around through dead ground, Jacka re-entered from the rear of the now Turkish held trench, and singlehandedly killed 7 Turks (shooting 5 and bayonetting 2), causing the rest to fall back. He then held the position against heavy counter-attacks until reinforcements arrived to re-consolidate the position.



For his actions Jacka became the first Australian (of many) to be awarded the Victoria Cross during WW1. Becoming an instant celebrity back in Australia, Jacka had the option to return home to help the recruitment drive. Not believing in resting on his laurels, Jacka opted to fight on, and despite the Allied evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915, the war was still far from over.

Jacka would finally be removed from the conflict in May 1918 at the rank of Captain, after he was badly gassed, and shrapnel passed through his Trachea. That's not to say however that he had no other memorable moments during the war. Like when he earned the Military Cross during the battle of the Somme, charging a group of Germans who had taken 40 Australian prisoners; personally sustaining 7 injuries during the engagement (most notable being 2 head wounds and a gunshot wound to the shoulder); racking up 12-20 kills whilst retaking the line and capturing 50 Germans. He then earned a bar to his military cross after capturing more Germans whilst out on a reconnaissance patrol. He also got shot by a sniper and led a successful attack against a pair of German Pillboxes.

**After the War Jacka went on to marry, adopt a daughter, and in 1929 he was elected Bellingen town mayor**, where much of his work was characterised by assisting the unemployed. In 1931 due to failing health and exhaustion he did not seek re-election and had to take a job as a traveling salesman where he struggled to make ends meet. After his wife left him, his health finally gave out, largely due to old wounds and the gassing he received in 1918. He died January 17th, 1932, one week after his 39th birthday.

His final words, spoken to his father, were, "I'm still fighting, Dad."



# **Corn Corner and other stuff ....**

## **Lost in Translation !**

An old nun who was living in a convent next to a construction site noticed the coarse language of the workers and decided to spend some time with them to correct their ways.

She decided she would take her lunch and sit with them, so she put her sandwich in a Brown bag and walked over to the spot where the men were eating.

Sporting a big smile, she walked up to the group and asked: "Any of you men know Jesus Christ?"

They shook their heads and looked at each other, very confused.

Then one of the workers looked up into the steelworks and yelled out, "Anybody up there know Jesus Christ?"

One of the steelworkers yelled back down, "Why?"

The worker yelled back, "'Cause his mum's here with his lunch."



**And that's when I knew .....**

**Clearly a very efficient evaluation tool. Fashion isn't everything ya know! What about balance, dexterity, digital strength, decision making, etc.**

**Too easy when ya fink abart it!**

( Yes, Yes, I know .... It's politically incorrect Ed.)



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