

Friends of the Avenue

Afghanistan Avenue of Honour, Tinaburra Drive, Yungaburra QLD 4884
avenueofhonour.com.au

Message from the President

The Association has had some significant changes in membership since our last Newsletter was circulated. During this period we fare-welled hardworking members Ken Cork, Michael Cole-King, Hugh Watson and Marion Watson, as well as our founding Secretary Annie Cork, all of whom have contributed enormously to the development and maintenance of the Avenue and in the staging of associated events. We thank them for their efforts and look forward to maintaining our links with them through our Friends of the Avenue network.



Finding a new Secretary to replace the indefatigable Annie proved to be a challenge but that has now been resolved with the appointment of Fiona Anderson to the role. Fiona is bringing some fresh thinking to the way the Association conducts its business which will help us improve our management of communications, activities and events.

Another important change was the creation of the position of Vice President in recognition of the need for continuity in management of the Association's affairs and planning for succession as members retire or resign from management positions. We welcomed our new VP Craig Reedman who was unanimously elected to the position.

The Avenue continues to attract large numbers of visitors as evidenced by the increased traffic volume on Tinaburra Drive, the almost continual presence of visitors at the site and the number of people signing and providing comments in our visitor's book. We are nearing the end of the second book, with entries showing that visitors come from all parts of Australia and many from overseas. Their comments are universally very positive and are a source of inspiration for everyone associated with the development and maintenance of the Avenue of Honour.

We were overwhelmed by the attendance of more than 2000 people at this year's Anzac Day Dawn service at the Avenue which demonstrates the continuing high level of community recognition of the attraction and significance of this National Memorial.



Upcoming Events

June 20

1RAR Band Community Concert,
Maude Kehoe Park,
Yungaburra

June 20

Patriots Australia Military Motorcycle Club
Fundraising Charity Ride,
Cairns to Avenue of Honour

July

Friends of the Avenue social get-together. Date to be announced.

November 11

Remembrance Day Service,
Avenue of Honour

November 14

Soldier On Triathlon,
Avenue of Honour

Annual General Meeting

The 2015 AGM will be held on Tuesday 7th July at 17:30 in the CWA Hall, Kehoe Place, Yungaburra.

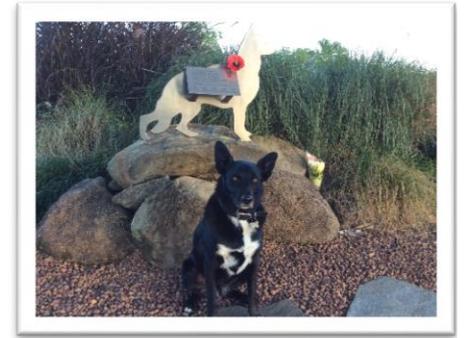
The Tableland Regional Council has recently approved the Master Plan for the Tinaburra Peninsula and the way is now clear for the Association to sign the Lease document for the Avenue of Honour site. We expect this will be concluded in the near future and certainly before our AGM in July. This will provide a certainty of tenure for such an important National Memorial site.

We are dependent on donations and other fund raising activities to meet the cost of maintenance and development of the Avenue and we are grateful for the level of support which we have received from individuals and organisations towards this end. Our most recent cash donation came from the Millaa Millaa Lions Club who gave \$1000 which was a very generous contribution from a Club of less than 20 members!

As I indicated at the last AGM, my tenure as President of the AAOH Association will end at the next AGM in July. It has been a privilege to lead the Association during its first two years and I wish to thank all members of the Association for their support and assistance during this time.

I look forward to continuing my involvement with the Association as an ordinary member.

Ray Byrnes



Recent Visitors

This is Wilson who paid a visit to the Avenue of Honour with his people, Noel and Sue. Here he is honouring his fallen four-legged friends who made the ultimate sacrifice.

More than a minute's silence....

This year, in conjunction with the ANZAC Centenary, Walking Wounded is undertaking an epic Tribute to the ANZACs – a seven-month, international journey to pay tribute to our 41 young men lost in Afghanistan. The Roll of Honour (Afghanistan) will be escorted by Families of the Fallen and returned Australian soldiers.

walkingwounded.org.au



Barbi and Craig Reedman

New Vice President

Hi all, I would like to introduce myself as the new Vice President of the Afghanistan Avenue of Honour Association. My name is Craig Reedman and I have recently been elected to the position of vice president of the AAOH, a position which was proposed by President Ray Byrnes as a way to involve veterans in the AAOH.

It is intended that while ever possible a veteran of the conflict in Afghanistan hold a position on the committee to maintain a link with those who served. I am proud to hold this position and will do everything I can to involve anyone who has served, knows somebody who has served or been effected by the loss of someone who has served in the MEAO both during the war and after. For me, the Avenue has helped me come to terms with my service, not just in Afghanistan, but the Army in general and has helped to provide some closure on the loss of mates. A visit to the Avenue is always an emotional time for me and my family as they too have been affected by my service.

I have seen firsthand the positive effect the Avenue has on service personnel, family and friends affected by the war. I have personally made connections with old friends or their families just by being at the Avenue to help when I can.

I would like to use my position to encourage friends and families of the lads on the wall to become involved in the association or the friends of the Avenue group and hopefully it will help you as it has helped me.

Craig Reedman

Amazing Turnout for ANZAC Dawn Service

In what is only the second commemorative service at the Avenue since its construction, the crowds and service were second to none. It was an atmospheric dawn service shrouded in light mist. It gave an authentic feeling on the Tinaburra Peninsula to parallel our ANZAC's landing at the Gallipoli Peninsula one hundred years earlier.

People travelled from all around Australia to be part of this service. Noteworthy was the catafalque party provided by 1 RAR Townsville who had all served in Afghanistan. Their precise drill movements were a credit to them and as they stood with their heads bowed with their weapons and provided a symbolic form of respect for those who have fallen. Throughout the commemorative service, they would have reflected on the memories of their mates whose names appear on the Memorial Wall.

Other Afghanistan veterans from 1 RAR, Officer Commanding C Coy, Major Julian Hohnen and CSM WO2 Adrian Ross respectively provided the Commemorative Address and the Remembrance Ode. Reference were made to people who served in all conflicts and paid the supreme sacrifice. During the service, Rt Reverend Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews blessed the new plaques that have been placed on the Memorial Wall. Wreaths were laid by a wide section of the services and community including families of the fallen.

As the service drew to a close, the Atherton resident Stanley family originally from New Zealand sang their National Anthem while Sharron Karsilkas sang our anthem. The service concluded with the dismounting of the catafalque party who then marched the full length of the avenue as a sign of respect for their fallen mates.

Avenue President Ray Byrnes organised the Lone Pine seedling planting ceremony that followed the commemorative dawn service adjacent to Avenue of Honour. The participants were descendants and relatives of Gallipoli and other WWI servicemen/women, WWII, Vietnam, East Timor and Afghanistan war veterans. The names of the servicemen and servicewomen with brief service histories were read out. A nominated family representative for each was invited to place a trowel of soil around the seedling. The participants formed a group around the planted seedling for unveiling of a plaque and dedication by Rev Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews followed by group photographs. A large crowd was on hand to witness the unique ceremony. The tree is flanked by Borneo raintrees which were previously planted to remember the survivors of the WW2 Sandakan "death march" which remains the greatest single atrocity committed against Australians in war.

The Atherton Venturer and Scout groups provided support with setting up and dismantling marquees, chairs and providing a public address system. The 144 ACU Army cadets were also in attendance and were able to interact with the regular soldiers in attendance.

Ray Byrnes was ecstatic with the turnout for the day and said that the committee is looking forward to now organising the Remembrance Day service.

John Hardy



2015 ANZAC Day Dawn Service



OC C Coy Major Julian Hohnen and CSM WO2 Adrian Ross of 1RAR



1RAR Catafalque Party



Cllr Rod Marti, John Hardy and Brian Taylor



Honouring the ANZACS – Lone Pine Tree Planting

Thanks to Vic and Kerri Riella, who donated a Lone Pine seedling from the Yarrumlumla Nursery in the ACT, we were able to include a tree planting ceremony in this year's Anzac Day Dawn Service programme at the Afghanistan Avenue of Honour.

Participants included local descendants and relatives of service personnel who were involved in Gallipoli and other WW1 theatres and all subsequent conflicts as well as surviving veterans of recent conflicts. In all 25 people took part in the planting ceremony, each adding a trowel full of soil to the planting site located just west of the Avenue of Honour. The site is adjacent to 3 Borneo Rain Trees planted previously in memory of those who perished as prisoners of war at Sandakan camp and subsequent death marches at the end of WW2.

The narrative of the battle of Lone Pine where 2287 Australians and some 7000 Turkish soldiers died over a 3 day period was read and a plaque recording the event was unveiled and dedicated by Rev Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews.

The names and brief histories of the service personnel represented were read out during the planting ceremony. Information available on each varied depending on the extent of family records, but the combined histories provided a fascinating snapshot of those men and women and the service they gave for their country in time of war.

In this issue of our Newsletter we have included a summary of the veterans and their representatives.



The planting ceremony (above) and the Lone Pine seedling in situ along with a commemorative plaque.

Veteran	Campaign	Representative
No. 1502 Pte. Albert Edward (aka Darby) BARNES, 27th Infantry Bn.	Gallipoli	Jane Curcio – Great Grand-daughter
No. 16 Tpr Arthur Percy CARR, 11th Light Horse Regiment	Gallipoli WW1	Cecily Jenner – Daughter Ken Stevenson – Grandson
No. QX15686 Pte Reuben John CHATFIELD, 2/30 Bn AIF	WW2	Harry Chatfield – Son
No. 3652 Pte Raymond John CUPITT, 41st Bn in WW1 / Q 156350 in	WW1	Raymond Cupitt – Great Grandson
No. 4926 Cpl Herbert Allan HENSON, MSM, MID; 4 Div Sig Co., 20 Div	Gallipoli WW1	Jim Petrich AM – Grandson
No. 152 WO2 Robert William HUDSON, 15th Bn, AIF	Gallipoli WW1 WW2	Natasha Hudson – Great Grand-daughter
Pte Sydney Vincent KING, 25 Bn AIF	Gallipoli WW1	Sybil Richardson – Niece
Sister Florence Elizabeth McMillan, Aust Army Nursing Service, AIF	Gallipoli (Lemnos) WW1	Mary Cooney – Niece

Veteran	Campaign	Representative
No. 966 Pte Albert Thomas REECE, 2nd Light Horse	Gallipoli WW1	Betty Stone - Daughter
No. 3014 Pte George William STONE, 5th and 14th Fd Ambulance	Gallipoli WW1	Allison Geisel – Grand-daughter
No. 439 Pte Samuel Wilfred THOMPSON, MM; 1 Bn, 1 BDE, AIF	Gallipoli WW1 WW2	Ern Sharp – Grandson
No. 429 Tpr Charles WATERS, 26 Bn, Light Horse BDE	Gallipoli WW1	Kathy Curcio – Granddaughter
No. QX52807 Pte John (Jack) MCMAHON, HQ 39 Supply Depot Coy, AIF	WW2	Russell Hilder – Grandson Kane Bowland – Great-great Grandson
No. NX2193 Pte Horace Alfred (Tony) MARTIN, 2/2 Inf Bn, 6th Div	WW2	Sybil Richardson – Sister
No. NX12362 WW2 Lt Julian OWEN, 34 Bn	WW2	Mary Cooney – Daughter
No. QX9844 Capt. Henry Sydney WILLIAMS, 7th Div Cavalry	WW2	Craig Williams – Grandson
No. 140956 Cpl Fred PRICE, 5 Coy, 1 Div, Supplies and Transport Workshop	Vietnam	Self
No. R59532 Petty Officer Anthony (Tony) ANDERSON-CLEMENCE, RAN	Vietnam	Self
No. 1808387 Pte Murray ANDERSON- CLEMENCE, B Coy, 2 RAR	East Timor	Self
Pte Dominic SIMPSON, 1 Bn, RAR	Afghanistan	Self
LCPL Stuart CUMMINGS, 2nd Commando	Afghanistan	Self
CPL Craig REEDMAN, 3 rd Combat Engineer Reg	Afghanistan	Self
CPL Oliver FOWLER, 51 st Bn, FNQ Reg	Afghanistan	Self



Afghanistan Avenue of Honour - Notice Board

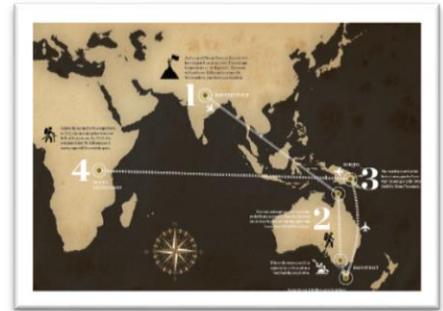
'Tribute to the ANZACS' – Walking Wounded

More than a minute's silence... This year, in conjunction with the ANZAC Centenary, Walking Wounded is undertaking an epic Tribute to the ANZACS – a seven-month, international journey to pay tribute to our 42 young men lost in Afghanistan. The Roll of Honour (Afghanistan) will be escorted by Families of the Fallen and returned Australian soldiers.

In support of this amazing event, the Afghanistan Avenue of Honour Association is asking all Friends to support the walk in Stage 2. The Traverse of Australia will see the team walk and run 65km per day for 65 days, from Cape York to Port Welshpool, Victoria. This will be followed by a kayak across the Bass Strait, to complete the final kilometres to Australia's most southerly point, South East Cape.

Join us to cheer on and show our support to the group as they pass through Mareeba on the *Traverse of Australia*. The Cairns to Townsville leg will occur between 13 – 21 June 2015. This is most poignant as the group will pass through our area around the second anniversary of the opening of the Avenue of Honour.

For more information about this event, please visit www.trackthetribute.org.au



Explore the worldwide 'Tribute to the ANZACS' at the Walking Wounded website.

Don't forget to come and support the Roll of Honour and Families of the Fallen as they pass through the Tablelands area.

1RAR Band Community Concert

Since the inception of the Avenue of Honour in June 2013, we have been humbled by the sense of community and support provided to us by the people of Yungaburra and the surrounding Tablelands area. To say thank you for their ongoing support, the Afghanistan Avenue of Honour Association has secured the services of the 1RAR Band from Townsville to perform a free, community concert for the local community.

This will be a family-friendly, rock n roll concert where the band will entertain us with contemporary music. There is no doubt that the 1RAR Band will get the party started!

All are invited and welcome to attend:

Date: Saturday 20th June 2015
Venue: Maude Kehoe Place, Yungaburra
Time: 1500hrs



We are excited to welcome the 1RAR Band to Yungaburra!

*Photo courtesy of
<http://army.gov.au/Our-work/Community-engagement/AAB/Army-Bands/1RAR-Band>*

Afghanistan Avenue of Honour - Notice Board

Patriots Charity Ride

Following the success of the inaugural charity ride in 2014, the Patriots Australia Military Motorcycle Club (Cairns Chapter) will again ride from Cairns to the Avenue of Honour. All donations will be donated to maintaining the Avenue of Honour. Last year, approximately 200 riders made the trek - and quite an entrance - to the Avenue.

This year, the ride will commence at 1300 from Patriots Australia Cairns Chapter Club, 65 Oleander Street, Holloways Beach Cairns QLD 4870,

The ride will continue to Mareeba Workers Club, Mountain Brother MC Tolga, and then onto the Avenue of Honour where a short ceremony and service of remembrance will be held.

Then, it's onto Yungaburra for the 1RAR concert, followed by a performance by country artist Corey Livy at the Yungaburra Pub. It's shaping up to be an awesome day and night around the Avenue of Honour!!!

Date: Saturday 20th June 2015

Venue: Avenue of Honour / Yungaburra Pub

Time: 1300hrs onwards



Patriots Military Motorcycle Club (Cairns Chapter) present donations to the Avenue of Honour in 2014.



Corey Livy will provide live entertainment at the Yungaburra Pub.

The Last Word.....

...it's Fiona Anderson (Secretary) here.

We're planning to have a 'Friends of the Avenue' social get-together in July and I'll let you know the details closer to the time. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

I hope that this newsletter shows the amazing amount of work that continues behind the scenes at the Avenue. On behalf of the AAoH Executive Team, I'd like to thank all of the volunteers, donators and Friends of the Avenue who help us in our main purpose; to keep the Avenue as a special place of remembrance for everyone.

Don't forget that you can keep up to date with Avenue activities by following our Facebook page.

Lest We Forget



President Ray Byrnes, Secretary Fiona Anderson, Treasurer David Osborne, Vice-President Craig Reedman