



## RETIRED OFFICERS CLUB (NSW)

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### Welcome to our June 2016 NEWSLETTER

[anzroc.blogspot.com.au](http://anzroc.blogspot.com.au)

#### SECRETARIES' REPORT

Our June 20<sup>th</sup> gathering attracted 57 members, with President Graeme welcoming all, including the following members not seen for a while, Ray Brennan, Tony Carter, Gwen Jarratt, Stuart Kitching, and Chris Wheeler.

Members then rose for the Loyal Toast.

**APOLOGIES were offered by:** Noel Bowmer, Bill Chapman, Jim Corrigan, Mike Cunneen, Noel Fox, Pam Griffiths, John Hall, Paul Jepson, Clive Neutze, Jim Nicholson (95 and busy attending his medical for his Driving License renewal!!), Jim Richardson, Alasdair Steel, and Barry Thompson.

#### BEREAVEMENTS:

*Ken Dighton advised: **Margaret (Margo) Blackwood** of Belmont NSW" sad news from Margo's nephew to say that she passed away Thursday (9/6). She had a fall a week before and broke her hip. She had surgery but she evidently succumbed to the trauma. I'm informed that she (happily) saw her birthday picture in last month's ROC Newsletter, and that she passed away peacefully amongst family and friends. Vale Margo. The funeral is to be held at the Toronto Baptist Church, 186 The Boulevard Toronto, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 11AM."*

*Ron Welsh advises **George Henry Mills** passed away on 16 May 2016 aged 70. George joined ANZ at Mayfield in 1961/62 (I was at Mayfield 1960 – 1962, and he arrived while I was there). I am not sure of what his postings were apart from Accountant Wee Waa, Manager Tuncurry, Manager Beresfield and Manager Hamilton. He went to Hamilton in 1993 and took early retirement from there in about 1995. George was a single man who lived with an older sister (Margaret) at Hamilton South. George was her carer during her illness and before she entered a care facility.*

*SMH extraction: "**WILTSHIRE Betty Clare** 02.02.1925 - 25.05.2016 Late of St Ives, formerly of Sans Souci Loving wife of Alick (dec). Much loved mother of Carol and Stephen. Beloved grandmother and great grandmother. Family and friends are invited to attend Betty's Funeral Service, to be held Friday 3rd June, 2016 at Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens, 199 Delhi Rd, North Ryde commencing at 1.00pm in the South Chapel."*

**A period of silence was observed in their memory.**

#### TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Mike reported from his Queensland Holiday location that our finances are just fine.

#### BIRTHDAY WISHES

Birthday wishes were extended by VP Terry Auld to Col Bartrim, Peter Bradford, John Freedman, Denis Lickley, Linda Lyons, Alf McDermott, Doug Moss, and Angela Vallender.

[Happybirthdaytoyouhappybirthdaytoyou](http://Happybirthdaytoyouhappybirthdaytoyou)

## A Taste of Australiana.....

*An Australian is someone who thinks that the three major political parties in Australia are Labour, Liberal and Cocktail.*

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*Ricky decides to go back home to Melbourne so he calls Qantas to book his flight.*

*The operator asks: 'How many people are flying with you?'*

*'Ricky replies: 'Strewth mate, how would I know. It's your plane.'*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

A very warm welcome to Pam Griffiths of Kincumber NSW, Clive Read of Greystanes NSW, Michelle McClure of Castle Hill, David Robinson of Winston Hills and Peter Maybon of Glen Innes NSW

~~~~~HAVEFUNHAVEFUNHAVEFUN~~~~~

## June 2016 WELFARE REPORT:

**Ken Dighton – Welfare Officer**

KD's contact details are on the Newsletter Masthead.

### Sick List:

- Bill Martin – Bill is coping with his Parkinson's Disease but he relies on his good wife to ferry him around. Hence his inability to get to our meetings. He sends his regards to members and particularly former colleagues, and he would welcome contact from anyone for a chat.
- John Richardson – John is still undergoing chemo. treatment, but he said he is feeling considerably better since he had a blood transfusion a few weeks ago. He sends regards to all. Good on you John – all the best.
- Bill Chapman – recently was hospitalised (hence apology for today's meeting) to have a hernia repaired. Brian White (apparently showing-off) said he Skyped Bill, and he couldn't help but think that Bill really looked liked someone who had been in hospital!! Nothing like some nice encouragement Bill – we wish you a good and quick recovery.
- Barry Thompson – Peter Bradford said Barry is unwell at the moment (and he extends an apology for today's meeting). We hope you are on the mend soon Barry.

I made contact with the following people, who enjoy the esteemed title of **Honorary Member**, to check up on them in this their birthday month and to extend good wishes for the year ahead:

- Peter Bradford (85) – Peter was out celebrating his birthday when I phoned, but it was nice to catch-up with him at today's meeting – he looks hale and hearty.
- Bob Garrett (81) – Bob was out doing some shopping for the household when I phoned. Wife Wendy said he recently was diagnosed with macular degeneration, but on the whole he is going along OK. She, on the other hand, has been diagnosed with melanoma. Best wishes to you both.
- John Cairns (80) – John has had some recent treatment for a variety of allergies, none of which he had experienced before. He is on the improve however.
- Doug Chapman (89) – Doug has had an eye removed since our last contact. Also, he has been having extensive hospital treatment for several skin cancers. Nevertheless he is battling on. You seem to be under siege Doug, but hang in there.
- Phil Hitchcock (84) – Phil is doing alright, but he's having a few issues with his home dialysis equipment. Until this is sorted out he is a bit restricted in his activities.
- Alf McDermott (83) – when I phoned Alf he had just returned home from an excursion of some 3 hours to the eye hospital – a tiring and trying experience. He said he expected to join us for the June lunch meeting (he is a good supporter of ROC and true to his word, he did).

- Kevin Watson (87) – Kevin’s reply to my email went as follows: “Thank you Ken for the birthday greetings. I am pretty fit physically and we had a small dinner party to celebrate my birthday, at which I opened the last remaining bottle of a Penfold’s Grange of 1980 and despite its venerable age, it drank magnificently! [We’re all pleased you can still enjoy some of the finer things in life Kevin, keep it up!]  
I shall be in Sydney in early July as am expecting to become a great-grandfather on or around 8 July, but that date will not coincide with a meeting of the Club unfortunately.  
The eyes continue to fade – not too much sight left now – but still managing to get around and catch trains and buses.  
My greetings to all of those who still remember me from my two spells in Sydney.”
- Jim Pearson (84) – Jim said he is “back on the bitumen, after a bit of time on the dirt”. In other words his health is coming good after a rough patch. He was having a relaxing time on the Gold Coast when I phoned.
- John Freedman (81) - it was great to see John at lunch today and have a chat (particularly about the Lions knocking over his Wallabies!). He is looking very well.
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- Denis Lickley (80) – his latest medical report was encouraging, but there remain some underlying issues stemming from the staphylococcus infection in his foot some time ago. As usual he seems happy with life. He is certainly not as sick as some of his jokes - welcome to “The Hons” digger!

**Vic East** advised that he had recently visited John Robson at Blue Haven Hostel, Terralong St. Kiama and was well received. Vic mentioned that John would welcome any contact from old colleagues if they are ever down that way.

bestwishesbestwishesbestwishes

**WHAT’S HAPPENING:**

**Our Monthly luncheon is happening at the CTA Martin Place on Monday the 18th July, commencing at 11:45. Great day...come along!!**

yummyyumyumsipsipsip

***Sheila walked into the kitchen to find Bruce stalking around with a fly swatter.  
"What are you doing?" She asked. "Hunting Flies" He responded.  
"Oh. Killing any?" She asked. "Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.  
Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell them apart?"  
"Well, 3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."***

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**OTHER STUFF:**

**ANZ Staff Club**

Retired staff are eligible for membership and the annual fee to be a ANZ Staff Club retired officer member is \$19-50. They still offer a great range of products and accommodation to members, together with regular bulletins on special deals and products that are available, Membership can be very worthwhile and a look at their website will get you more information. Web address is as follows: [www.anzstaffclub.org.au](http://www.anzstaffclub.org.au)



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Allan	AYLWARD	29/07	Elizabeth	GAUL	04/07	John	NALDER	09/07
Barry	BOOTH	28/07	Ray	GREENWAY	11/07	Terry	O'ROURKE	31/07
Angelo	BRIGANTI	07/07	Geoff	HAMILTON	05/07	Bob	PARSONS	08/07
John	BURKE	25/07	Wal	HARDY	12/07	Tony	RORHAN	29/07
Tony	CARTER	16/07	Barry	HARRIS	17/07	Graeme	RUDD	14/07
Polly	CHING	06/07	Bill	HURWORTH	01/07	John	RYAN	15/07
Peter	CLARKE	20/07	Aub	HYNDES	04/07	David	SCHULZ	30/07
Barry	COGLE	04/07	Paul	JACKA	07/07	Tony	THOMPSON	28/07
Ross	CONSIDINE	07/07	Roland	LUKE	30/07	Harold	TILLEY	14/07
Paul	CROWE	17/07	Brian	MANUEL	16/07	Max	WATT	21/07
Steve	CUNNEEN	25/07	Lindsay	McFADYEN	10/07	Neil	WESTACOTT	12/07
Brian	DAVIS	30/7	Shelby	MILLS	14/07	Brian	WHITE	19/07
Graham	DOWLING	22/07	Steve	MITCHELL	24/07			
Alan	EDMONDS	27/07	Norm	MOON	15/07			

## THE "HONS"

Trevor	ADAMS	19/07
Ian	AULD	26/07
Ray	BALL	14/07
Kevin	CAISLEY	24/07
Bruce	DICKINSON	02/07
Roger	HICKMAN	22/07
Rod	KAY	22/07
Harry	LENEY	02/07
Leo	McCULKIN	12/07
Val	McVINISH	16/07
Dan	MORIARTY	10/07
Neil	MURRAY	04/07
Jim	NICHOLSON OAM	31/07
John	READING	16/07
Reg	TUXFORD	03/07

Congratulations to Harry LENEY and Val McVINISH on joining the 'HONS' this month.

*happybirthdayhappybirthdayhappybirthdaytoyouall*

## Extracts from Members Letters:

### of Graham Franklin:

**Warwick Lyons** writes....like everyone pretty shocked about his passing, he really was one of a kind and a character you don't forget having met along the way" Also added ". .... looking at the pictures of the last ATC dinner must say Betty Gemmell looked in good form and remarkable for her age."

**Barry Wileman** writes "I am shocked by the death of Graham Franklin a great man. Like Mizo said a great loss, I will always remember him for two reasons he was the great organiser and loved people. He was the first person to visit me during my brain tumour operation although inadvertently. A great person like all of you who took the time thank you, Mizo he was your good friend I feel your pain, regards to all on this very sad occasion."

**of Betty Wiltshire:**

**John Hickey** writes: "I knew Alick & Betty Wilshire very well, having worked with Alick for many years at King & George streets, when he was Manger International. Alick was a very decent man & Betty a very supportive wife & partner."

**Mike Cunneen** writes: "Alick was State Manager of ANZ having taken over from Max Sandow in the mid 1980's. He was a Regional Manager in ES&A before merger. I think he was previously in International at King and George Street Branch. Perhaps you knew him when you were at King and George Street Branch."  
**Doug Moss** advises "He was also GM of the Bank of Adelaide during the merger process."

**Ian Stewart** writes "I worked with Alick for some time. He was Head (Manager) in the old Bill Department and was followed by Gerry Donaghy. Alick was a fine gentleman from my experience and I recall having an enjoyable lunch with him after returning from Japan in 1972. I did not know Betty very well but have noted her mention from time to time in ANZROC bulletins."

**Ray Brennan** writes "Saddened to hear of Betty's passing. She was a lovely lady whom I knew as Alick was my boss in International when I went in there in 1963. Later ( as Mike Cunneen states ) he was State Manager -- a great guy and a true gentleman."

**Ron Miller** writes "Betty was a lovely, down to earth lady. She will be missed."

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**of Margaret (Margo) Blackwood:**

**Betty Brown** writes: So sad to hear of Margaret Blackwood's passing. I knew and admired her from my first day in the ANZ Bank. She ran the New Entrants' Course in the old 7 Macquarie Place Sydney Building. She was warm and welcoming and looked after us nervous new kids so well. I worked with her when transferred to Staff Department in the late 60's and on other occasions over the years. She was a most gentle, caring person and looked after all those around her, she took us under her wings, trained us, mentored us and ensured we were well looked after by others around us. Her work ethics were exceptional and she set a marvellous standard for all to follow. Will be sadly missed by many with such wonderful memories of a great woman and a true lady. Vale Miss Blackwood.

**Other Correspondence:**

**Roger Munday** is the Bank liaison officer that used to attend to our annual grant application and Retired Officer Benefits etc. he has sent the following message in response to our well wishes on his new role:  
*"I am now in Group procurement and sourcing practice management for all countries outside of Australia and NZ so another governance role but at least this one is focused on keeping the smaller countries in line with correct governance and practices - so far it's been great and keeping me very very busy, with another Audit just around the next bend.  
I thank you and all retired officers for your support over the past 3 years and Tom Walker will look after you all now. Cheers Roger"*

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**Kevin Cameron** writes

"Good evening from Calgary on Friday and good afternoon Saturday to you.  
Sad news about Margaret Blackwood a great lady and a great life.  
Just letting you know we will be back in Wagga on Monday 20th and on deck for lunch on 25 th. (ANZROC Wagga)  
Met John Turnbull briefly on the cruise. Had not met him before however we found ourselves sitting next to him at afternoon tea on the last day of the cruise. Conversation led to making the connection. A Lions club college in Wagga mentioned that he knew someone on the cruise however no ANZ connection was made and thought no more of it. Turns out that this Lion knows John through model train enthusiasm and that another Lion who is downsizing and moving to the Grange sold some of his train stock to John. Small world.

John said that he had been invited to Wagga by the former Lion and I let him know about our lunch and he said he would look at combining the two.

We have experienced all the seasons here with two falls of snow and max of 5 on a couple of days and up to 29. Heading to the Rockies this week end so here's hoping for good weather."

**Mike Cunneen** writes from Townsville:

Fran and I went to church a few hours ago in Townsville.....I saw a face that I thought I recognised.....  
Went and chatted after mass to him.....I was correct.....Col and Pat Priddle recently moved to Townsville from Gold Coast.....they send their kindest regards to all Retired Officers Club members in NSW.

**Judith Willis (nee Brown)** writes to Secretary Reg as a result of our policy to contact widows/widowers on an annual basis: "I have just read the last 2/3 Newsletters and thought that it was about time I returned your Birthday call to me, dare I say in February this year. It was so unexpected and much appreciated. At the time, I had had a fall in my garage helping a bird caught in the sliding door and of course, I came off second best. Never again - it has taken 6 months to get over it and don't think I'll ever be the same again, but we just have to keep going. Not ready for the alternative yet though.

This year hasn't been a total disaster though as Carolyn, my daughter has moved down here to give me a hand or two as she says and is living in my youngest son's place just a street away. She arrived just after the bird episode so I think it was meant to be.

It makes me smile when I see all these names of people that either Ken or I worked with in various places. Seems like yesterday. Frank Blinman was just lately and I think Ken Keen was another. I think I worked with Ken in Newcastle before I transferred to Sydney and Frank Blinman I worked with at Elizabeth St.

South where I met my husband Ken Willis and I'm sure my Ken worked with Ken Keen, maybe Methods? Someone else I noticed was Lance Phyllis. We went to the same Church.

To all the committee who put this together I give my sincerest thanks. I wish I could get to the meetings- I don't think this is going to happen so I will give my continuing apologies and best wishes and if anyone is thinking about a trip to Tassie, let me know.

I haven't forgotten about the 1956 CHEQUEBOARD. When I find it I will send a copy. You all do a good job. Such a happy lot. What a good place to have worked. Take care."

judithwillis35@gmail.com- (I don't mind if anyone wants it.)

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**SOCIAL NOTES: from our Social Director Ann Morgan**

Hope those attending enjoyed the fish 'n chips, the Ferry ride, and the day at **Watsons Bay**. The weather cleared up beautifully for us!

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**Victoria Barracks** Visit is now on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July**, and you **MUST** have your name in by **7<sup>th</sup> July**, or you **WILL** miss out. If you cannot make it on the day, PLEASE let Secretary Reg or Mike Cunneen know!!

Mike's contact details are on our masthead. You will be met on arrival by Mike at the **OXFORD STREET GATE - NOT MOORE PARK ROAD**.

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**Dates for the Diary**

**Friday, 22 July 2016 Canberra Gathering:**

Time: 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm

Place: The Karlsbad Keller at the Austrian Australian Club  
Heard Street, MAWSON (Opposite Southlands Shopping Centre)

Cost: Variable - subject to your choices

RSVP Albert Orszaczky phone: 6231 6198 (h), email: [orszo@bigpond.com](mailto:orszo@bigpond.com) or Bob Dyer phone: 6231 2371 (h), email: [rdyer@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rdyer@bigpond.net.au) John Lucas phone: 6293 2532 (h), email: [jandklu.cas@bigpond.com](mailto:jandklu.cas@bigpond.com).

**28th July 2016**

A Guided tour of **Victoria Barracks** is to be held, with a lunch to follow at the RSL Paddington nearby.

**RSVP to Reg Smeaton on 02 4228 6951 or [reg.kini@bigpond.com](mailto:reg.kini@bigpond.com) by not later than 7<sup>th</sup> July, as attendees** must be pre-submitted to Victoria Barracks for security requirements.

*(I am advised that Bill Chapman was last seen at Victoria Barracks many years ago, having been arrested for being three days AWOL for Nashos.) You have right of reply Bill – Ed!)*

**There will be no CTA Luncheon in September due to the following events schedule.**

**7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Patron's Luncheon** at 242 Pitt Street Sydney scheduled for 12:00 noon entry with a 12:30 start closing at 2:00 pm. We are very privileged to be hosted by Hon Warwick Smith, and as we are **limited to 80 guests** those wishing to attend will need to register with Reg Smeaton on 02 4228 6951 or [reg.kini@bigpond.com](mailto:reg.kini@bigpond.com) quickly to avoid disappointment. Sadly we had several no shows last year which meant others who wished to attend missed out. If you register and need to cancel for any reason please let Secretary Reg know asap so that he can alert those who will doubtless be on a waiting list.

**19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Tentative** date for the **Partners Luncheon** at TAFE at Ultimo – watch this space for confirmation as we will need numbers before the event. It is always a great day and is to be recommended as the food is good and the company excellent. We will be calling for acceptances in the next monthly newsletter when a firm date should be available.

**30<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 Broken Hill reunion:** This is not an ANZROC(NSW) sponsored event' however ANZROC members and others should contact Jackie Lynott at [Jackie@internode.on.net](mailto:Jackie@internode.on.net) or Karen Ford at [karenf@live.com.au](mailto:karenf@live.com.au)

#### **12th October 2016**

Bob Primmer is arranging gathering in Coffs Harbour for a luncheon on Wednesday 12th October at a venue to be advised.

RSVP to Bob Primmer on email [bobprimmer@bigpond.com](mailto:bobprimmer@bigpond.com) or phone 02 6652 7130 or 0417 717 885. Bob mentions that all members and partners are welcome and if anyone wishes to travel to Coffs for a couple of days he can arrange discounted accommodation with a tour of our attractions the following morning. Tiger Air has very cheap flights to Coffs (\$49 one way ) from Sydney so may be an opportunity to have a few days in the warmer climate for some!

**16<sup>th</sup> November 2016** Annual "Doc" Wilson Memorial Bowls Day at Club Umina. More details to follow.

#### **17<sup>th</sup> November 2016 Far North Coast Gathering**

The Far North Coast Christmas luncheon is booked for Thursday 17th November 2016, it will be held at the RSL Bowls club Ballina. Contact Brian Rawle 02 66876286 or [elwar@bigpond.com](mailto:elwar@bigpond.com)

#### **17<sup>th</sup> November 2016 Newcastle Christmas Function**

From 11.45 am at Cardiff RSL Club, Macquarie and Munibung Roads CARDIFF. **RSVP** is essential by **Wed 9th November** to meet Club requirements. Train travellers will be met at Cardiff Railway station from 11.33 am train. (Conditional on timetable remaining unchanged) Train leaves Central at 9.15 am – check your local timetables. Contact Jim or Cheryl Richardson email: [jimcher@exemail.com.au](mailto:jimcher@exemail.com.au) or phone 02 4943 8031

**5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 The Christmas Cocktails** at ANZ Centre 242 Pitt St Sydney. The gathering is limited to 120 guests, so those wishing to attend will need to register with Reg Smeaton on 02 4228 6951 or [reg.kini@bigpond.com](mailto:reg.kini@bigpond.com) quickly to avoid disappointment. Again, we had several no shows last year which meant others who wished to attend missed out. If you register and need to cancel for any reason **please let Secretary Reg know immediately so he may alert those on our waiting list.**

#### **Just Quickly:**

Bill Shorten was asleep in his house, and he awoke suddenly, to see Menzies' Ghost!

Bob, asked Bill: How can I make this Country better?? Sir Robert replied "Love the Japanese Steel makers like I did."

Shorten falls asleep, then is awoken by an image of John Howard. So he asks: "John, how can I make this Country better?" Mr Howard responds: "Be honest with people like I was!"

Yet another sleep ensues, and this time Harold Holt is the one to wake Bill up. He gets the same question: "How do I make this Country better?" Mr Holt responds: "Go for a swim like I did!"

***'Til next month....keep smiling!!!! ( Ed)***