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WELCOME TO OUR MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER!!

Secretary Reg's Report for our March Luncheon Meeting:

Sixty members gathered to enjoy today's Luncheon Meeting. President Graeme welcomed all, including the following members whom we had not seen for a while: **Lance and June Phyllis** after a long convalescence for Lance. Wonderful to see you at the luncheon and a special thank you to **Brian Liebert** for his help in getting Lance to the function. **Harry Hammond, John Cox, John Penn and Tony Thompson** all made a welcome reappearance as did our relatively recent new member **Keith Whitehall** for the first time.

The Loyal Toast to the Queen, and to the People of Australia followed.

Apologies:

Were received from **Ron Booth, Noel Bowmer, Alf Evans, John Freedman, Alf McDermott, Bob McEwan, Phil Minett, Phil Newsome, Violet Peloe, Heather Riach, Jim Richardson, Barry and Wilhelmina Smith, Angela Vallender and Brian White.**

New Members: A very warm welcome to **Kerry Love** of Dapto NSW.

!!

Life Membership Nomination:

In terms of our constitution **Mike Cunneen** was nominated for Honorary Life Membership at the AGM on 20th February 2017 by Barry Smith and seconded by Ken Dighton (in writing). The Nomination was put to a vote at our Luncheon today by President Graeme Bool and was passed by unanimous vote.

Congratulations Mike, well deserved for many years of service to ANZROC (NSW) in several roles, all performed with enthusiasm and effective dedication.

Bereavements:

Mrs **Rosemary Johnston** phoned to advise that her husband **Phil** aged 72 passed away on 26 Dec 2016. Phil had been suffering from MS for almost thirty years and whilst Rosemary is very sad over her loss she derives some comfort from the fact that Phil was ready to go himself to end what had been an unbearable condition for such a long time.

Although mentioned in the last newsletter, **Linda Lyons** passed away the day after our last luncheon and a very unique funeral was held at Matraville, where there was dancing and a eulogy written by Linda herself was read out to those gathered. It was in keeping with a very free spirited lady who had a positive impact on all who knew her.

Mike Cunneen also shared details of Linda's unique Memorial Celebration with the Meeting, which he tells us was also attended by a number of former ANZ friends and colleagues.

Bereavements continued:

Tony Thompson has informed us that he recently became aware of the death of former ANZedder **Tom Williams** who had lived in the UK for some time. Tom was not a member of ROC but would be remembered by many of our members.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Mike gave a comprehensive summation of our sound financial position. Some adjustments to our Fee Structure may become necessary in time.

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BIRTHDAY WISHES:

were extended by VP **Phil** Cohen to those Members present at the Meeting:
Harry Hammond, Ian Jarratt, John Mair, Lance Phyllis and **Reg Smeaton**.

happybirthdayhappybirthdayhappybirthdaytoyou!

"A little boy went up to his mother and asked: 'Mum, where did my intelligence come from?'"

His Mother replied. 'Well, son, you must have got it from your father, cause I still have mine.'"

WELFARE REPORT: from **Ken Dighton, March 2017.**

Sick List:

- **Phil Newsome** – IPP Phil extended apologies for his absence today because he is undergoing some pre-dialysis treatment. He expects to have dialysis equipment installed at home soon. Good luck Phil.
 - **Paul Conaghan** – Paul is battling a severe tumour at the moment which was diagnosed only a few months ago. Surgery is not an option and the prognosis is not good, but he continues to be positive, and he is getting plenty of support from his family. Best wishes Paul (also for your birthday on 22nd).
 - **Jim Pearson** – Jim had an operation about a month ago, and has since had a few blood pressure issues. However, he said he is on the improve and will try to join us for a lunch meeting later in the year (you're eligible for a free one in June Jim!)
 - **Alf McDermott** – Alf is still battling-on and making slow progress. Wife Loretta is also not well, so Alf has a bit on his plate at the moment. Best wishes Alf and Loretta.
 - **Betty Gemmell** – Betty has returned home after a short spell in hospital. Look after yourself Betty, we need you in good form for your milestone in May.
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I made contact with the following people, who enjoy the esteemed title of **Honorary Member**, to check up on them in their **birthday month** and to extend Happy Birthday wishes:

- **Doug Dowling** (91) – Doug said he has a “wog” at the moment but otherwise he’s “as fit as a trout”. Together with family members he celebrated his birthday with an enjoyable overnight stay at Hawks Nest and a trip around the Myall Lakes area. He said he passed Arthur Crittenden on the golf course a few days back (Doug was too polite to say so but I suspect Arthur called Doug through while looking for a lost ball!).

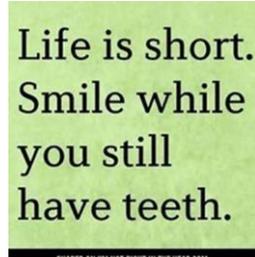
- **John Mair** (81) – John is well, having returned very recently from another pleasant overseas cruise with wife Kay and friends (and ROC Members) Ivan and Terri Debelak. He celebrated his birthday with family, and as a regular at our lunch meetings we enjoyed his company again this month.
- **Ken Hill** (86) – Ken is keeping busy and on the whole he is travelling quite well. He had heart by-pass surgery about 3 years ago and he has been pretty good since.
- **Geoff Nelson** (93) – Geoff is “not too bad for an old bloke, but definitely not as frisky as he once was”. Notwithstanding his birthday falling on St Patrick’s Day he probably wouldn’t be indulging in too many Guinness’. He has settled-in well at The Poplars and he sends regards to all, particularly the ROC Committee for the work they do (Thanks Geoff).
- **Ron Rawson** (82) – unfortunately ill health has caused Ron to move to a nursing home. We hope you had a happy day on 16th Ron, and we hope the year ahead is kind to you.
- **Jan Douglass** (82) – Jan is a regular at our lunch meetings and a good supporter of the ROC. She planned to celebrate her birthday with a lunch at St.George Motor Boat Club (and she did), and it was good to see her again at our March lunch meeting.
- **Lance Phillis** (82) – Lance said he has dialysis treatment 3 times a week (at Mona Vale or North Sydney) and this obviously curtails his other activities. He no longer drives, but his wife June spends a bit of time ferrying him around. Best wishes for a happy year ahead Lance. PS: It was a pleasant surprise to catch up with the man himself at lunch today – we appreciate the effort that you and June (still ferrying you around!) made to come in Lance.
- **Brian Beynon** (80) – When I phoned Brian he was gearing up to celebrate the milestone with a family lunch at Coffs Harbour Surf Club. He was unfortunately not expecting to be enjoying the normally fabulous outlook because of the terrible weather, but it mattered not because had some surprise visitors from down south in the shape of his lovely grandchildren. On the health front, he has a visit to a specialist scheduled soon to check on some tissue damage, and while it’s a bit uncomfortable he’s hoping for a good outcome. Good luck Brian.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Secretary Reg regularly receives an electronic copy of the S.A. Newsletter. If anyone would like a copy, please contact Reg and he will arrange a copy for you. Reg also receives a hard copy of the New Zealand quarterly newsletter and the same applies, though it may take a little longer to get out to you.



And on Letters to the Editor....or anyone else: If you have an old work story to recount, are wondering whatever happened to ?????, the Newsletter is great way to share and entertain. Your contributions will be eagerly awaited!!! (Ed.)



Dates for the Diary

10th April 2017 Luncheon at the CTA Club, MLC Centre Martin Place Sydney gather at 11:30 am for a 12:30 pm start to the meal. All members are welcome. Bookings are not required; it is always an enjoyable day with good food and lots of old friends and the occasional surprise visit by those who can't make the meeting all the time.

NOTE THE VARIATION TO THE NORMAL DATE, CHANGED TO ALLOW FOR THE EASTER MONDAY ON 17TH APRIL.

1st April 2017: Wagga Wagga luncheon 12:00 noon at RSL Wagga Wagga, please contact Kevin Cameron on 02 6922 4575 or by email at Jannette.cameron@bigpond.com.au to advise intention to attend.

1st May 2017 Tour of Small Arms Factory Museum at Lithgow at a cost of \$20.00 covers the museum, and bus transport to and from Lithgow Railway Station (via scenic views of Hassan's Walls) and a light lunch. Train leaves Central at 8:18 am returns at 6:14 pm. Those wishing to attend could you please register with Ann Morgan at aamorgan@bigpond.net.au or phone 9970 8668.

I cannot tell you how much you will enjoy this amazing Factory Museum. Everything from Guns to Gearboxes, Sewing Machines to Washing machines (circa 1950's) and lots of foreign orders too! (Ed)

25th May 2017 Newcastle luncheon at Cardiff RSL with details closer to the event.

6th June 2017 Tour of the Sydney Town Hall at a cost of \$5.00 with an optional lunch at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel at the diner's expense. Contact Ann Morgan at aamorgan@bigpond.net.au or phone 9970 8668.

12th August 2017 Wagga Wagga Luncheon at RSL Wagga Wagga

16th November 2017 Newcastle Luncheon at Cardiff RSL again with details closer to the event.

16th November 2017 Far North Coast ROC Christmas lunch is set down for Thursday at the RSL bowls club Ballina, contact is Brian Rawle 02 66876286 or elwar@bigpond.com

2nd December 2017 Wagga Wagga Christmas Luncheon at RSL

11th December 2017 THE Christmas Cocktail Function at ANZ 242 Pitt St Sydney

Gotta Love the Irish.....

There once was a religious young woman who went to Confession. Upon entering the confessional, she said, 'Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned.'

The priest said, 'Confess your sins and be forgiven.'

The young woman said, 'Last night my boyfriend made mad passionate love to me seven times'

The priest thought long and hard and then said, 'Squeeze seven lemons into a glass and then drink the juice.'

The young woman asked, 'Will this cleanse me of my sins?'

The priest said, 'No, but it will wipe that smile off your face.'



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Lenko	BAREVIC	16th	Kevin	O'CONNELL	22nd
Wendy	BRADSHAW	24th	Bill	PATRICK	4th
Bill	BRICKNELL	2nd	Richard	PERKINS	2nd
Ron	COOPER	22nd	John	PLATT	23rd
Elaine	DAVIS	8th	Doug	RICHARDSON	30th
Peter	DAWSON	18th	Jim	RICHARDSON	24th
Peter	DEVOY	10th	Mike	RILEY	13th
Greg	EVANS	1st	Bob	RISEBOROUGH	24th
Jeff	FRIEDMAN	16th	Ken	ROSE	8th
Mike	GRAY	10th	Neil	ROWLAND	23rd
George	HARLOE	27th	John	SCHOLZ	13th
Jim	HEATH	6th	Graeme	SMITH	10th
Michael	HOUSE	30th	John	TUCK	1st
Alistair	JOHNSTON	24th	John	TURNBULL	7th
Con	LUCAS	5th	John	TYRELL	1st
John	LUCAS	28th	Jackie	VULA	2nd
Digby	MILNE	25th	Ron	WELSH	2nd
Geoff	MINETT	14th	Ken	WHITECROSS	9th
John	MITCHELL	9th	Keith	WHITEHALL	7th
Des	NATION	17th	Barry	WILEMAN	18th

THE "HONS" (** denotes Life Member)

Don	DAVIS	14th
Dave C	FLEMING	29th
Betty	HICKMAN	26th
Col	KILLER	6th
John	McCRUDDEN	5th
John	SCOTT	22nd
Barry	THOMPSON	3rd
Aub	WALKER	29th

There are no new "Hons" this month.

Why I Like Retirement!

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Two hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

(Thanks Noel Bottrell)



Mildred, the village gossip, and self-appointed monitor of the Church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several village folk did not approve of her extracurricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence. She made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a newcomer, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old utility parked in front of the town's only Hotel one afternoon.

She emphatically told George (and several others) that everyone seeing it there would know what he was doing. George, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing. Later that evening, George quietly parked his pickup



in front of Mildred's house... walked home... and left it there all night !

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

-A reminder that you can pay your subscription by direct credit to BSB 012006 Account # 008906464, don't forget to record your name on your transaction.

OR

Please complete, snip off, and Mail to Mike Cunneen.

-Enclosed please find cheque for \$5 for my ANZROC (NSW) 2017 SUBS.

Name:

Address: (Only if changed recently)

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Email address: (Only if changed recently)

Post to Hon Treasurer ANZROC (NSW) 27 Leicester St. Epping NSW 2121