# CONTACT !





Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and Associated Forces Inc.

> 2019 Issue 1 January, February, March

BMVVAF express their thanks to Senator the Hon Doug Cameron, Senator for NSW, for his support to the Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and Associated Forces Inc., particularly by allowing the BMVVAF to use his communications entitlement for the production of this newsletter.

# CONTACT !

### Patron: Colonel Nerolie Irene McDonald

Office Address: Blue Mountains Theatre & Community Hub, 104-108 Macquarie Road Springwood NSW 2777 <u>Postal Address</u> Post Office Box 55 Springwood NSW 2777

# © JOURNAL OF BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS and ASSOCIATED FORCES INC. incorporating

RAAF VIETNAM ASSOCIATION and the QANTAS "SKIPPY SQUADRON" ASSOCIATION

ABN 74 645 329 198

CFN 17276

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THOSE WHO SERVED IN ALL POST WORLD WAR II CONFLICTS

Your Committee			2019 Association Meeting Dates		
President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer:	Peter Jones Angus McDonald Chris McKay Craig Terrey	(02) 4751 8833 (02) 4575 1997 0427 794 914 (02) 4754 1957	Meetings commence at 1000hrs at our offic at the Blue Mountains Theatre & Community Hub, Springwood NSW		
Committee Member:	Sydney Cole	(02)4784 3717	Meeting	AGM Meeting	
Committee Member: Committee Member: Wellbeing Coordinato	0	(02) 4753 6755 (02) 4754 4753 (02) 4575 1997	Tuesday 16 April 2019	Sunday 19 May 2019	
Yard Maintenance: Vietnamese Liaison O	William Hogue fficar: Jack Laka	(02) 4753 6755 (02) 4754 2144	Meeting	Meeting	
Association Padre : Website Manager : CONTACT! Editor:	Colin Aiken OAM RFD Wendy Humphrys Wendy Humphrys	(02) 4754 2144 0417 203 722 (02) 47518 528 (02) 47518 528	Thursday 13 June 2019	Thursday 11 July 2019	

Office Manager: Wendy Humphrys Phone: (02) 4751 8528 Email: secretary@bmvets.com.au Web site: www.bmvets.com.au Office Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:00 and 14:00

# Wellbeing

Please contact our office on (02) 4751 8528 Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am to 2:00pm

0r

Angus McDonald, our Wellbeing Coordinator on (02) 4575 1997

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Since our last Contact!, Christmas & New Year have come and gone. I hope everyone had a safe and healthy time. That all your expectations for the year come to fruition.

You will have noticed this issue contains raffle tickets. So remember if you can't buy or sell your tickets, please return as soon possible to our office.

Please read dates of raffles and contact the office on (02) 4751 8528 or myself on 0415 923 411 or (02) 4751 8833 for raffles you can do.

At our latest Committee Meeting it was passed that future meetings will be held on Thursdays at the Hub and will be members meetings, so all members can attend and be up to date with all things concerning our association and also to put forward suggestions for a better run association. Please check inside the front cover for dates and times of meetings.

The Council has generously decided to pay for the Traffic Management Plan for Memorial Day. Our Guest of Honour is still in the lap of the gods (Secretary that is).

Happy Easter to you all & you'll hear from me in the next edition.

Cheers

**Teter** Jones

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

It would be remiss of me to start my report by not making mention of the shocking event in Christchurch on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. Our thoughts are with all the people affected by this senseless act of terrorism.

We are about to start our first raffle for 2019 and as you all know this is our major source of income that enables us to continue our welfare activities so please dig deep and buy as many books of tickets as you can and volunteer to be available to sell tickets at local shops if you live in the Blue Mountains area. Apart from assisting in our welfare efforts the raffle has great prizes \$1500 - \$600 and \$400 preloaded Visa Cards that can be used just about anywhere.

You may not be aware that The BM Nashos Association is closing down and we are pleased to welcome Les Hogan, John McKechnie and Brian Seers who have joined our Association we are keen to keep their tradition carrying on. Also welcome to new members Owen Wood who served in 8RAR in Vietnam, Michael Reynolds from HMAS Melbourne in Vietnam and Walter Smith from the US Navy in Vietnam/Korea.

I know I mention this in every one of my reports but we still have a large number of members who are still unfinancial – It's ONLY \$10 a year and this fee helps to offset our mailing and admin costs so if you know that you are unfinancial (refer to the section in this Copy of Contact titled Membership) that will let you know when you are paid up to. Even if you are a few years behind all we want is you to pay for 2019 \$10. Over to all of you to get **FINANCIAL**.

Our AGM is on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 at The Springwood Theatre Hub. All our committee positions will become vacant so I look forward to Members nominating for these positions. In closing I hope you and your families have a safe and enjoyable Easter break.

Best regards Chris McKay

# WELLBEING REPORT from our Vice President & Wellbeing Coordinator



# Veterans support gets a new look

The Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) has a new name and a new look and has become *Open Arms*, with the tagline *Veterans and Families Counselling*.

Open arms are a very powerful symbol of support, safety and security, particularly for Vietnam Veterans, whose lifeline was the Huey helicopter.

The Hueys would either take them out to safety or provide critical supplies. But to let the pilot know where to land, one soldier has to stand in the field with open arms, completely vulnerable. Their new logo reminds us of those brave soldiers, while also representing so much to contemporary veterans - families welcoming soldiers home, land crew directing planes and of course, the policy to welcome those who need support.

This brand change comes at a time when we are expanding eligibility to anyone who has served for one day or more and their immediate family, who can now seek counselling about any issue they face. The nationally accredited service has been the cornerstone of the Australian Government's veteran mental health support for more than 35 years, when it was established to support Vietnam Veterans. It provides 24 hour free and confidential counselling to former and current Australian Defence Force personnel and their families.

If you need support call 1800 011 046 any time of the day or nights. For more information about the name change please visit http://www.vvcs.gov.au/openarms/index.htm

# Wellbeing Support

I endeavour to support Veterans and their families in any way that I can. Since the last Contact! newsletter I have provided the following support:

Two nursing home visits

Eight visits to widows

Two funerals attended

Twenty-seven phone calls

Angus McDonald

# WELLBEING REPORT

Following the theme from the previous issue of Contact, your team has formed the view that the column should be informative rather than just quoting raw statistics.

You will notice that the Report is headed "Wellbeing Report" that is because in discussion with DVA it has been expressed that "Welfare" does not truly amplify what your volunteer practitioners do for the Service, Ex-service & Widow community. Wellbeing encompasses all facets of support, although the Advocates (note that title, no longer Pension Officer or Welfare Officer) who concentrate on assisting with Claims are now called Compensation Advocates.

For an ex-service entity that initially centred on the Blue Mountains we certainly punch above our weight. As mentioned in the previous edition, Del Heuke OAM resigned as Welfare Co-ordinator for NSWACT but did not slow down. Del is our representative on the mid North Coast where she continues with Wellbeing & Mentoring, her geographical area of responsibility is larger than the Greater Blue Mountains; Del is a member of the ATDP Regional Implementation Group 2 NSW/ACT/WA (RIG2 NSW/ACT/WA)

John Fenton is your ATDP3 Advocate & Mentor to trainee Advocates encompassing the Penrith/Nepean/Blue Mountains/Central West NSW area, he also is a member of the RSL & Service Clubs Association fund raising committee for the RSL Lifecare H4H homeless veteran's program. John is also a member of the RIG2 NSW/ACT/WA. During the reporting period both Del & John attended the one day RIG2 Committee meeting at DVA Sydney followed by a two day Mentoring Workshop.

One of the roles of ATDP Advocates/Mentors is to establish a "Community of Practice" with ESOs in our area to mutually discuss & support each other. Certainly there is a lack of trained volunteer practitioners within a radius from our Headquarters in Springwood, whereas on the Mid North Coast progress has been made.

John has started the process with ESOs who want to move forward despite the lack of trained Advocates or who have Advocates who are TIP Trained but choose not to undertake ATDP Training. ESOs who have expressed interest are St Mary's VVAA, Castle Hill RSL, Seven Hills RSL, Sydney Legacy HQ with informal "coffee Catch-up" occurring with Springwood RSL, BM Legacy, Blaxland/Glenbrook RSL & Bathurst Legacy.

Not forgetting our "frontline" support in the Nepean/ Blue Mountains area is our stalwart, Angus, who undertakes primary Wellbeing support for those Members & potential clients in the locations in proximity to our Springwood HQ. Angus's activities take away some of the burden from John being the first point of contact for those members & non members requesting assistance.

John Fenton JP ATDP3 Advocate



Padre's Corner March 2019

Hello Everyone,

This year Easter and ANZAC Day occur in close proximity to each other, and so as you read this article, I invite you to reflect on both the sacrifice of those who have served our Nation in times of peace and war, and also the great sacrifice of Christ on our behalf on the cross where Christ paid the supreme price for our sins. We read in St John's Gospel 3:16

6

# For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not die but have everlasting life.

If we can look past the Easter Eggs, and Easter Bilbies, we can see that It is the great sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and the resurrection of Christ that we celebrate during the Easter Season and all Christ's death and resurrection means for all humankind.

Jesus also taught:

#### Greater Love has no one than this: than to lay down one's life for another John 15:13 NIV

These words which we find on War Memorials and headstones through the world remind us of the willingness of men and women to serve their Nation, to leave our shores to serve throughout the world in the cause of world peace. Many of these men and women would not return having laid down their lives for others in the cause of peace; while many would be wounded in body or mind.

**During** Easter I encourage you to reflect on the great sacrifice of Christ on the cross for us and for all people, and as ANZAC Day approaches let us also remember with pride and thanks, the great sacrifices made by so many men and women on our behalf in the cause of world peace.

May I pray for all of us

May the Risen Christ our good shepherd surround *you and your loved ones and friends* with love, fill *you and your loved ones and friends* with peace, and lead *you and your loved ones* in hope, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with *you, your loved ones and friends* and remain with *you* always. Amen

Best wishes to you and yours,

*Colin Aiken* 0417203722





#### **Kenneth Malcolm Barnett OAM**

10/04/1929 - 25/01/2019 Royal Australian Navy 3/02/1943 to 17/05/1954 Service Number 039 - RAS Number A53244 Commodore Theatres of Operation - BCOF, Malaya, Korea, FESR



#### **John Anthony Cross**

8/03/1948 - 16/03/2019 Royal Australian Army 22/03/1970 to 9/12/1971 Service Number 2794625 Lance Corporal Vietnam 29/10/1970 to 23/08/1971 1st Field Squadron RAE



# **Kevin Thomas Squires**

16/08/1933 - 7/02/2019 Royal Australian Army Service Number 242599 Vietnam 21/01/1967 to 13/06/1967 Warrant-Officer Class 2 101 Field Workshop





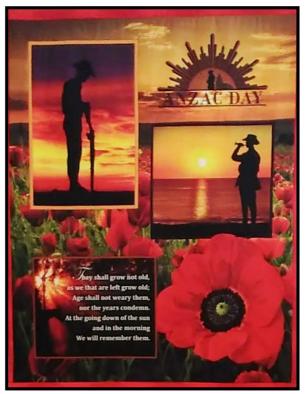
### **ANZAC Day Wall Hanging**

We thank Myf Hobson for the beautifully quilted ANZAC Day wall hanging, which she made. It was generously donated by herself and her husband Ted, via our association member Greg Meek.

It is on display in our office and has been much admired by our association members and all our visitors.



Ted & Myf Hobson

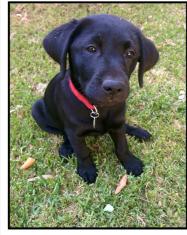


Please feel free to visit our office to have a look if you are able

#### **Guide Dog Puppy**

Our Treasurer, Craig Terrey and his wife Karen are raising a prospective Guide Dog puppy called Daina. She is Craig's constant companion, who assists him in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

She also keeps the rest of us on our toes, when she is awake!



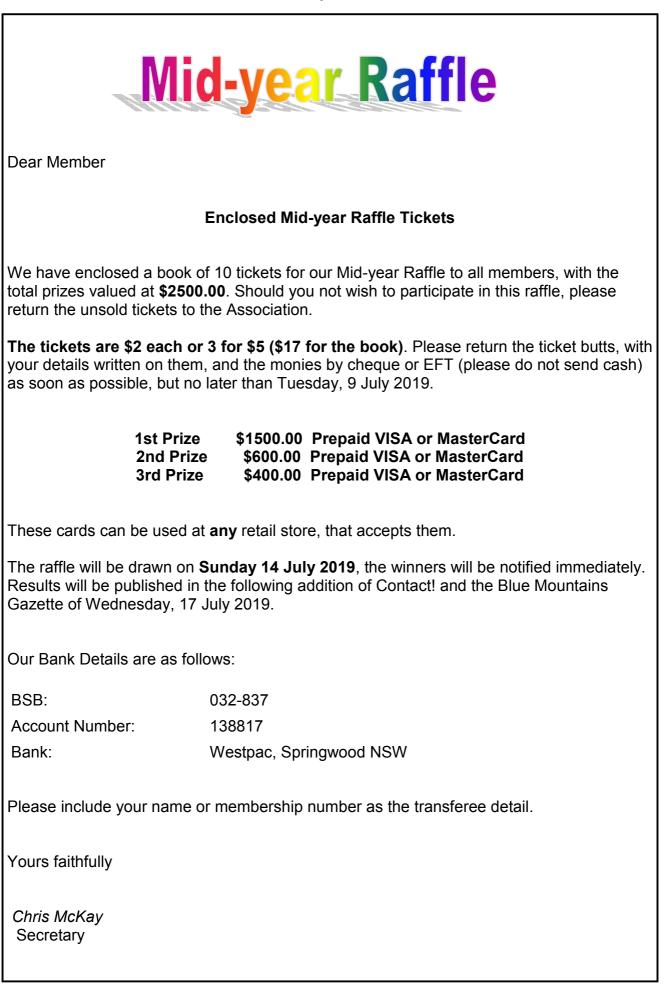
Picture of Craig Terrey & Daina (wearing her Guide Dog in Training coat)

We are still trying to work out who is the boss!!!



She will probably be with Craig and Karen for about twelve months, before going on to do some very intensive training.

All of us, in the office, give our support to Craig and Karen for this very worthwhile task they are undertaking.



Dear Raffle Stall Volunteer

#### **RE: MID- YEAR RAFFLE STALLS**

The raffle program is below with all the confirmed dates. Please contact me or the office to let us to know your availability. The contact phone numbers are as follows:

Peter Jones

Home: 47518 833 Mobile: 0415 923411 (02) 47518 528

Office

Kind regards

Peter Jones President

DATE LOCATION SUNDAY 26 MAY GROWERS' MARKET SPRINGWOOD HUB THURSDAY 30 MAY WINMALEE SATURDAY 1 JUNE SPRINGWOOD THURSDAY 6 JUNE EMU PLAINS THURSDAY 13 JUNE LEURA WOOLIES SATURDAY 15 JUNE WENTWORTH FALLS THURSDAY 20 JUNE КАТООМВА SATURDAY 22 JUNE BLAXLAND SUNDAY 23 JUNE GROWERS' MARKET SPRINGWOOD HUB THURSDAY 27 JUNE WINMALEE SATURDAY 29 JUNE HAZELBROOK THURSDAY 4 JULY LEURA WOOLIES SATURDAY 6 JULY BLAXLAND THURSDAY 11 JULY EMU PLAINS SATURDAY 13 JULY SPRINGWOOD RAFFLE DRAWN SUNDAY 14 JULY 2019

#### **MID-YEAR RAFFLE STALL DATES**

# NOTICE OF

# 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces Inc. will be held at

The Blue Mountains Theatre & Community Hub, Level 1, 104-108 Macquarie Road, Springwood NSW at 10:00am on Sunday 19 May 2019.

A copy of the Audited Financial Report will be available at the meeting. Copies of the Agenda & Office Bearer Nomination Form are attached.

The business of the meeting will be:

- 1. Ode
- 2. Confirmation of minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting
- 3. President's Report
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. Receipt of annual financial statements for the year ending 2018
- 6. Election of office bearers:
  - a. President
    - b. Vice President
    - c. Secretary
    - d. Treasurer

We encourage you to consider standing for one of these positions to bring new people onto the management committee, by completing the Nomination Form on Page 14.

Yours sincerely

Chris McKay Secretary

# **Membership Renewal**

Just a reminder that your membership falls due on 1st January each year, unless you are ahead in your payment.

When you received the Contact! newsletter by post, your date of membership will be printed on the front of the envelope.

For people on our email list, that is twice a year at non-raffle ticket time.

Your membership is current to 31 December of the year printed on the envelope. A Renewal of Membership Application form is on the last page of this newsletter.

If you have any queries regarding your membership please contact the office.

#### BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS & ASSOCIATED FORCES INC. AGENDA OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 4.26 OF THE CONSTITUTION held on Sunday 19 May 2019 at 10:00am at the Blue Mountains Theatre & Community Hub, Level 1, 104-108 Macquarie Road, Springwood NSW

Welcome by President.

Silent reflection remembering those members who have departed this life since the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Apologies.

Confirmation of the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2018.

Business arising out of those minutes.

President's Report in accordance with Part 4.24 of the Constitution.

Treasurer's Report, receive and consider the financial statement of the Association.

Receive other Sub-Committee Reports.

Suspension of Standing Orders & Election of Returning Officer.

Election of Office Bearers and Ordinary Members of Committee in accordance with Part 4.15 of the Constitution.

#### Reappointment of Honorary Auditor

(Mrs Jillian Williams CPA, FFIN, FASFA, MRMIA, MIPA has agreed to continue in this appointment.)

Appointment of Public Officer (*Mr Stafford Lowe has agreed to continue in this appointment.*)

Reappointment of Honorary Solicitor (*Mr Trevor Cork BA, LLM, FTIA has agreed to continue in this appointment.*)

General Business.

Close of Meeting.



# **Darrell's Gopher Page**



20

22

#### CROSSWORD # 10 ACROSS DOWN 1. Sailor (7) 1. Sparse (6) 5. Carbon deposit (4) 2. Levelling machine 3. Sir Isaac \_\_\_\_ 7. Section (4) 8. Permit (5) physicist (6) 9. Living area (4) 4. Dance (5) 10. London Underground 5. Outsider (8) 14 (4)6. Comic magician, 12. Anytime [anag] (7) Cooper (5) 14. Mission (6) 11. Rectify (5) 18. Flow (3) 13. Urban community 19. Bold (6) 15. Popular shrub (4) 23. Merciful (7) 16. Aim, aspiration (8 25. Uncomplicated (4) 17. Constant hum (5) 23 24 26. The Abominable 20. Political refuge (6) Snowman (4) 21. Breathe in (6) 27. Discover (5) 22. Gemstone (6) 28. Candid (4) 23. Stratum (5) 26 29. Spoil (4) 24. Pollute (5) 30. The \_\_\_\_, Shakespeare play (7) 29

The Department of the Navy just announced that the Marine Corps could no longer perform burials at sea for those who have departed this earthly life. It seems that too many sallors have drowned trying to dig a grave.



#### CHECK FOR ALZHEIMERS - PRETTY AMAZING

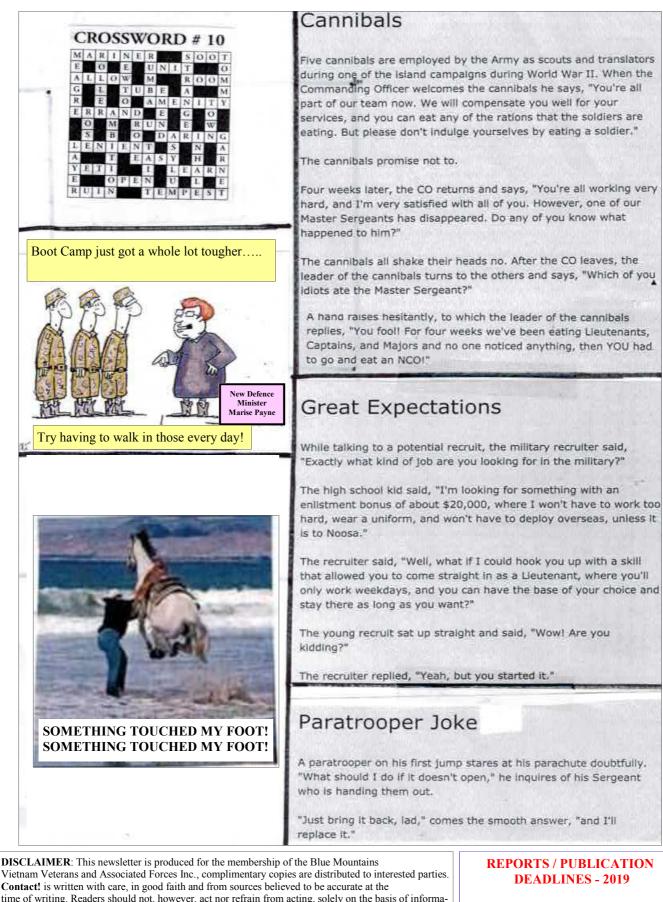
The following was developed as a mental age assessment by the School of Psychiatry at Harvard University. Take your time and see if you can read each line aloud without a mistake.

The average person over 60 years of age cannot do it!

- 1. This is this cat.
- 2. This is is cat.
- 3. This is how cat.
- 4. This is to cat.
- 5. This is keep cat.
- 6. This is an cat.
- 7. This is old cat.
- 8. This is fart cat.
- 9. This is busy cat.
- 10. This is for cat.
- 11. This is forty cat.
- 12. This is seconds cat.

Now go back and read the third word in each line from the top down.....

#### Darrell's Gopher Page ..... cont. Solutions



**Contact:** Is written with care, in good faith and from sources believed to be accurate at the time of writing. Readers should not, however, act nor refrain from acting, solely on the basis of information in this newsletter about financial, taxation or any other matter. Readers, having regard to their own particular circumstances, should consult the relevant authorities or other advisers with expertise in the particular field. Neither the Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and Associated Forces Inc., nor the management committee or Editor, accept any responsibility for actions taken by readers.

Issue 1 - 1 March 2019 Issue 2 - 1 June 2019 Issue 3 - 1 September 2019 Issue 4 - 1 December 2019 (This form must be returned to the secretary 7 days prior to the AGM)

BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS & ASSOCIATED FORCES INC. (ABN 74 645 329 198 CFN 17276)

Postal Address: Post Office Box 55, Springwood NSW 2777

NOMINATION AS OFFICE-BEARER OR ORDINARY MEMBER OF COMMITTEE				
١,				
(name and signature of proposer)				
Nominate				
(name of nominee)				
for the position of:				
I, (name and signature of seconder)				
Hereby second the above nomination:				
I,(full name and signature of nominee)				
Hereby accept nomination for the position				
of:				
Date:				
Office Use Only				
Date received by Secretary:				
Membership status verified:				
Nomination recorded in minutes of meeting:				

#### BLUE MOUNTAINS VIETNAM VETERANS & ASSOCIATED FORCES INC. (ABN 74 645 329 198 CFN 17276) PO BOX 55 SPRINGWOOD NSW 2777 Phone: (02) 4751 8528 Email: secretary@bmvets.com.au

#### MEMBERSHIP/ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

Please renew my	membership/associate	membership of t	he Blue Moun	tains Vietnam	Veterans &	Associated
Forces Inc for	year/s	_				

Surname:		
Given names:		
Address:		
Town:	State:	Postcode:
Home phone number	Mobile:	
Email:		

#### PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY NOTES THROUGH THE POST

Annual Membership Fee: (BMVV&AF Inc.) \$ 10.00 xyear/s	\$
Membership Badge \$10:00 (plus \$5:00 postage if applicable) Total \$15:00	\$
Association Logo Car Sticker \$2:00 each	\$
Vietnam Campaign Ribbons Car Sticker \$5:00 each	\$
Pens \$5:00 each	\$
Caps (with Logo) \$20:00 each (plus \$10:00 postage if applicable) Total \$30:00	\$
Polo Shirts (with Logo) - (Please ring the office for colours, sizes and prices)	\$
Donation	\$

I enclose a cheque/money order for TOTAL

#### **Payment Details**

**Cheque or Money Order** – please make the cheque payable to Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces Inc. and forward to the above address OR

\$

Direct Credit - BSB: 032-837 (Westpac Bank Springwood NSW) Account Number: 138817

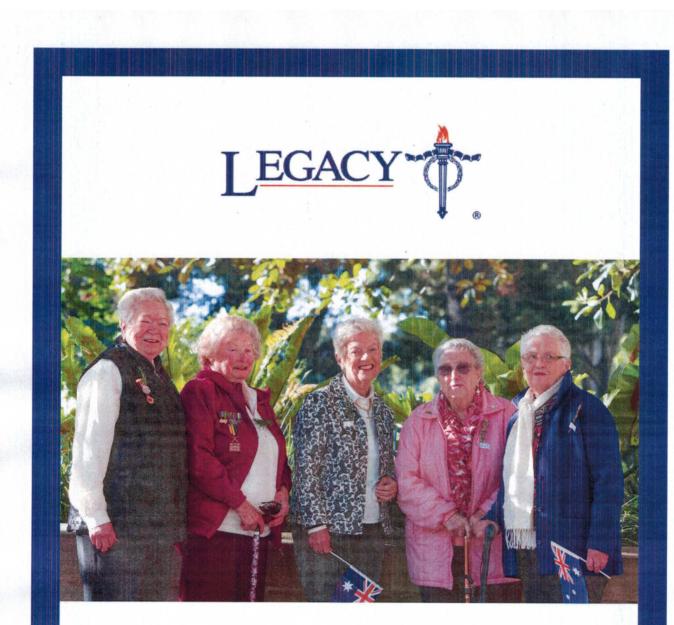
Account Name: Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans and Associated Forces Inc. Reference: "your name or membership number"

#### Please Note: Please don't forget to include 'your name or membership number' as the reference.

I agree to be bound by the rules of the Blue Mountains Vietnam Veterans & Associated Forces Inc.

SIGNATURE:.....DATE:....

Office Use Only
Direct Debit/Receipt number:.....Date:.....Date:.....Membership details updated:.....Remarks:.....



Legacy cares for young families and children, ageing and vulnerable widows and veterans' dependants with disabilities.

Help support the families of veterans in the Blue Mountains area.

Legacy seeks volunteers to assist local Widows and some families.

Contact Jennifer Milton Legacy Club Services on 9248 9078