

# THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE

## CHAPTER XXVII (27)- SOUTHERN STATES AUSTRALIA

INCORPORATED.

Correspondence – The Secretary

P.O. Box 1092, Altona Meadows VIC, 3028 Australia

Phone: 61- 3- 8060 6045 E-mail: [johnarnold@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnarnold@iinet.net.au)



President: Amador B. Garcia Jr.  
Vice President: Denis Edgley  
Treasurer: Jim Harper  
Secretary: John Arnold

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Russell Quinn

COMMITTEE:  
Ursula Garcia  
Alan McIntyre  
Scott Rinnie

### FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Well as you can see, after the AGM held in Wodonga on Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup> 2015, the 'engine room' remains as it was as everyone seemed quite happy to let things go along as they have been.

It was a good, friendly meeting as they all are and the mood was quite jovial, as it always is.

Perhaps a main reason for this atmosphere was that we were attending for a second reason and that was the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of one of our staunchest members, Gordon Andrews for whom we attended a dinner that evening.

Unfortunately our esteemed Treasurer, Jim "Shad" Harper was unable to make the meeting and dinner as he was in hospital enjoying what sounded like torture to the rest of us blokes. His wife Ena, who has been going through some health nightmares herself all through 2014, was absent as well.

Russ Quinn (the walking book of history and grande raconteur, with wife Jan, was also absent due to continuing ill health.

To any of you who are having a bit of a rough time lately we trust that things get better quickly for each of you.

### SOME PICTURES FROM OUR AGM

#### THE CONTROL TABLE



John Arnold and A.B. Garcia



Avid attention from the troops



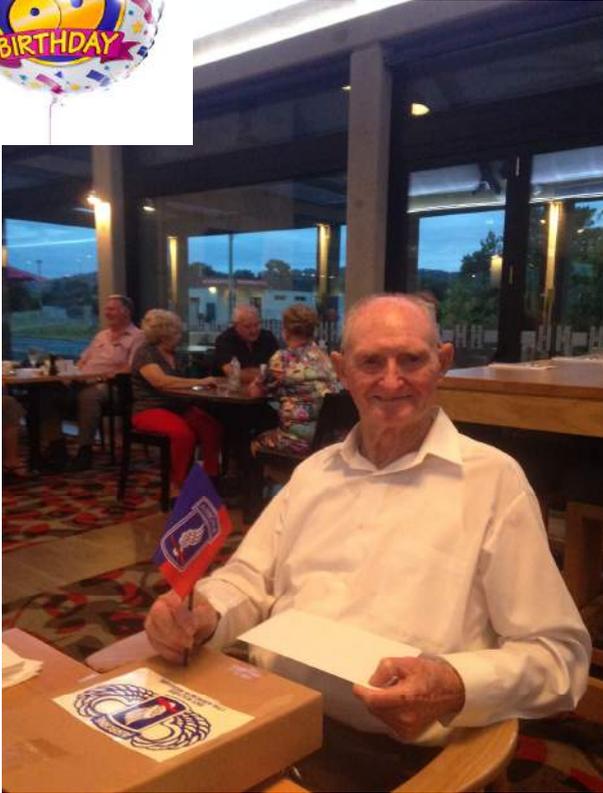
Everyone paying attention while Lobby tells Ken Baker a dirty joke ?

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2015?





## GORDON ANDREWS 80th DINNER



*That's a satisfied look from a job well done.*



*A birthday kiss from his best girl.*



*Come on Gordon cut the cake!!*



*"Better get a photo of this cake before them hungry gutted ones eat it all".*

### **NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

Our next meeting will be held at Noble Park RSL on Thursday March 26, 2015, commencing at 11.30 hours and it would be great to see as many of you as possible attend this meeting.

# SECRETARY'S AGM REPORT

John Arnold

Well, this past year has been extremely quiet on Chapter activities and that may have been due to the Reunion in Melbourne in October, but we did have a couple of things planned for the year beside that. Unfortunately it seems that we are getting into a stage in which many of our members seem to be too old, frail or disinterested in what we try to do and continue to leave it to the Usual Suspects.

After all the years since we started this chapter up I am still amazed that we have members that I have never met, or seen and I am sure most of the others are in the same boat.

I must admit that I do get very frustrated when I send out information on planned activities, BEG for a reply so I can arrange things for everyone's satisfaction (or at least the majority) and despite hammering you with requests for input, get not a bloody inkling from anybody.

Anyway, as I said, the Reunion was a resounding success and it was extremely satisfying to have it go over so well. A lot of time and energy went into the planning and of course this meant a lot of concern and worry until I saw it all come together. I must admit I was a little bit more than pleased with it all BUT I will never do anything like it again.

Our chapter Vice President, Denis Edgley and John Arnold attended the March Out parade of the Caulfield South Primary School Drum Corps on a pleasant sunny December 18, 2014. The chapter has adopted/sponsored this group of primary school students for several years now and we do this by providing a personal trophy for the pupil judged the Best drummer of the year and also supplied a perpetual trophy to which each year's top drummer's name is engraved.

We do this to encourage these children as their ability, turn out and drills are a delight to see and they are so keen. The band plays at many public events in Melbourne, such as Australia Day, Anzac Day and often on Vietnam Veterans day so if you are at one of these events and you should see these kids give them a bit of encouragement and don't be afraid to tell people that they are "OUR" kids.

# TREASURER'S AGM REPORT

Jim 'Shad' Harper

## Financial Report 2014

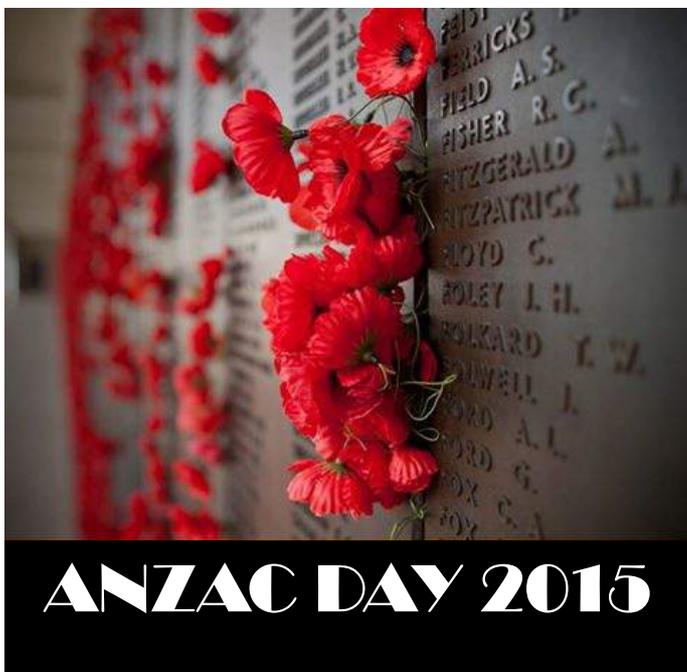
	<u>Dec 31, 14</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Chequing/Savings</b>	
PCU ACC 555628 S1	3,483.63
Petty Cash Book (Harper)	<u>7.90</u>
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	3,491.53
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
Accounts Receivable	<u>(110.00)</u>
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>(110.00)</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>3,381.53</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>3,381.53</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>3,381.53</b></u>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Credit Co-op Shares	(10.00)
Retained Earnings	2,415.96
Net Income	<u>975.57</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u><b>3,381.53</b></u>

## San Diego Reunion

2nd - 6th May 2015



**Full Registration Details  
On The Website**



Over this past 12 months or so, there has been some animosity towards the 173d Airborne Brigade Association in general AND this chapter particularly. This came about due to the unveiling of a RAR Association (Vic Branch) "KOALA" and his controversial; claims and proven criminal acts.

At the AGM it was discussed that we 1RAR veterans should make an all out effort to 'show our flag' and march WITH the battalion contingent with the 173d Airborne Brigade flag as we are ex-members of that battalion and nobody can dispute OUR history or entitlement to do so. For this reason we ask that as many of you 1RAR blokes join in the ANZAC Day parade in Melbourne this year. We don't intend to be confrontational or to cause any disruption as that would be against the very principles of the solemn day. So, how about we have as many as possibly can make it turn out for this event?

It just so happens that the 1RAR banner is in my possession (I cannot recall how this happened) but I am looking after it and will have it at the form up point on the day. Should anybody believe that they should have custody of this banner instead of me, I invite them to pick the banner up from my home at any time before the day. I understand that there is a new frame for the banner but I am unaware as to who has that frame.

### **REUNION WASH UP:**

A very profitable raffle was conducted by the chapter during the reunion and thanks have to go to Ursula Garcia for this as she was out selling tickets like they were going out of fashion. Unfortunately, none of our members won any of the prizes as they all went to members of Chapter 23 with Julie Payne winning the major prize. From a fast fading memory I believe

somewhere around \$800 was made from that effort (?) for which our venerable treasurer, Jim (Shad) Harper was grateful.

There was an expression of dismay by some members attending the reunion who discovered that the name of 'Tiny' Parker was missing from the memorial plaque we dedicated. This was an extremely unfortunate incident and we made immediate advice that the anomaly would be rectified ASP. I am grateful to Jim 'Shad' Harper for his involvement in having this oversight corrected and a new plaque having been cast and, I understand, been fitted over the original one at the Vietnam Veterans National Museum. A further effort by Shad was that he was able to convince the manufacturers to make this replacement plaque cheaper than they had first quoted.

### **2015 CHAPTER RAFFLE**

This year's raffle is a cold cast bronze statuette of a digger in a 1914 uniform, rifle and kit, that stands 24 centimetres tall and it has a vial with sand from the beach at Gallipoli included. You will soon receive a letter with 4 tickets enclosed at \$5 per ticket to offer you a chance to win this prize, which we are timing to draw on or before ANZAC Day 2015.

We would appreciate your prompt support of this effort and ticket stubs can be mailed to the address at the top of this letter, OR better still direct to the

**The Treasurer**

**P.O.Box 2143**

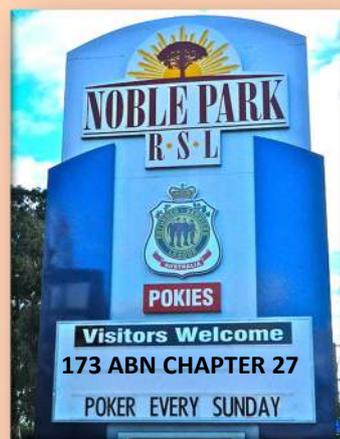
**Seaford Vic 3198.**

We need your ticket stubs back **by April 15 2015.**

### **NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

At the risk of being told I'm repeating myself, I just want to remind you to mark the date of our next meeting on your calendar or in your diary.

We will be meeting at the **Noble Park RSL on Thursday, March 26, 2015, commencing at 11.30am.**



Following the meeting we will all enjoy lunch in the Bistro enjoy some The camaraderie that usually follows on.

It would be great to see as many of you as possible attend this meeting.

Remembers fellas your ladies a more than welcome to join with us.

*Stay healthy, stay safe  
and stay happy.*