

# Everyman's

## SPECIAL EDITION



# ON PATROL

Serving the  
Australian Defence Force  
since 1940

“YOUR UNTOLD STORIES”

April 2021



“I am delighted to become Patron of Everyman’s Welfare Service. “Throughout my career in the military I witnessed the importance and impact of Everyman’s work. Their support, compassion and care for our serving men and women is remarkable and helps lift morale in the field or on base. “Everyman’s staff exemplify the richness of spirit that characterises the best of our nation. They work tirelessly and selflessly and are an inspiration. I look forward to being involved as Patron over the next five years.”

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)

Everyman’s Welfare Service has 80 years under its belt of proudly caring for our past and present serving troops and their families. Our National Headquarters is based at Gaza Ridge Army Barracks, Bandiana in Victoria. The Everyman’s Reps (men and women) are a breed of their own. Traditionally since WW2, they have donated their effort unpaid, knowing their greatest benefit to the Australian Defence Force is the time and genuine care that they give to our troops and their families. Our ‘ON PATROL’ newsletter now has an extensive list of readers: RSL Clubs, their Sub-Branched, Sporting Clubs, Military/Ex Military organizations, Churches and many other supporters.

As National Relations Manager, I visit many RSL Sub-Branched Australia-wide to keep them updated on how we continue to serve our Defence members and their families. Time after time, at these meetings, a Veteran has come up to me afterwards to share their own interaction with Everyman’s, which has, on so many occasions, outranked anything I could ever hope to share!

These memories and testimonies are of great value. I believe they are even a part of our Australian Heritage as Everyman’s as a Welfare Organisation has been working faithfully behind the scenes since WW2. In both peace and war-time, in just about every overseas military operation Australia has been involved in, including Timor, Malaya, Vietnam, Korea, Cambodia and the Middle East, Everyman’s has been there.

*REP Jeff Greene*



*Everyman’s Hut PUCKAPUNYAL 1950-1955*



*Everyman’s Hut KAPOOKA Snooker Challenge*

## Everyman’s Welfare Service

a company limited by guarantee

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*He's Everywhere, he's an Everyman, a face & a vehicle always recognised and really appreciated by the hot, thirsty and dusty digger working hard during Kangaroo 89' in the north of WA. For the army soldier based in PERTH with 13th Brigade, the Everyman is a completely new concept. Everyman's REP Denis Bell had only just brought the service to the west. To ensure nobody misses his vehicle, Denis completes some last minute sign writing prior to moving North into the PILBARA for the exercise.*



*Everyman's Convoy Exercise Kangaroo 89'*

To encourage our readers and supporters, and maybe jog some memories, we have included in this Special Edition, pictures of some of our past deployments along with a few stories from people who have been involved with Everyman's.

These stories are not just from those being served from our Brew Truck or one of our Rec Centres, but also from those who served as Everyman Reps or supporters. Two of those stories are shared below. (I think it is terrific that people of the calibre of John and Ella were involved with EWS when we first started in WW2; It speaks volumes for our organisation and its integrity).



Phil Marshall and I visited the Peninsula Palms Village October 2018 where we had a wonderful morning. There were approximately 50 people for morning tea, all waiting to hear about Everyman's. Phil gave everyone a summary of the work of Everyman's Welfare Service since conception.

After the meeting I was thrilled when two residents came to me and shared their own experiences with Everyman's at our Everyman's Hut in Queen Street, Brisbane during WW2. In 1944, John was going home to Tasmania from the RAAF at Cooktown. While in Brisbane, he dropped into our Everyman's Hut for a coffee and biscuits He said he felt blessed to be there. John also recalled a conversation with REP Gordon BLAIR who was in charge at the time.

My second chat was with Ella who shared that she and her sister Maisey belonged to the Clayfield Brethren Assembly. Between 1940 and 1945, they both volunteered their time on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to serve coffee, tea, biscuits and a 'Chat' to our brave

Armed Forces Personnel. Ella stated the Everyman's Hut in Queen Street was located at 'The Charlton Newsreel Theatre'. She recalled going to Gordon Blair's wedding to a New Zealand lass.

Food for thought: "I wonder if Gordon Blair realized at the time the impact he had on John and Ella? Not just them but the 1000s of other troops that flowed through the Hut?"

I think this is a powerful reminder for us never to underestimate the power of the 'Chat'. If John and Ella remember so well after 75 years, I wonder what effects the conversations had by all our Reps over the years around a cup of Brew have had on people, even today?



*30" screen placed in Everyman's Hut by Commandant of 1st Recruit Training Battalion, KAPOOKA*



*Crocodile Club Everyman's Centre Larrakeyah Barracks DARWIN K89'*



*Everyman's REP David Jones serving our troops at KAPOOKA 1981*

# VIETNAM



*Holding his rifle, Private Kevin Wayne 'Doc' Simmons, Medic of B Company, 5 Platoon, 2RAR/NZ, leans against a verandah post at the front of the recreation building used by Everyman's Welfare Service at the 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF) Base at NUI DAT. The sign mounted on the gable of the building reads: 'Welcome! to EVERYMAN'S...Your home away from home, operated by Campaigners for Christ'.*



*1960-1975 At 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF) Base NUI DAT...Two unidentified soldiers, possibly from 2RAR/NZ, playing snooker inside the building operated by Everyman's Welfare Service...  
A recommended support for troops.*

Another story shared with Everyman's had its beginnings at our Everyman's stall held a few years ago at the Avalon Air Show. A Vietnam Vet was wandering past and saw our emblem. He came over to say that the last time he saw our name was in Vietnam! He was so thrilled to see we were still around supporting the military; then he shared his story...

'His battalion was to be air-lifted by choppers out of a village, but after arriving at the village they were informed the Air-vac had been moved, meaning they had to walk another 6 plus hours to the new uplift site. Upon arriving at the new Airvac zone, hot, exhausted and frail, they saw the Everyman's Brew Truck all set-up, ready and waiting for them. A smile came over his face as he recounted; 'The first thing I saw as I got over that hill was the Everyman's Brew Truck parked down the bottom, just waiting for us.' He explained 'It was a sight to behold, they gave us hot tea, coffee, food, kind words and cold drinks, all free of charge, the timing was perfect.'

He then called his wife over who had been standing and watching in the background. When she arrived, he looked at the Everyman's Rep, pointed a finger his way and said, 'You are responsible for her as well you know'... After a pregnant pause leaving everyone to wonder what on earth was coming next, he cracked another big smile saying 'The Everyman's Rep running the Brew truck in 'Nam also gave us pen and paper. I wrote home to my darling sweetheart and married her on my return, and here she is', he burst out half laughing and crying, as did we all!'



*Everyman's Hut Vung Tau Province  
VIETNAM*



*Everyman's Hut Puckapunyal  
mid 1950-1958*



*Everyman's REP Bob Neander serving  
at BALCOMBE army exercises 1979*



*Troops relax at Everyman's Hut 1950's  
National Service*



*Everyman's REP serving our troops  
with a cuppa*

**“EVERYMAN’S IS IN THE PROCESS OF COLLECTING STORIES  
FROM PAST AND PRESENT SERVING MEN  
AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES. THOSE STORIES  
WILL BE DOCUMENTED, KEPT AND TREASURED FOR  
GENERATIONS TO COME”**

To do this we are humbly seeking assistance from our Supporters; RSL Clubs, Subbranches, Military/Ex Military organisations, present or past serving members (peacetime or wartime), and from those you may know who were involved with Everyman’s and wish to share their story.

If you have a story or stories you wish to share, we would love to receive them.  
(Photographs are also most welcome).

With your permission, your story may also be published in our On Patrol Magazine.

**Ways to send your story to Everyman’s:**

Scan your story and email to [admin@everymans.org.au](mailto:admin@everymans.org.au)  
or post to **PO Box 8, BANDIANA MILPO VIC 3694**

**Along with your details below:**

Name.....Email.....

Address.....

Suburb.....State.....P/Code.....Phone.....

**If you need any assistance or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact...**

**Jeff Greene - National Relations Manager**  
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*Everyman's COMM Stacey KRUCK  
serving at Exercise K89  
KATHERINE NT*



*Divisional Main Area COMM Eric Trezise,  
ACOMM Bob Rogers, REP Brian Nuessey,  
REP Deane Stevenson, REP Shane Lavell*



*Everyman's REP Kevin Farrelly  
LIVINGSTONE Forest  
Field Training Exercise*



*Everyman's Hut INGLEBURN NSW*



*Everyman's CCOMM Stacey KRUCK serving at KAPOOKA NSW 79'*



*WW2 Troops in a quiet moment at the Everyman's Hut*



*Everyman's REP Ken Matthews chatting to members of the Royal Australian Regiment 5th/7th Battalion (5/7RAR) as they enjoy a cold drink. They are part of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMSIET) 2003*



Some years ago, Rep Len Bergin was drawn into the training programme at the Army Logistics Training Centre (ALTC) and he was going out bush to see them more and more often. On one occasion, Len was asked by a young soldier why he volunteered with Everyman's. Len couldn't resist the opportunity to share his faith, as his coming to the Lord in the first place, had led directly to him serving the Lord through the evangelistic outreach of Everyman's. Len shared God's love for him and described his initial salvation experience. This from a man who thought he was right with God, but in the end realised he was sinful and heading for judgement. A small group of young soldiers who had just joined the Army gathered around to hear. Many, no doubt, heard the Gospel for the first time.

## ***EWS LOCATIONS***

- RAAF Base, AMBERLEY, QLD
- Kokoda Barracks, CANUNGRA, QLD
- Gallipoli Barracks, ENOGGERA, QLD
- Victoria Barracks, PETRIE TERRACE, QLD
- HMAS Kuttabul, HOMEBUSH, NSW
- RMC DUNTROON, ACT
- 17 Brigade, RANDWICK, NSW
- Blamey Barracks, KAPOOKA, NSW
- Gaza Ridge Barracks, BANDIANA, VIC
- Latchford Barracks, BONEGILLA, VIC
- Navy ACCOMMmodation, STRATHFIELD, NSW
- Simpsons Barracks, MACLEOD, VIC

# “HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL?”

How do you want to be remembered? Your sense of humour? Your love of dancing? Your determination to help others? What would be the one thing you would pass on to the next generation? Throughout our lives we're influenced by the actions of the generations that come before, from grandparents and parents to schoolteachers and sports coaches, whether it's knowledge, a skill or a passion. What you choose to pass on makes a positive difference to the next generation. With a legacy donation you will be partnering with Everyman's and passing on a helping hand to future members of our Armed Forces and their families, people who need it most. Your bequest will make an unforgettable difference for generations to come. By leaving a gift to our work in your Will, you will join an honoured group of supporters within the Everyman's family who are shaping a world where service personnel have somewhere trusted and safe to turn for help, comfort and support, no matter what. You will be sharing in our achievements, connect with inspirational people and be part of the Everyman's Story.



IF YOU WISH TO LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO HELP EVERYMAN'S CONTINUE TO SERVE THOSE WHO SERVE OUR NATION AND WOULD LIKE US TO SEND OUR LATEST “**EVERYMAN'S BEQUEST BROCHURE**” PLEASE CONTACT OUR NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ON 02 6055 2988. WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU...

### ALTERNATIVELY

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND EMAIL [admin@everymans.org.au](mailto:admin@everymans.org.au) OR POST TO PO Box 8, BANDIANA MILPO VIC 3694

Name.....Email.....

Address.....

Suburb.....State.....P/Code.....Phone.....

Please send me Everyman's Bequest Brochure

## Your Gift

supporting the next generation of Australian servicemen and women



Yes Everyman's! We want to support the great work you do supporting the servicemen and women of the Australian Defence Force.

Name.....Email.....

Address.....

Suburb.....State.....P/Code.....Phone.....

**Enclosed is our tax deductible gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make your cheque or money order payable to EVERYMAN'S WELFARE SERVICE

To pay by Credit Card, please indicate whether: VISA  Mastercard

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(Last 3 digits on back)

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