



Serving the  
Australian Defence Force  
since 1940

# ON PATROL



July 2022

## *From the CCOMM's desk...*

Dear friends and supporters,

I was recently able to accompany REP Warren CLARKE at the rifle range at Kapooka, where Warren is the current Everyman. Of course, it was one of those days of rain and bitter south-westerly winds blowing in. A perfect day for the Everyman to turn up. For any of us who have spent time on the range at Kapooka, memories will undoubtedly flood back of times like this. We spent a good time down there in that freezing cold, and the recruits and staff had to be rugged up to the hilt to withstand the elements. The hot brews and bikkies on Warren's truck were keenly sought after. We had long queues of recruits at the truck, patiently waiting in the bitter cold for their chance to grab a brew. It was also great to see recruits grab an Army Bible with their brews. Everyman's offers these to all ADF members, free of charge, thanks to the support of the Bible Society, Australia. It was a reminder that Everyman's is about more than just the brews, bikkies and chocolates. It told me that many of our younger generation are concerned about what the future holds. Any literature that may help them to understand that is helpful. It may not be the sort of thing ADF members would openly admit, but in the private conversations we have, we know that this concern is very real, as it is often quietly expressed around the back of the brew truck. Our Everyman's and Everywoman's REPs are ready whenever such a question may come.

We know that many soldiers, sailors, airmen and women, have been greatly encouraged by the chat they have had with the Everyman about the topic of hope. I remember having these conversations with some people, when on operations in the Middle East in 2018. They know that we are available to speak to them about whatever is concerning them.

We simply share one on one how we see this world and its future. I remember having some of my best conversations in the Middle East, and was overjoyed to see some walk away with a smile on their faces and admitting they had a "few things to think about now."

These kinds of concerns that members of our Defence Force have, are not necessarily matters that they can easily share, even with mates. After all, there is a job to be done, and they are trained to focus on that. Nevertheless, what if people are afraid or concerned, and need to express that? It is comforting for them to know that Everyman's, either around the Brew Truck, in a Rec Centre, or anywhere else on base or in the field, are one group of people in the ADF who are happy to sit and listen to whatever their concerns may be. We have seen firsthand how a chat about what is not even a personal concern, but a concern nonetheless, can take a great psychological weight off their shoulders. Our prayers for some, who like us to pray for them, have had an even greater obvious effect in making that person feel happier, simply because they have shared a burden.

Your support, prayers and donations will help us to put more Everymen and Everywomen into the field. In what is an age of growing uncertainty in our world, Everyman's is pleased and honoured to have opportunity to serve at whatever front the ADF will find itself in, in the future. We welcome your consideration of how you might be able to assist us to care for the ADF, whatever challenges may lie ahead for them in the future.



Ken Matthews  
Chief Commissioner

## Everyman's Welfare Service

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# *Ex Southern Jackaroo*



*AUR James Morrissy and ACOMM Richard Gibson trying to keep dry.*



*AUR James Morrissy serving some Japanese soldiers.*



*AUR James Morrissy with soldiers checking out mechanical issues with the brewtruck.*

During May, AUR James Morrissy had the opportunity to serve soldiers during their training on range at both Wide Bay and Shoalwater Bay training areas. For James as a trainee with Everyman's, this was a time of learning firstly about the truck, but more importantly learning when to make the most of the time he had with individual soldiers and officers of our Army. Despite our best efforts, we still managed to get the truck bogged on one occasion and thankfully a resting Armoured Personal Carrier (APC) crew came to the rescue! James' favourite question has become "... so why do you do this ?" Each time there is a slightly different take on the answer, but at the end of the day James is happy that the name of Jesus is part of the conversation. At Shoalwater Bay there were over 700 soldiers taking part in Exercise 'Southern Jackaroo'. Whilst there we served soldiers from units within the 7th Battalion, 180 American marines, based in Darwin and a contingent of Japanese soldiers.

One of the Army Chaplains organised a chapel service at one of the small arms ranges and it was a delight to have Richard surprising some with his guitar, joining in the service with the troops, singing songs of praise and worship.

There were some very long days and a few rough tracks, but for two weeks both ACOMM Richard Gibson and AUR James worked well as a team to serve the soldiers and marines.

It seems to becoming a habit that ACOMM Richard Gibson celebrated another birthday in the field!



*ACOMM Richard Gibson, AUR James Morrissy and Chaplain James Hall conducting a service.*



*ACOMM Richard Gibson sings.*

## **CO-LABOURERS**

At Everyman's we realise we can make a small impact on the ADF, but in conjunction with fellow ministries, the results are magnified. We gratefully acknowledge these like-minded ministries with whom we work to serve the ADF:

Chaplains

FOCUS

Military Christian Fellowship (MCF)

Navigators

SASRA

Red Shield Defence Service

Focus on the Family

Solid Rock

The Bible Society

Association for Conferences Teaching and Service (ACTS)

Naval Military and Airforce Bible Society



# Meet the team

## VIC



CCOMM  
Ken Matthews  
Bandiana



ACOMM/Admin  
Lou Hochwimmer  
Bandiana



SNR REP  
Kristian Kemper  
Latchford



REP/Admin  
Chris Kemper  
Bandiana

## NT



REP  
Leane Dabitz  
Robertson



Community  
Support Volunteer  
Helen Matthews  
Bandiana



Prayer Support  
James Black  
Bandiana



REP  
Shane Lavell  
Macleod



REP Neil  
McGinn  
Bandiana

## ACT



REP  
Frank Tottingham  
RMC Duntroon

## QLD



ACOMM  
Richard Gibson  
Enoggera



SNR REP  
Ben Ridley  
Enoggera



NRM  
Jeff Greene  
Canungra



REP  
Brad Clarke  
Amberley



REP  
Glenn Tweedale  
Enoggera



REP  
Mason Eagleton  
Canungra



AUR  
James Morrissy  
Enoggera



AUR Bruce & Mercy Maher  
Amberley

**Some of our team are  
fulltime volunteers.**

**They would be grateful  
for your financial  
support.**

**Contact Chris or  
Leane at Headquarters**

## NSW



REP  
Warren Clarke  
Kapooka



ACOMM  
George Thomas  
Kapooka



REP  
Chris Wainwright  
Homebush



REP  
Peter Harvie  
Randwick

## SA



REP  
Kiel Gardoll  
Woodside

# *Puckapunyal*



*CCOMM Ken Matthews with soldiers at Puckapunyal.*

CCOMM Ken had the very real privilege of being able to visit the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (ASEME) trainees and staff at their field training exercise at Puckapunyal in May this year. Even then, it was getting quite cold and any ADF member who has trained there will quickly give you his/her opinion on how cold the range at “Pucka” can be. Having said that, it does have some very pleasant scenery when you can factor out that cold wind blowing right through you.

ASEME Chaplain Padre Andrew Dockerill travelled with CCOMM Ken and it was a great time of ministry as the trainees and staff of ASEME had hot brews and soup, as well as a pastoral visit from their Chaplain. We were able to go around to all the stands where training was taking place and dispense pastoral care, and just that “good old chat” that is so greatly appreciated by members of the ADF and rightly expect from their Everyman or Everywoman.

Everyman’s wants to give a shout out to ASEME and particularly to their Padre and staff for letting us on the range to serve them. It is our hope and prayer that Everyman’s can be around when ASEME feel they need us, and it was great to be involved again with what has become almost an unwritten tradition, the “Everyman’s/Padre visit!”

## **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
- Woodside Barracks, INVERBRACKIE, SA
- 17 Brigade, RANDWICK, NSW
- Blamey Barracks, KAPOOKA, NSW
- Gaza Ridge Barracks, BANDIANA, VIC
- Latchford Barracks, BONEGILLA, VIC
- Navy Accommodation, STRATHFIELD, NSW
- Simpsons Barracks, MACLEOD, VIC
- Robertson Barracks HOLTZE, NT



# *REP Warren Clarke, Kapooka*



*REP Warren Clarke  
Kapooka*



*Soldiers at Kapooka Rec Centre.*

KAPOOKA – in the local Wirajuri Tribe language means “Egg”. This name is appropriate since we incubate civilians, both full time and part time, until they emerge from Kapooka as soldiers.

It is a place where all Army and Airforce Recruits are introduced to the Everyman’s Service for the first time, with the Army recruits receiving several visits from the Brew Truck during their 3-month course. REP Warren Clarke is told he is a real lifesaver by many a recruit! This gives him opportunity to talk to them about Jesus, the real-Life Saviour. Warren can serve anything up to 500 recruits in one day, which can be challenging at times, but is also very rewarding.

This year, at the March Out Parades, Warren has been serving brews to the visitors that come from all over Australia to watch their sons and daughters march out at the end of their training. The visitors tell Warren that their Recruit has done nothing but rave about how much Everyman’s helped them get through Kapooka. It’s lovely feedback for Warren and Everyman’s – and a great witness of the Christian Community caring for Defence.

Warren had a visit from CCOMM Ken at the end of May to discuss the possibility of moving the EWS Centre back to its original location. With further discussions to be carried out, this may happen in the next few months. We also took the opportunity to visit the rifle range where 3 and 4 Platoons were training.

This brought back many memories for Ken, who began his time with Everyman’s at Kapooka more than 20 years ago!



*REP Warren Clarke serving Platoons 3 and 4 at the rifle range.*

# *Vietnam and Everyman's Reminiscences*

I grew up in a loving home environment despite it not being a wealthy one. Mum played piano at the local Presbyterian Church and I went to the Sunday school there. Later I became a member of the Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia and joined the Presbyterian Youth Choir in Brisbane. I loved the lifestyle and the people in my circle. Imagine then in 1965 when entering my twentieth year I was required to register for National Service. My number came up in the lottery. My prize was a fully funded, meals and accommodation included, two-year membership of the Royal Australian Army with the possibility of an overseas trip! According to the regular Army Training personnel, I was no longer a citizen of society, but a Recruit. One Sergeant told us in no uncertain manner, that he was Jesus Christ and the Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) was God! However, one bright light came in the form of Everyman's. I'm not sure how I came to discover just where they met, but one day I found what I thought to be a library in a hut. It was here I first encountered Everyman's REP Rex Finedon. He invited me to services where I met other Christians from different areas of the Army also attending. Many pleasant times were spent in this company, and to me it was a breath of fresh air amongst the environment I was in. Later I was transferred into the RAAMC as a medical assistant and did a short stint in Vietnam. I lost contact with Everyman's but retained a warm feeling for the moments when amidst chaos and confusion I was able to share in the company of other Christians who were also attracted to Everyman's. David Aspinall, former member of 8 Field Ambulance, RAAMC. Vung Tau, South Vietnam 1967.



*REP Rex Finedon*

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