



*Serving the  
Australian Defence Force  
since 1940*

# ON PATROL



April 2023

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

Dear all,

As I write today, we do feel greatly honoured by a past ADF member who has organised the Everyman's Baton Relay in Melbourne. This past member had only a short time with the Everyman, but in appreciation of the care he was given as a soldier, he has committed not only himself but a team he has raised, to run and raise money for us. All we can say is that there are some real champions out there!

We continue to be amazed at how much the work of Everyman's is remembered down through many years after people have left the service. I am so glad of another thing; that the Everyman's of the time met a young soldier where he was. They ministered effectively enough for him to still remember that interaction after all these years.

To this day, we continue to work, being people who genuinely care, and genuinely listens. This proves that none of us can overemphasise the importance of conversation and fellowship when we are down. We recognise this, and the ADF command recognises this. This is even more important now in this time of international uncertainty.

Our ADF would be no doubt be experiencing some trepidation as to whether or not they might have to deploy quickly. Though they understand this, and are ready to do so, such a circumstance cannot help but to weigh heavily upon their hearts. ADF members still have loved ones, families and children. They feel concerned at the prospect of not being with them, and being deployed into a critically dangerous place. Everyman's has always sought to be by their side during these times both at home and in war. However, we know we are only scratching the surface due to our limited resources and numbers of REPs in the field.

Our long-term plan is to be able to support more Everyman's and Everywoman's REPs' into the field. For now, Everyman's remains a volunteer service, and we cannot actually pay financial support for our REPs, (as much as this is our long-term goal). This becomes a challenge into the future.

To this end, we have avenues where supporters can elect to choose between a couple of options in supporting Everyman's. This is either by enabling us to invest in better trucks and trailers to get out and see the ADF in training, or by choosing to sponsor one of our Everyman's or Everywoman's REPs personal support.

The need to be out there for our ADF personnel encompasses these two basic needs. Supporters can opt to contribute to either or both. Many who support us are blessed in a way that is not material.

By that I mean that even when a donor is incapacitated, they have found great satisfaction in continuing to reach out to current ADF personnel through Everyman's in genuine support. Indeed Everyman's is here to do that on your behalf.

This is one way in troubled times, that you can care for our soldiers, sailors, and aviators.

The Good Book has stated a very great truth, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38.

It is indeed a blessing to be able to give back to our Defence Force, and to invite all readers to consider how they may serve them through Everyman's. Thank you for being not only our supporters, but also our partners.



*Ken Matthews  
Chief Commissioner*

*CCOMM Ken Matthews*

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# Baton Relay

When we returned from the Christmas New Year holiday break, one of the messages waiting for us at HQ was from Chris Vines, a former Army Reservist who served for four years from 1998.

Chris and a group of lifelong friends were proposing to run a marathon to raise funds for Everyman's Welfare Service! As I watch from afar, the cohesiveness of the team using their individual skills to organise the event and the fundraising, We have no doubt it will be a huge success. A big shout out to the runners and their families, who are supporting them.

*ACOMM Lou Hochwimmer*

## Let me introduce you to the Team:



**Murray Nicol (46)** - Murray is not much of a runner, preferring to walk or hike in Australia's amazing outdoors. He does enjoy a challenge and looks forward to the Baton Relay. Murray is a Financial Advisor and knows from his work that keeping a healthy body and mind is a key aspect of a wealthy life.

**Chris Vines (46)** - Chris has been a runner since he was 13 and has mainly focussed on middle distance running. He completed his one (and only) marathon in 2014. Chris was an Army Reservist from 1998 - 2002 and has worked at Fairfax / Nine Print Media for 23 years. Chris is looking forward to the run and supporting Everyman's in the process.



**Duncan Ham (46)** - Ran for a tram... once. Works in the tech sector and coaches girls' footy at the local club where most of his physical activity takes place. Duncan sees the value in raising money and awareness for Everyman's Welfare Service and looks forward to contributing to the Baton Relay.

**Michael Vines (45)** - Michael has been a runner since 2013 and has mainly focused on long distance running with several gaps of multiple years with little running. Michael has worked in the energy industry for more than 20 years.



**Kate Urquhart (45)** - loves a triathlon and still thinks she can perform like she did 10 years ago. However the reality is bruising and harsh as her current 5kms training is rudely pointing out. Kate owns her own Wellbeing consulting firm that focuses on Corporates. This cause is very close to her heart and she is honoured to be able to participate and raise awareness in this space.

**Jacob Somers (46)** - Jacob is a keen runner and golfer and is looking forward to contributing to the Baton Relay & Everyman's. Unfortunately, Jacob is a passionate Collingwood supporter...Jacob has worked at ANZ for over 10 years.



**Peter Arnott (46)** - Peter has not been the most avid runner other than chasing a basketball up and down the court for the better part of 30 years. Has worked at the CBA for the better part of 15 years and is welcoming the challenge of taking part in the Baton Relay with lifelong friends.

**Shane Calvert (46)** - Shane used to run a lot back in the day...middle distance mainly but has not run in years due to his mountain bike riding / racing. Shane is looking forward to giving The Everyman's Baton Relay a crack as it's for a great cause. Shane has worked at JMP Holding for four years.





## Support Crew



**James Bavin (Almost 46)** – Full-time father to two amazing daughters, husband to a corporate powerhouse and part-time moonlighter at Bunnings. A long held and deep family connection to the Armed Forces and a growing awareness of mental health challenges makes Everyman's a worthy and personal charity to get behind.

**Simon John (46)** – Simon has not been involved as a competitive runner since high school. A Carlton supporter, it is not surprising that he has spent 20+ years living in exile in Japan where he works in International Exchange and researching Japanese Studies while raising a young family. This means that he will be supporting the Baton Relay from afar but is enjoying the opportunity to help a great cause and catch up with old friends.



The team recently held a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, raising almost \$2,000! Read more about that on our web and Facebook pages.

You can support the Everyman's Baton Relay, using the enclosed donation slip when you make your donation, or identifying Everyman's Baton Relay (EBR) with your donation by Direct Bank Transfer.

**Maximise your tax-deductible donations before the 30th June!**

## *Honouring Keith Phillips*



It was an honour for Everyman's to recognise and honour Keith Phillips as an Associate of the ministry to the Australian Defence Force. Keith served in various practical and prayer supporting roles over many years.

**Thank you, Keith!**



He was presented with a cake and a framed certificate by Chief Commissioner Stacey Kruck OBE OAM (Retd) and Senior Representative Ben Ridley, on behalf of Everyman's Welfare Service.

## 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

# *Exercise Albert Borella*

When you think of military exercises, your imagination is likely to run to camouflaged soldiers training in the field or PT sessions back on the base. It is unlikely that you would imagine young men and women messing about in moulded plastic kayaks on a muddy anabranch of the Murray River.

That, however, was the nature of the Adventure Training some of the soldiers from ALTC Wodonga were recently involved with. Qualified instructors taught the teams how to manage their craft in the swift current, capsize safely, recover their own craft and when that failed, rescue both swimmer and boat as they were swept downstream. It was quite a challenge for those who found the murky water intimidating. While kayaks might have limited strategic value in a conflict environment, the experience of facing personal fears and being comfortable with being uncomfortable absolutely is.

The Everyman's team based at ALTC was on site each day, lending a helping hand when the watercraft had to be emptied of water, encouraging the teams as they gained greater confidence in the water and then, in a relaxed conversation, helped debrief the experience over a drink and a high calorie hit from the welcome brew truck.



# *Massive Murray Paddle*

SNR REP Kristian Kemper had the pleasure of attending the Massive Murray Paddle (MMP) with some ADF and civilian elements. The MMP began as a canoe race from Yarrowonga to Swan Hill in 1969, a total of 415km in 5 days. The event has been held annually since then and is used to raise money for charities and social groups.

The race is usually held in November but the 2022 race was rescheduled to March 2023. In this event, the ADF had a team of about 22 paddlers and support crew - a total of 7 boats in solo and relay teams. Although there was a smaller flotilla this year, it was still a great event and easier to get to know all the paddlers (both ADF and civilian).

The support team excelled themselves with the hard work of helping the paddlers in and out of boats, cooking and driving to each check point. The two trainee Medics in the support crew worked tirelessly all week, showing the Courage, Initiative, Respect and Teamwork that the ADF is known for.

I had the privilege of camping out with the team and following them to each check point, supplying both team and civilians with fresh drinks and snacks as needed. I am looking forward to the next MMP in November.





# Meet the Kapooka Staff Up Close



ACOMM George Thomas

George became aware of Everyman's during his almost 30 years' service in the Army Reserve, but it was a conversation he had with then REP Graeme Liersch, that led him to apply to become part of the Everyman's team. Graeme, like every REP before and since, at Kapooka, was very busy. Kapooka is the Army's recruit training centre, where almost everyone comes to do their 8-week basic training course.

During his service with Everyman's, George has really enjoyed the welcome given by the ADF members he has served and the "Team" atmosphere among the EWS staff.



SNR REP Warren Clarke

Warren also first heard about Everyman's during his 21 years of military service. He remained in contact with his local Everyman after he discharged from the Army, and after running his own business for a further 21 years, decided it was time to retire and join Everyman's.

Warren works full-time with Everyman's. He is extremely busy but finds serving the recruits very rewarding. They appreciate him too, often calling him a "Life Saver" when they see the Brew Truck arrive onto the training ground.

Both George and Warren have had the privilege of serving on overseas deployment with Everyman's. The military personnel are surprised to see an Everyman's REP in an overseas location, and even more surprised when they learn they are there as volunteers.

As we have mentioned, the Everyman's REPs are always very busy at Kapooka. There is a lot more they would like to be able to do, but simply don't have the manpower to make it possible.

If you believe God is calling you to become an Everyman's REP at Kapooka, please contact Chief Commissioner, Ken Matthews by email.

Whatever became of REP Graeme Liersch after serving with Everyman's for 8 years? He continues to be very busy as our Honorary Treasurer!

## EWS LOCATIONS

- RAAF Base, AMBERLEY, QLD
- Kokoda Barracks, CANUNGRA, QLD
- Gallipoli Barracks, ENOGGERA, QLD
- Victoria Barracks, PETRIE TERRACE, QLD
- HMAS Kuttabul, HOMEBUSH, NSW
- RMC DUNTRON, 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

# *Exercise True Grit*



Charlie Company, 8/9 RAR, and a Flight of the RAAF's No.2 Security Forces (2 SECFOR), Airfield Defence Guards (ADGs) have been put through their paces at the Army's Jungle Training Wing, in Tully. A surprise visit from the Everyman's Brew truck put a smile on their faces, especially after finishing the gruelling obstacle and bayonet course called 'True Grit'. Many of the ADGs were excited to hear that they now have their very own Everyman's REPs attached to their unit, with Bruce and Mercy Maher now being both sponsored by 2 SECFOR.



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