



Serving the
Australian Defence Force
since 1940

ON PATROL



July 2023

From the CCOMM's desk...

Dear all,

As I put pen to paper, we have four of our faithful workers heading towards the biggest military exercise Australia has ever hosted, Talisman Sabre 2023 (TS). There is even a European contingent participating this year, for the first time. It is perhaps a reflection of the troubled times we are living in.

There is a lot of concern amongst the ADF, and indeed our own fellow citizens as to what a conflict may look like in the near future. Everyman's is proud to be doing all we can to support ADF members; reinforcing their preparedness by boosting morale. This is what we have always done and will continue to do as long as we are around. However, our service still takes on a very sombre tone when we see what could be a major conflict on the horizon. Our ADF members prepare to give all to defend Australia, and Everyman's wants to be there to help strengthen and encourage that resolve.



*Ken Matthews
Chief Commissioner*

So often, this resolve is encouraged by such a simple thing as a caring and committed conversation. Our Everymen and Everywomen have become exemplary in this kind of ministry. Each one of us knows and reads the person we speak to in such a way that we can help and strengthen their hearts. TS has become a perfect occasion for this. Our four brew trucks up there will become our chief "ships of state" to get out and reach as many as possible with that kind word, and of course the traditional "brew", hot or cold. There is nothing like a simple beverage to begin the flow of conversation. Many a trial has been shared in that context, with the Everyman/woman. Our Everywoman's REP Leane is travelling across from the NT with her unit and will join up with REPs Richard, Ben and James heading up from Brisbane. Together they will support, encourage and boost morale of all they meet.

Thank you for all who have contributed thus far to our brew trucks. They are, quite literally, the vehicle that provides access to members of our Defence Force and their allies. The ADF command is keener than ever to have us at TS and on future exercises. We, in Everyman's, are just as keen to be there!

Please keep remembering us and partnering with us in this endeavour. Each time we go out to support the ADF, our brew trucks get a real "caning." This has, of recent times, had a huge impact on maintenance and associated costs for our trucks. Your on-going donations will help us in the partnership we share; Caring for our ADF members.

It is hard for us to relate the look of absolute joy on the faces of our Defence members when they see the "old Everyman's brew truck" pull up. They know it is a time to take a break and an opportunity to share with the Everyman/woman how their day is going. It is so important for them to be able to do that with someone "outside the chain" and though outside that very chain, we are privileged to have access to their Commanding Officers. In this way, we can let them know of any significant problems on the ground, that they might need to be aware of.

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Exercise Shark Bait

Exercise Shark Bait was an ALTC adventure training exercise held at Eden on the south coast of NSW. The week was filled with sea kayaking and team building skills. There were about 30 soldiers, support crew and one Everyman's brew truck run by SNR REPs Kristian and Christina Kemper.

At the start of the week the soldiers were taught basic paddling and roll over skills to help them in what was to come. There were long paddles up and down the coast throughout the week and the brew truck would head off each day and find the locations where the teams would stop for breaks and lunch. Then the truck would head back to base to wait for their return to camp. When the paddlers returned to camp they would clean the boats and equipment, and a hot brew would be waiting for them.



There were some great sites to see as the soldiers paddled through the rocks and into caves along the coast and a night paddle of 25km down the Towamba River and back to Boyd Town using only cyalume sticks. One of the final days was surf kayaking and trying to ride the waves back into the beach, which resulted in some exciting roll overs!

Overall, it was a great week with the brew truck constantly on the go. We built some great friendships with the whole group as they learned new skills and pushed the boundaries of their capabilities.



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

Everyman's Baton Relay

(Running a good race...)



With each edition of *On Patrol* this year, we have been sharing details of the Everyman's Baton Relay fundraising event, which was held on 16th April in Melbourne.

It began with a phone call from a former member of the Army Reserve, who with a group of lifelong friends, wanted to get together, have some fun, and raise money for a good cause. It took a lot of work from the Baton Relay team in Melbourne, and at Everyman's, to pull it all together in just 13 weeks, but finally the day arrived. Melbourne turned on the rain, but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of any of the runners, who ran a combined total of 43km, in just under 5 hours!

Everyone in the team had played an important part in making the event a success: most ran, some organised sausage sizzles, while still others supported from far off lands, another followed each runner, taking photos and reporting in real time to the rest of the team; while families supported team members as they prepared.

The sun shone as they entered Queens Park at Moonee Ponds. It had been a huge success, in terms of the event being run and the donations raised, which will be a great boost to the funding for the EveryVets Trailer; a project that has been on slow burn for the past couple of years.

The race has been run, but the fundraising will continue until the end of the year, so there is still plenty of time to give to one good cause (Everyman's Baton Relay) and help another (EveryVets Trailer Project)! Remember, all donations over \$2 are Tax Deductible!

You may not have a marathon in you, but perhaps turning sausages with your friends at Bunnings might be more appealing way to support our work.

Please get in touch with us at Everyman's HQ to discuss your plans. If we have a Brew Truck or a REP nearby, we would love to come and give you a hand!



Motivated to Victory

As I write, our Everyman's team is already dispensing welfare to troops up at Operation Warhead in the prelude to Talisman Sabre 2023, that will be the biggest military exercise ever held in Australia. We have engaged soldiers from other nations as well: French Foreign Legionnaires, US Marines, and Fijians.

It is our pleasure to serve our allies along with all members of the ADF. Despite nationality, each of them have common concerns. Family back home, relationship issues, loved ones who may be sick who they cannot be near, are all part of this. Everyman's is a listening ear to all who are in distress, no matter what their ethnicity, background, religion or belief system. Everyman's is there for Everyman and Everywoman.

Our own EWS REPs themselves miss loved ones, friends and families back home also, so we are often asked what our motivation is. The Apostle Paul once penned these words: *"I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."* (1 Corinthians 9:22). Therefore, Everyman's puts on the uniform like the soldiers around us, so we might be able to share what this saving is all about. Paul had the best message possible; which is that we all have the opportunity to be at peace with the one true God when our time in this life is complete.

For people in the armed forces, wherever they are from, the prospect of life coming to an abrupt end is very real one once on Operations. We send our Defence folk to the most dangerous places on planet Earth. So how the prospect of death is dealt with, is a very real question. Our Everyman's and Everywomen's REPs are there to discuss this very question with all who enquire. To this end, the Apostle Peter said some other very important words. In your hearts, revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15). These words are the motivation for us as Everyman's REPs. We see ourselves as the needy ones showing all the other needy ones where the nourishing food is to be found, the food that saves us all.

We have a message that can assure all, no matter who we have been, no matter what we have done, that we can indeed be a new creation despite the past. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old has gone, the new is here!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17)

People from all over the world can have the assurance that at the end of this life they do not have to fear what lies beyond the grave. God became a man and lived in this world so that no one needs to fear the grave, no matter who they have previously been.

Therefore, this is what motivates Everymen and Everywomen. We know our God has what can only be described as the supreme love for us. He also has this for everyone on this planet.

Nevertheless, it does mean the giving of our life, being, and all we are, back to our Creator God, who is Jesus Christ. However, such a surrender is not a defeat. It is in fact our best life victory ever. We then become all our God created us to be in both this life and the life to come. Wherever you are at today, becoming that promised new creation will bring that ultimate life victory.

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

The Heart of Everyman's

As many of you would understand, the Everyman's Brew Truck is a major part of our operation in providing support and raising the morale of members of the ADF and Allied Forces, when they are out on exercise. For the soldier, being on exercise, training to step in to any situation that is asked of them, it can be fun, exhausting, miserable, and a myriad of other things. Responding quickly to commands, having interrupted sleep and the boredom of the ration packs can mean the sight of the Brew Truck is almost as good as seeing your best friend coming over the horizon!

Like everything, at some point, the Brew Trucks come to the end of their useful life and need to be replaced. We have two vehicles in this state right now. Thanks to some very generous donations from our supporters and the ex-service organisations, we have been able to purchase a good second hand Toyota Landcruiser cab chassis, which SNR REP Kristian Kemper, has stripped down and repainted in camouflage brown. (Before and after photos at right). It will have a canopy fabricated and fitted out before it will be ready to undertake a Brew Run.



SNR REP Shane Lavell, just out of the frame at left, is based at Simpson Barracks in Melbourne. He regularly travels north to Puckapunyal, where this photo was taken, to support soldiers on exercise there. On these cold, wintry days down south, the coffee machine on his truck works overtime, while, in far north Queensland, cold drinks are most popular as our REPs interact with soldiers from across Australia, and right around the globe. Below left, members of the French Foreign Legion meet SNR REP Ben Ridley and discover the treats on board the Brew Truck, while the camp comes to a standstill as the soldiers from the Royal Fijian Military Forces start and end each day singing songs of praise to our God.



SNR REP Brad Clarke



We are pleased to announce our newest Senior Representative (SNRREP) Brad Clarke, sponsored by 23 Squadron RAAF Base Amberley.

Brad has been an Everyman's REP now for 3 years, and in that time has established great favour with base management and command at Amberley. One example is his recent hosting of a RAAF Rugby team in the Centre following a special request at short notice from the RAAF. They all enjoyed the comforts of the Rec Centre, and the friendly and encouraging Everyman's REPs serving them.

Brad has, in his time, carefully and diplomatically, along with guidance from our Everyman's Assistant Commissioner in QLD, ACOMM Richard Gibson, negotiated a footprint with a new RAAF Squadron, 2 Forces Security Squadron (2 SECFOR) where Brad has been a huge part in establishing new REPs Bruce and Mercy Maher, to serve 2 SECFOR as their very own Everyman's/Everywoman's couple. Brad, and indeed all of us, look forward to seeing Bruce and Mercy out there with the Brew Truck on 2 SECFOR range shoots and exercises. 2 SECFOR are known as the Airfield Defence Guards, or ADGs for short.

Please keep Brad in your thoughts and prayers as we see him manage a new and extended Everyman's support for the RAAF.

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Essentially, the brew truck is so much more than just a truck. It is hope, morale, and just a chance for a well needed break. It soon becomes clear just how much of a difference those simple trucks can make, in the life of one who is down and struggling. With your help, we can invest in new trucks, while ensuring the maintenance on those already in our fleet is undertaken in a timely manner. You can make a real difference via the old "Everyman's wagon" just as the old Furphy Wagons did over 100 years ago on the Western Front. Those of you who so generously contribute to us, and those who pray for us, please continue to do so. The more of both, the better. May God bless all of you who love our ADF and contribute to their well-being by partnering with Everyman's.

CCOMM Ken Matthews

More ways to give..... It's now possible to set up regular (or one-off) Direct Giving from your own bank account straight into ours! The details you need are:

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Title: Everymans Welfare Service
Reference: Your Name



Phone or email us at Headquarters if you'd like a tax deductible receipt.

Giving has never been easier!

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

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