



Serving the
Australian Defence Force
since 1940

ON PATROL



May 2024

Welcome Back Phil Marshall

Phil and his wife have been in ministry for almost 40 years covering youth work and church ministry. Jani runs her own counselling clinic and they both hold masters in Suicidology, providing an understanding of suicide and counsel/training for many.

Phil joined EWS early 2008, remaining until Oct 2020, when a new season opened for work elsewhere and now the inner call has been heard again and he has responded in returning to the role of Commissioner and National Relations Manager.

He is looking forward to all that lies ahead, as requests for ADF support are ever growing, thus the need to fill positions along with equipment necessary for the fulfillment of the roles obviously increases. Being that EWS is a philanthropic organisation, we are always looking for partnership opportunities with individuals, businesses, companies and the like. Phil is desiring to sit in front of people who have a giving heart, to share the opportunity of how they can partner with us in boosting morale and provide support for those who serve our nation.

Since 1940, Everyman's has been serving those who serve our nation, and more than ever, that support is needed now!

If you believe you can provide an opportunity of support, please reach out to Phil and see what together, you might do.

Contact Phil on 0430 855 665 and enjoy the privilege of supporting ADF members through Everyman's.



Phil Marshall
COMM



Talisman Sabre 2023

Everyman's Welfare Service
a company limited by guarantee

National Headquarters
02 6053 5288
admin@everymans.org.au

PO Box 8
BANDIANA MILPO VIC 3694
www.everymans.org.au

From the CCOMM's desk...

Most of us will have family members who fought in some kind of conflict either recently, or in times long past. I have a family member from the latter, who was one of the Rats of Tobruk. He was my uncle, Mickey Marshall. I only remember Mickey through the eyes of a small boy. He would come and stay at our home from time to time. He had a sad life. His wife had to be committed to a mental institution early in their married life and she never got out again. They had no children, and Mickey never re-married. Sadly, he died at only 55. I remember my mum telling me that Mickey had a slight intellectual handicap but this didn't stop him enlisting in the war effort in 1939 as soon as he heard Prime Minister Menzies announce the war.



*Ken Matthews
CCOMM*

Mickey ended up in the now well-known siege of Tobruk, being one of the many Aussies standing against the German Africa Corps. It is understood that the Siege of Tobruk was the first time in WWII that German Panzers were finally halted in their tracks. The Aussies were a huge part of stopping them.

I was proud to know Mickey was part of that. However, behind the lines was almost as scary as the front he said. (He claimed he nearly had his throat slashed in a trench in the dark of night, by a disgruntled Gurkha thinking he was British).

I can remember my mum telling me Mickey had a fair bit to complain about during the siege. The “bully beef” and “dog biscuit” rations always ended up full of sand and this bad food almost sent the men insane. However, I also remember my mum telling me that Mickey spoke about this kind gentleman in uniform, who risked his own life coming around the trenches with a cup of hot tea from time to time. This man was a Godsend to the men in the frontline trenches expecting a German assault any moment.

This man I am proud to say was doing the same job Everyman's does to this day. Mickey never forgot him. To the end of his days he spoke favourably of “that fella with the cuppa,” and the work he did. This is even though I never knew Mickey to be a religious or Christian man. We proudly serve everyman and everywoman, irrespective of their background.

Everyman's might not be in the trenches of Tobruk right now, but we have been called upon by the ADF in the recent past to join them on overseas operations. This we willing did.

All throughout the year, we visit exercises in tough training areas being the same listening ear and caring person that the man in the trenches was to Uncle Mickey. Our Everymen and Everywomen continue this all the time in the field and in the recreation centres we run on bases. None of us in Everyman's will ever know the many people we have helped and encouraged. There are some we know who have appreciated our presence but others who have not been able to tell us. Uncle Mickey couldn't remember the name of his man who gave him that “cuppa” in what he described as a “hell of a place.” Nor will the man himself ever know that Mickey appreciated him all his life. However, what matters is that Everymans is there to care for and to listen to anyone in the ADF over that “cuppa” or “brew.”

Everyman's intends to continue this support into the future as much as we can, with as many new Everyman's REPs as we can. We of course cannot do it without our partners and donors. All of these love Defence people, and just want to just give them that little bit of emotional help along the way, whether it be in Kapooka, Forest Hill, or with the most hardened warriors on operations.

We thank all the RSL's and service clubs that help and donate to us, as well as our Christian brothers and sisters who can donate and those who pray for us; those who help us carry the good news. Please consider partnering with this crucial work to help Everyman's be ready to serve no matter what the future may bring for our Defence Force.

12 Months In Review

My part-time service with Everyman's is a lot like my full-time work as a pastor. You never know what a day will bring, who you might have the opportunity to talk to or how the gospel might have an impact. At times my service has included cooking with the Catering Corps, rationing milk and milo to cadets, supporting exhausted medics during their final field assessments, consistently losing at table tennis, pausing conversations with soldiers because of the outbreak of a fire, sheltering from rain, planting trees on base, helping fix makeup before a marching out parade (didn't see that in the position description), playing snooker with young soldiers and engaging in conversations by the truck, under trees, in the boozier (the wet canteen), the recreation centre, the bush, the mess, and at parades. A lot of the time is spent asking good questions, trying to interpret army slang, listening to the answers and every now and again being asked, "So why are you here?" This is an open invitation to a gentle presentation of Everyman's purpose, the gospel and what motivates us. We serve because we want to be the hands and feet of Jesus wherever we go.



David Hodgins
REP

Introducing Troy Murphy

I grew up in a Christian home, but in my teen years, I was hurt badly by the church. I decided if that was what church was going to be like, I did not want any part of it. I turned to the occult, drugs and alcohol instead. However, I did return to Christ in my mid 30's. Since then, I have been active in church ministry, leading Sunday Schools and being involved with computers and computing teams. I also help lead a craft group, and serve on the board of the Riverina Emmaus Community.

I first heard of Everyman's through the late Geoff Foster (Everyman at Kapooka at the time). At that point, I was too busy to be able to follow up working with Everyman's. However, some years later, Warren Clarke (current SNRREP at Kapooka) and Chief Commissioner Ken Matthews who heads up Everyman's, held an information session in 2023. They asked me if I would be interested in serving as an Everyman out at Kapooka. After much prayer, I decided to join Everyman's.

I hope to continue to grow and get a deeper understanding of Christ and a closer walk with Him through serving our men and women in uniform at Kapooka.



Troy Murphy
REP

EWS LOCATIONS

- RAAF Base, AMBERLEY, QLD
- Kokoda Barracks, CANUNGRA, QLD
- Gallipoli Barracks, ENOGGERA, QLD
- Victoria Barracks, PETRIE TERRACE, QLD
- RMC DUNTROON, ACT
- Woodside Barracks, INVERBRACKIE, SA
- Randwick Barracks, RANDWICK, NSW
- Blamey Barracks, KAPOOKA, NSW
- Gaza Ridge Barracks, BANDIANA, VIC
- Latchford Barracks, BONEGILLA, VIC
- Simpsons Barracks, MACLEOD, VIC
- Robertson Barracks HOLTZE, NT

Brewtruck update

To all our faithful supporters out there.

It's been some time since my last article in our *On Patrol* newsletter.

So, I'm happy to share that because of your continued financial support of Everyman's we have been able to complete the much-needed upgrade of one of our northern brew trucks. This new Brew Truck has been going through some testing at some local ranges near Brisbane over the past couple of months, and I have to say "Wow oh wow". With your support we have been able to fit-out this new brew truck with the latest 48volt high-tech off grid power station. With its impressive 9.5 kilowatts of lithium batteries and the ability to recharge from the alternator, we can generate enough continuous 48volt power to run all the necessary electrical items we use while out field all day, every day. So, I must give a big shout out to Bruce and the team at Safiery on the Gold Coast, who supplied and fitted the off grid.

Thanks, Bruce, for this amazing off-grid power station as it works a treat.

This new brew truck will face its toughest test in the coming months while on some of the larger exercises in northern Qld, so keep an eye on the next *On Patrol* for further updates.

I would also like to thank those who have been personally supporting myself and my wife. Your continuous support enables us to reach many solders with the good news of Christ our Lord. God bless you all. You make it possible for this mission to continue. Till the next update keep safe and please continue praying for us all. Prayer changes Things.



*Richard Gibson
ACOMM*



Introducing Bjorn Larsen

I was born in Mullumbimby NSW, I grew up with my mother until I was around 12 and then unfortunately had to go through some alternative housing. The only exposure to any “religion” or spirituality was new age philosophy. I considered myself an atheist throughout schooling as it was more or less what was taught. I enlisted in the Military immediately after completing my secondary education and served around ten years, predominately with the Royal Australian Regiment between 6 & 8/9 RAR.

After I left the military, I began for the first time in my life seriously considering existential questions. Eternity came into view and I felt a tug in my spirit to ponder and explore deeper things, I was wondering if there was more than what I had encountered in the world.

Initially I examined eastern philosophies but again could see no truth or answers to my questions. I finally met up with some Christians who shared what their faith was. Unfortunately I stayed in the world and went through some incredibly painful years until I was truly at the end of myself.

One night I was looking back at my life and had an incredible conviction of all the hurt and damage that had been done in my life. Regardless of how difficult things had been I took responsibility for my part, I truly had a Godly sorrow which led to a repentant heart and me crying out to God, He answered in an incredible way as He always does.

I feel led to serve others, this ministry has a unique opportunity to share Christ with people in the ADF. It will be an honour for me to be able to share the love of God with those who do not know the good news. Grace and Peace be with you all.



*Bjorn Larsen
REP*

Awarding Neil McGinn for his service

On Wednesday the 14th of February 2024, CCOMM Ken was privileged to be able to journey to the home in Gippsland of REP (rtd) Neil McGinn. Neil had served faithfully for over 15 years in Everyman’s attaining his Australian Defence Medal, the Defence Long Service Medal, and finally the National Emergency medal for dedicated service during Operation Bushfire Assist in 2020. He also holds the Everyman’s 10 year Long Service Medal. It only seemed fitting that Everyman’s pass on a token of our appreciation by giving him a Faithful Service Award. We wish Neil and wife Belinda all the best, and of course we and they will continue to keep in touch with the Everyman’s family. Congratulations Neil and Belinda. We wish you both God’s richest blessings in the years ahead.



*CCOMM Ken Matthews awarding
REP Neil McGinn (Rtd)*

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

Donating to Everyman's

The world is an everchanging place, and sometimes it feels like it's changing faster than we would like. The whispers of using cheques as a payment method are growing louder and are more than a rumour, when we read a press release from the Treasurer of the Australian Government, released in June last year, confirming a plan to completely phase out the use of cheques by 2030.

It sounds like there is plenty of time and a plan is being formulated to make the transition away from cheques as smooth as possible for everyone who will be affected. We have already heard the concern this is for some of you.

Please speak to your bank and also to trusted family or friends to gather as much information as you can now about how you will manage this change. (Knowledge is empowering).

At Everyman's, we accept donations in a number of ways:

1. Directly from your bank account to ours (you set this up).
2. From your credit or debit card (you provide the details, using the enclosed donation slip, or you can call us with these details).
3. Our Westpac account below can be deposited into via the following banks:-
Bank of Melbourne, Bank SA and St George. (please contact us for a unique reference number).



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:



BSB: 034-033
Account : 197255
Title: Everymans Welfare Service
Reference: Your Name



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

Everyman's Welfare Service a company limited by guarantee

National Headquarters
02 6053 5288
admin@everymans.org.au

PO Box 8
BANDIANA MILPO VIC 3694
www.everymans.org.au



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 use my/our donation to support:

General Operations Vehicle Replacement Project Personal Support for.....

I/we would like to donate: Fortnightly Monthly Quarterly Annual This is a one-time gift

Please charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard

(Last 3 digits on back)

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Name on card Expiry Date:/..... Signature:

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Cheque or money order payable to **EVERYMAN'S WELFARE SERVICE**

