



Serving the
Australian Defence Force
since 1940



May 2025

ON PATROL

RSL Visits

While recently visiting a RSL subbranch and sharing about the work of Everyman's, I was approached by a lady from the County Women's Association (CWA).

Like many around our great country who serve in organisations like the Country Women's Association and Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL), she gives time and energy to helping others.

'It's the Australian way', she said to me. This is fundamentally 'who we are' as a nation' and it is 'why we do what we do'.

As a nation, one of our defining qualities is a refusal to be focused on achieving things for completely selfish reasons. It is not the Aussie way to sit back and selfishly enjoy our accomplishments. We want to be generous and enjoy sharing our blessings with others, just like this sub-branch and many other sub-branches have done over the years.

Everyman's Welfare Service is just one of the many organisations that are blessed to be the recipients of the generous spirit of both individuals and organisations. This is what sits behind our ability to pass on the generosity in serving those who serve our nation.

We have just acknowledged two significant dates on the Australian calendar, Easter and Anzac Day. Both times are important to Australians because they reflect the generosity of others. Easter reflects the generosity of God through the giving of His son to humanity. Likewise Anzac Day is a remembrance of the many who gave of themselves for the freedom of others. We are recipients of those great sacrifices. I hope and pray you do not take these sacrifices lightly.

I hope and pray you give due recognition to the human sacrifice and the spiritual one also. Our mission is to give 'welfare with purpose' to all and your gift allows us to continue doing what we have done since 1940. We are extremely grateful to you for your giving, allowing us to continue to give on your behalf.

Please reach out to explore ways of assisting us with increasing opportunities to share our journey of service with individuals and organisations into the future.

Thank you. CCOMM Phil Marshall

NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR HEADQUARTERS

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From the CCOMM's desk

Wow, I cannot believe how fast the time has gone, yet when I look at what has been accomplished, I am equally amazed.

It has been a busy time getting back into the swing of things for our REPs around the country, meeting new commands within units and establishing how we can serve, while prepping for the upcoming Talisman Saber exercise.

I cannot begin to explain the joy and overwhelming gratitude I have for the many wonderful people that support EWS, those who have journeyed with us for many years or maybe recently started supporting us, a huge thank you for all you do.



*Phil Marshall
CCOMM*

Very recently, one such person called me to say they had unexpectedly come into money and wanted to assist EWS. Just last year we had spoken about the cost of an updated Brew Truck (\$150,000) and then this call came saying they wanted to be part of supplying a Brew Truck. Wow! I was a bit overwhelmed, however, a few days later the story changed. It changed from 1 truck to supplying 2 brew trucks. Now I was experiencing a new level of being overwhelmed. Thank you seemed so inadequate and understated, but I hope and pray my gratitude was fully understood. Many troops will soon be likewise filled with much gratitude.

It is exciting to also announce that we have purchased a Toyota Landcruiser with the \$68,500 from the NSW RSL. Refurbishment has begun on making it a fit-for-purpose Brew Truck that will call Randwick barracks home for REP Peter Harvey to conduct brew runs with 2nd Div along with other areas as required. Thank you to many who have contributed the remaining \$40,000+ needed to complete the fit-out.

It is only because of amazing people like this that Everyman's has successfully continued to 'Serve those who serve our Nation', it is only because of that amazing generosity, we can continue to deliver 'Welfare with Purpose'.

One of the things that has been coming up consistently in conversations of late is that we are in a time of great uncertainty. This uncertainty comes with the fear of not knowing what the future may look like, however, I believe this is where EWS shines. Sure, we likewise have times of not knowing, but our strength lies in knowing that the God who began Everyman's in 1940, still provides all we need through amazing people around this wonderful country.

I have recently spent many hours talking to numerous individuals and organisations at the Defence Industries Trade Show held at Avalon. There were many people there interested in the work and accomplishments of Everyman's. I'm looking forward to being able to share the news of forged partnerships in the future.

So, I want to say a huge thank you. Thank you for your keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you for including us in your giving, (I do understand the current financial challenges we are all facing). Thank you for following your heart's desire to participate in something bigger than yourself, and thank you for choosing us as your gift location.

As we remain faithful to the 85-year calling, I am confident we will continue to see the goodness of God being delivered through many individuals and organisations as before.

*Bless ya, Phil 'Snowy' Marshall
CCOMM Phil Marshall*

Welcome to Tammy Knights

My Name is Tammy Knights. I have been married to Cameron for 32 years, we are blessed with 5 children aged between 23 and 15

We have been blessed to call New Life Chapel in Wodonga, our home church for over 30 years.

As part of our church family, we're actively involved in various ministries and love being able to serve wherever we are needed. It is awesome to walk alongside others in faith and be part of what God is doing in and through our church.

I started at EWS headquarters in January, taking care of the daily administration and coordinating office procedures with the rest of the team!



*Tammy Knights
Administration*

The Ridley's move from QLD to SA

SNRREP Ben & REP Claudia's first experience with Everyman's in Adelaide since moving down from Brisbane was a fantastic evening, with an exclusive after-hours opening of the Adelaide Zoo for Defence Force members and their families. It was a rare opportunity to explore the exhibits and see the animals up close in a relaxed setting.

SNRREP Ben & REP Claudia were joined by REP Kiel Gardoll, and his wife, Emily, had a stall showcasing the Woodside Defence Family Association. The event also featured many other Defence community organisations with displays highlighting their services. It was a great chance to reconnect with Defence members we had worked with in Queensland and to feel welcomed into the Adelaide community.

For Claudia it personally was a great way to start the year at an official event and introducing herself. Since they felt God was calling us to move to Adelaide, Claudia believes it was also a great opportunity to reshuffle their lives, and ministry, and for Claudia particularly to give more of my time and energy to doing Everyman's work.

REP Claudia Ridley



*REP Kiel Gardoll & SNRREP Ben
Ridley serving at Adelaide Zoo*



*REP Kiel Gardoll, PROBREP Claudia
Ridley & SNRREP Ben Ridley serving at
Adelaide Zoo*



*REP Kiel Gardoll & PROBREP Claudia
Ridley serving at Adelaide Zoo*



ANZAC DAY 2025



REP David Hodgens serving at the ALTC dawn service.



REP David Hodgens & SNRREP Kristian Kemper serving at the ALTC dawn service.



SNRREP Warren Clarke attended the dawn service at Main Cenotaph - Wagga



SNRREP Brad Clarke & ACOMM Richard Gibson at Brisbane CBD

EWS LOCATIONS

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

ALTC Famiy Day & Corowa Swim In 2025

Some people engage in genteel pastimes like collecting stamps, old bottles or ceramic figurines. Very civilised. But there are those who crave a bit more excitement; the smell of diesel fumes, oily engines and the satisfaction of bringing the old back to life. It was the latter who gathered recently in Corowa for the annual Khaki Vehicle Enthusiast's 'Swim in'.

Owners of ex-military vehicles of all shapes, sizes and condition gather for a week to exchange ideas, buy and sell parts and show off their treasured projects.

For the past XXX years SNRREP Kristian Kemper has been a regular attender, more recently with his own restored 1942 army jeep, but primarily as a representative of Everyman's. With REP David Hodgens, who has been able to join him for the last few days over the past 3 gatherings, Everyman's has had significant exposure.

This year SNRREP Kristian Kemper was invited to give a presentation on the history and purpose of EWS to a gathering on the final night prior to the massive swap meet held on the last Saturday. It is not unusual for an ageing veteran to come up to the truck and push a donation into our hands, with the words, "This is for what you did for me years back. Keep up the good work."

REP David Hodgens



LHS: Brewtruck setup at the Corowa Swim In



RHS: REP David Hodgens serving at the Corowa Swim In



SNRREP Kristian Kemper chatting at the ALTC Family Day



REP David Hodgens & SNRREP Kristian Kemper serving at the ALTC Family Day

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

Happy 100th Birthday Bruce

Recently, Claudia and Ben had the privilege of visiting Bruce Townsend at his aged care home in Adelaide to celebrate his incredible 100th birthday. It was a joy to spend time with Bruce, who remains remarkably sharp and full of wisdom. As they sat together, Bruce shared vivid memories of his time serving in the RAAF during World War II, the early days with Everyman's Welfare Service/Campaigners for Christ, and the many adventures Bruce has experienced throughout his life. Bruce's stories were a testament to a life lived with purpose, faith, and dedication to the service of others.

Joining Ben & Claudia for this special occasion were Bruce's wife, Josie, and his son, Philip. Together, they reflected on Bruce's remarkable journey and the impact he has had on so many. We were also honoured to admire the many letters and messages Bruce received from dignitaries, including King Charles, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and the Chief of the Air Force, as well as numerous other officials and dear friends. These heartfelt tributes spoke volumes about the respect and admiration Bruce has earned over the years.

It was a truly special visit, celebrating not just a milestone birthday but a man whose life has been an inspiration to so many. Happy 100th birthday, Bruce!

SNRREP Ben Ridley



*PROBREP Claudia Ridley & SNRREP Ben Ridley
presenting Bruce Townsend (rtd REP) his 100th
birthday cake*

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



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

Everyman's Welfare Service
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National Headquarters
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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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Address.....

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☐ Please charge my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

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