



# RETIRED OFFICERS CLUB (NSW)

**PRESIDENT**

**Mike Cunneen**  
27 Leicester Street  
Epping NSW 2121  
Tel. 9876 6969  
mikecunneen@  
optusnet.com.au

**SECRETARY**

**Reg. Smeaton**  
48 McKenzie Ave.  
Wollongong 2500  
Tel. 4228 6951  
reg.kini@bigpond.com

**TREASURER**

**Noel Fox**  
P.O. Box 363 ,  
Collaroy Beach , 2097  
Tel. 02 9982 5459  
nantfox@bigpond.com

**EDITOR**

**Noel Bottrell**  
14 Cliff Street  
Coledale 2515  
Tel: 02 4268 0850  
noboty2003@yahoo  
.com.au

**WELFARE OFFICER**

**Ken Dighton**  
PO Box 286  
Thornleigh 2120  
Tel: 02 9481 0304 or  
0423 104 389  
kendighton@bigpond  
.com

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2013

The February lunch attracted 58 members, President Mike welcomed all, included in the welcome were the following members “not seen for awhile”, David Wright, Neil Rowland and Phil Durney.

Mike also welcomed three visitors, Agnes Burgett a former officer from Lismore Branch of the ES&A, Danny De Vere of Heathcote NSW and formerly from Global Treasury NSW, and Warwick Lyons formerly of ANZ Broken Hill and various Sydney Branches, now working as an English teacher at Dalian in the Peoples Republic of China at the Dalian University of Technology, Warwick and Danny were both signed up as new members on the spot and we are awaiting Agnes’s application.

Mike’s welcome was followed by the Loyal Toast.

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7 wheelchair athletes have been banned from the next Paralympics after they tested positive for WD40.

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### FROM THE DESK OF SECRETARY REG.

Reflections of our member Jim Nicholson OAM, DSM: "Australia Day celebrated 225 years since the first settlement in Sydney. At sixteen years of age I joined the ES & A Bank in January 1938 and was appointed to 333 Pitt St Branch .... where the Water Board building is now located. As the 150<sup>th</sup> Australia Day procession was to turn from George St up Bathurst St towards Hyde Park, members of the staff had the option to go to work on a Public Holiday to watch the procession in comfort, which I did. How many members of the club were in the Bank 75 years ago?

The January Newsletter took me back to the past. Firstly Alan Nicholson was on my staff for some time when I was Manager Methods Dept. I again met up with him when he was Accountant Parramatta.

After some years as Manager Methods I was, out of the blue, appointed State Manager Premises to replace Gil Scott who had been given the responsibility to undertake the oversight of the new building on the corner of Martin Place and Pitt Sts, which is now soon to cease as Head Office NSW.

I doubt if any other male officer in his banking career was only on the payroll of one Branch. After 333 Pitt St my record was Head Office, Navy, Head Office, London Office, Head Office, AHQ, Esanda Sydney, Methods, Premises, Representative of the Bank at Charge Card Services prior to the launch of Bankcard, Profit Planning, Area Banking and trouble shooter for the State Manager."

Jim apologised to Secretary Reg for “boring him with all this”, however thank you Jim for your reflections, our membership will find your input fascinating.

Beverley Ryan (wife of the late Peter Ryan) writes.... “I really enjoy reading it (the Newsletter), although it’s over 20 years since my late husband Peter retired. Many of the names ring a bell”.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

-Elizabeth Machado of North Epping, NSW

A warm welcome to you Elizabeth & we hope to see you at ANZROC functions in the future.

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We have become aware of this site which allows you to search digitised newspapers from all over OZ - if you want to learn more about your town, village, friends and relatives, then just click on the trove site below. You can go into articles from old newspapers. It's great. Many Newspapers have been digitised, <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper?q> (you may need to press CTRL and click).

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## **WELFARE**

Alex Morgan advised that Betty Gemmell is in North Shore Private Hospital due to a fluid issue in her leg, the medicos say she is well on the mend with full recovery expected.(STOP PRESS-Betty is now home from hospital & going well)

IPP Alex also has had a recent bout of ill health with surgery for bowel cancer, and put out a plea for all to have the necessary checks for breast, bowel or prostate cancer as prevention is a lot better than the alternatives.

Barry Smith in his final Welfare Report advised that Jim Warne’s (a former well known officer who passed away some 20+ years ago) widow, who subsequently remarried, has recently lost her second husband.

Our new Welfare Officer Ken Dighton emails .....”I would like to make an appeal for some help. I certainly don’t have the network or the knowledge of members’ service/history in ANZ, which our long serving Life Member Barry Smith has. Consequently I’ll need a good flow of information coming in from members about their own health issues, or those of other members they might be aware of. The social aspect of ANZROC activities are obviously important, but so too is the support, (even if it is just a phone call), we can give our fellow members experiencing health or other personal issues. I recall that in one of my previous annual reports as President I said I regarded the position of Welfare Officer as one of the most important in the Club, I also said that I regarded all members as welfare officers, in as much as we all need to keep an eye on the circumstances of those who were once part of the same “team”. Thanks.”

Further to our comment last month about the Granville Train Disaster on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 1997 Barry Smith did some research & advises....” Newsletter of 20 Jan 1997 listed the 5 ANZ Staff killed in the Granville Rail Disaster on 18 Jan 1977 namely:-

Lynette Carter	Aged 22, Esanda
Angela Larkin	18, S (K & G)
Ken Maes	27, S (P & H)
Campbell Morris	23 BCD
Bruce Pedersen	26 Town Hall

## INTEREST RATES

	From 1/1/2013	From 1/2/2013
Less than \$20,000	2.01%	1.93%
Greater than \$20,000	2.57%	2.47%



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Mike	ADAMSON	18th	Ian	JARRATT	10th
Mark	ATTARD	17th	Wayne	KIEHNE	1st
Brian	BEYNON	19th	David	LENNON	6th
David	BRASSINGTON	3rd	Maggie	LEOW	11th
Ann	BURNES	8th	John	MAIR	1st
Mike	CAPPER	29th	Ron	MILLER	20th
Paul	CONAGHAN	22nd	Sue	MILLER	24th
Steve	DAVIDSON	25th	Mark	MURRAY	17th
Jan	DOUGLASS	14th	John	ODEWAHN	30th
Bob	DWYER	30th	Lance	PHILLIS	3rd
Marj	FARRELL	18th	Ron	RAWSON	16th
Liz	FOSTER	13th	Alan	ROWLEY	5th
Alan	GIBSON	12th	Reg	SMEATON	8th
Ray	GREEN	19th	Lyn	SMITH	10th
Harry	HAMMOND	4th	Garrie	TAYLOR	8th
Andrew	HARDWICK	22nd	Vern	WARNER	20th
Chris	HARDY	27th	Chris	WHEELER	1st
Ron	HAYDEN	2nd	Peter	WHITTY	24th
Larry	JACKA	3rd	Peter	WILLIS	18th
			Maureen	ZARUBIN	6th

## THE "HONS"

Margaret	BLACKWOOD	31st
Doug	DOWLING	5th
Eric	HARVEY	25th
Ken	HILL	22nd
Geoff	NELSON	17th
Wes	STERLAND	1st

There are no new "HONS" to welcome this month

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"Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

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At the Lunch Birthday Wishes were extended by President Mike to those present, firstly to VP Graeme Bool, who in turn extended Birthday Wishes to Ken Byatt, Colin Clarke, Bob Jansen, Peter McCabe, John Mitchell, and John Tier.

## **SOCIAL/SPORTING**

Ian Jarratt retired as a Committee member and “Minister for Good Times” at the AGM; Ian has served on the Committee in various roles for some years; he thanked the Members and the Committee for their support during his term on the Committee and was afforded a hearty round of applause from the members present.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

An extract from ANZROCVIC Newsletter.....”What a wonderful afternoon for the 120 members, partners and guests who attended our February meeting to celebrate Charles Rennie forthcoming 100th Birthday. I think this was the largest assembly of Bank Executive we have had the pleasure of welcoming at a Retired Officers function outside the annual Christmas luncheon.

Mike Smith sent his apologies due to an interstate business commitment that could not be rescheduled, however John Morschel (Chairman ANZ Banking Group) filled this void and gave an entertaining address before presenting Charles with a magnificent silver ‘dual picture frame’ featuring a copy of the Charles Rennie Managing Director portrait that hangs in the gallery between the Gothic Bank chamber and 100 Queen Street, and a recent photo of Charles and Mike Smith taken during Charles visit to Docklands as organised by ANZROC. The buffet spread was excellent as was the company, wine and beverages.

Later Charles phoned to express his and his wife Joy’s appreciation of this very special day and the terrific effort by everyone who was involved. From my perspective it was a delight to get to know Charles and appreciate what a wonderfully humble and modest man he is with a great love for the ANZ Bank and the people who gave so much support during his reign.”

Below are 2 extracts from ANZROCVIC Newsletter which will be of interest to ANZROCNSW members.....

Bob and Val Bishop (Val & Bob will be remembered by former Wagga Wagga Weekenders, Val originally was from NSW)... expressed thanks for once again receiving Birthday Wishes to them right on time. They are both well and looking forward to a trip to China next month concluding with 5 days at Mission Hills to play golf with a group from the Sandhurst Club.

Theo Yardley emailing from St Ives N.S.W. says many thanks to the Committee and members for birthday greetings for his 85th. Unfortunately, wife Pat's health does not permit travel these days so the Newsletter and cards are even more welcome. Best wishes to all members for 2013.

## **ANZROCNSW Blog site**

In consultation with ANZROC member Peter Goerman we are trialling the installation of an ANZROCNSW Blog, Peter has set up a blog site at [anzroc.blogspot.com.au](http://anzroc.blogspot.com.au) which has the last twelve months+ of Newsletters thereon, together with function photographs and other photographs other items of interest. Peter has done this on his own initiative and is sincerely thanked by the Committee for his efforts.

This month email members will receive their Newsletter by email as normal, in addition you receive an email from the Editor advising that the Newsletter has gone up on the ANZROCNSW Blog; you will then simply click on the link which will be listed in the email and will then be able to view the current Newsletter etc. We began limited dual system trials with

Committee members with the January 2013 Newsletter; it is anticipated that provided no bugs appear in relation to the dual delivery this month we will fully implement the new Blog system next month, March 2013. Members who have received their Newsletter by “snail mail” will continue to do so, but we would encourage any member presently not on email delivery & who is email savvy (or who can get the assistance of their Grandson or daughter to become so!! LOL) please advise Secretary Reg of your email address; You will then receive your Newsletter in dramatic Technicolour in the twinkling of an eye, via the ANZROCNSW Blog!!!

At any stage of the change of delivery process your feedback will be very welcome; in fact it is strongly encouraged.

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### A Perfectly Understood Aussie Roadside Hoarding



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### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Annual subscriptions of \$5 are now due; please use the payment slip at end of this Newsletter. Members who have not responded by 31/3/13 will sadly no longer be on the Newsletter mailing list.

### MARCH LUNCH

Our next monthly Lunch will be at our usual venue, CTA Club, Martin Place, Sydney, on Monday 18th March, 2013. Pre Lunch drinks from 11.45am, Lunch 12.45 pm. Meal cost is \$15 with you buying your own drinks from the bar, if it is the month of your Birthday you will be the guest of ANZROCNSW to cover the cost of your meal.

Booking is not required, just come along, socialise & enjoy yourself. You will be made very welcome. These get-togethers are relaxed fun and a great link with friends & acquaintances throughout the year. If you haven't been for a while, do yourself a favour and join us.

At the monthly Lunches it is traditional for new members to give a "this is my life" talk at a Lunch as soon as convenient after they join. This is entirely voluntary & there is no pressure to do so if the new member is not comfortable with this custom.

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## **MEDICAL SCHOOL EXAM**

When I was young, my intent was to go to medical school but was I confused by the entrance exam.

The deciding question was, "Re-arrange the letters P N E S I to spell out an important part of the human body that is more useful when erect."

Those who spelled SPINE became doctors; the rest are in Parliament.

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## **THE MINUTES OF ANZ BANKING GROUP RETIRED OFFICERS' CLUB (N.S.W.) AGM 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2013**

**ATTENDANCE: 58 members.**

**APOLOGIES..... were received from Jim Nicholson and Elizabeth Machado.**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR AGM 18 FEBRUARY 2013**

Thank you for allowing me to be your President for the year 2012. I have enjoyed myself immensely. I have had the pleasure of working with a great bunch of people on the Committee and I thank them all for the great work they all do for our Club. I especially thank Barry Smith who has had over 17 years as an Office Bearer for our Club and is now standing down from The Committee. He has been our Secretary, our President, our Immediate Past President and for the past 10 years or so our Welfare Officer. Barry is already a Life Member of our Club and there is no provision to add a bar to this title but I know everyone says thanks to Barry for the wonderful work he has done for our Club, best wishes to you and Wilhelmina for the future. Also Ian Jarratt who was our Treasurer for some years and for the past 5 years or so has been our Minister for Good Times has indicated that he also will be standing down from the Committee. Thank you Ian for the great work you have done for our Club and we wish you and Gwen all the best for the future.

I am pleased to report that our Club is in a sound position in both members and finances. Treasurer Noel will give you details of our financial position in his Treasurers report. Our membership stands at 718. Inevitable and sadly we lost 20 members and spouses this year and the Committee and members again extend our thoughts and sympathy to those whose loved ones have passed on.

Our monthly Lunches continue to be well attended with usually 50 plus members in attendance. We had over 250 members attend our Christmas celebrations and reunions at 20 Martin Place and country venues at Newcastle, Wollongong, Ballina, Port Macquarie and Canberra. Our sincere thanks to the members who attended these functions and special thanks go out to the organisers of these gatherings.

Let me please acknowledge the wonderful support that ANZ Bank gives to our Club and indeed other Retired Officers Clubs in other States. We give special thanks to the Chairman of ANZ John Morschel (who once again joined us at our Sydney Christmas lunch), CEO Mike Smith, our Patron Hon. Warwick Smith and to Mark Monaghan who attended some of our functions when our Patron was away overseas.

We also thank Amanda Clarke, Jas Antonious and Corina Barker at ANZ NSW State Office who provide wonderful assistance to us whenever we asked. I especially thank Shona Bruce who has been the Catering Manager at ANZ 20 Martin Place for some years and has been of immense help with our Christmas lunches. Shona has now returned to live in New Zealand and we will miss her smiling face at our visits to 20 Martin Place.

In conclusion let me once again acknowledge the selfless contribution of our Committee and ask that you join me in showing our appreciation to the outgoing and incoming Officer Bearers and Committee members of ANZ Retired Officers Club (NSW).

My thanks to you all.

Mike Cunneen.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Membership at date is 718, made up of 3 Life Members 92 Honorary Members, 96 Widows/Widowers and 527 Members. This year has seen 21 new members join, and regrettably the passing of 20 members or their widows or spouse/partners.**

**Since our last AGM, the following members and widows have passed away.**

**Mrs Lenore Aanensen, Mrs Jean Attwill, Mr Eric Black, Mr Peter Brown, Mr Max Campbell, Mrs Valerie Cladingbowl, Mrs M Collings, Mr Rick De Nardi, Mrs Elsie Ffrench, Mrs Isabel Grimson, Mr Ralph Hawkins, Mr Jack Hoffman, Mr Russell Hopwood, Mrs Jessie Horner, Mr Owen Isaac, Mr Ken Joyce, Mr Alan Nicholson, Mr Merv Quine, Mr Roy Riley, Mr Keith Thurgate.**

**A period of silence was observed at the request of President Mike to honour their passing.**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**An audited report was presented by Treasurer Noel Fox. A copy was made available to all in attendance for their perusal and comment if applicable. There were no questions of the Treasurer. Noel Fox gave a brief explanation as to our current financial position, namely a decrease in postage costs due in part to expanded email usage, and the support of the Bank with a mid year hosted luncheon that helped defray costs.**

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT**

**Noel Bottrell thanked members and the Committee for their contribution as a team to the Newsletter, and said it is a pleasure for him to edit the Newsletter. Noel Fox endorsed this mentioning that most subscription renewal forms he receives contain a reference to the Newsletter and the pleasure derived from it each month.**

## **OFFICE BEARER ELECTIONS**

**President Mike Cunneen chaired the meeting after his position was ratified unopposed by Acting Chair Alex Morgan.**

## **NOMINATIONS 2013**

**Nominations for the positions of President and 2 Vice Presidents were held and in the absence of other nominees were appointed to their positions:**

**President: Mike Cunneen, Senior Vice President: Phil Newsome, Junior Vice President: Graeme Bool.**

**Present incumbents for the following positions all agreed to make themselves available again and in the absence of any alternative nominees were reinstated to their positions as follows:**

**Hon Secretary: Reg Smeaton**

**Hon Treasurer: Noel Fox**

**Newsletter Editor: Noel Bottrell**

**Records Officer: David Wright**

**Committee: Ann Morgan, Dennis Lickley**

**Retiring from their positions are Welfare Officer Barry Smith and "Minister for Good Times" Ian Jarratt.**

**Nominations for all remaining posts were called for from the floor and were received for the Welfare Officer, Ken Dighton, nominated by Barry Smith and seconded by David Wright and for the Committee "Minister for Good Times" Alex Morgan nominated by Reg Smeaton seconded by Ian Jarratt and Phil Cohen nominated by Phil Newsome seconded by Graeme Bool; all were elected unopposed.**

**It was proposed by Clive Neutze and seconded by Wal Hardy that The Right Honourable Warwick Smith be invited to be our Club Patron for a further term and President Mike undertook to issue the invitation.**

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**There being no general business matters submitted for discussion and no matters raised from the floor the meeting was declared closed by the President Mike Cunneen.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alan Deveson writes .....”Here are some names to faces in the Tamworth Show Mobile Bank photo in the January Newsletter. I’m fairly sure of the names even though I left Tamworth branch in 1958. The building is now a Restaurant “The Vault” .....4th from left is Ken Bagallie (now Decd), 7th from left Jack Ryan, 10<sup>th</sup> is Betty McPherson (now married), 12<sup>th</sup> Cynthia Jones (nee Huson). (Well done Alan you have certainly delved back into the memory bank there!!!....Ed)

VP Phil Newsom emails.....”Below is an article written in the Harden Murrumburrah Express Newspaper regarding the Late Ralph Hawkins; Ralph was named as the Local Citizen of the Year on Australia Day. This article was sent to me by ANZROC member Tony Hardman, who is on the Board of the Milton branch of the Bendigo Community Bank and was co-opted to help set up the Harden Branch, where Ralph was the inaugural Manager.....

### **Citizen of the Year: Mr Ralph Hawkins will be sadly missed in Harden Murrumburrah.**

There was strong applause when it was announced that the late Ralph Hawkins had been posthumously awarded the town’s 2013 Australia Day Citizen of the Year award on Saturday, Australia Day.

Harden mayor Chris Manchester said when announcing the award that Mr Hawkins had touched the hearts of everyone in the community and given the role he had played in the community it seemed as if he had been in the community for 100 years.

Mr Ralph Graham Hawkins, the manager of Harden Murrumburrah Community Bank, Bendigo Bank, died on January 18 after becoming critically ill in December with cancer.

Following an operation in late-December his wife, Sharon Hawkins, said he had been given the all clear however he contracted an infection and had a heart attack on December 22 before this could be treated.

He died on January 18. He was buried on January 23 at Warrawong, Wollongong, NSW.

Mr Hawkins, 57, was born in 1955 in Kogarah, Sydney, and moved to Harden Murrumburrah in 2007 as the manager of the Harden-Murrumburrah Community Bank, Bendigo Bank.

He and Sharon had been married for 34 years and had two children, Aaron and Kirsten.

Before coming to town, they had lived in Griffith for two years, where he and Sharon had both worked for the Griffith TAFE and Charles Sturt University.

They had also spent 17 years in Wollongong and three and a half years in Wagga Wagga with Mr Hawkins working in banking in both those towns. In the six years he was in Harden-Murrumburrah he played a key and vital role in many community organisations

He was instrumental in setting up the Men’s Shed and was president when he passed.

He was the driving force in establishing the Harden-Murrumburrah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and was the Chamber’s President since its inception.

Through the Chamber he organised the Shop Local Campaign and the Christmas lights competition and organised the annual Sleep Out, where local business people slept out on a winter’s night to raise funds for the needy in the town. This event was organised in conjunction with the local Catholic, Anglican and Uniting churches and in the last two years this event raised about \$2,000 for the churches to distribute.

Mr Hawkins was a member of the Demondrille Rural Fire Service Brigade, Rotary, the Gold Trail Committee and TEAM Harden.

He had also recently been elected to the Harden Murrumburrah District Hospital Local Health Advisory Committee.

In addition to these activities and following his keen love of bushwalking he was planning on starting a local walking group.

Sharon Hawkins said this week that Ralph was passionate about the Harden Murrumburrah community and the people within it.

“He had a passion for the town that I never saw him have for anywhere else,” she said. “He loved the town and the people. He wanted to retire here and that’s why he built his house here.”

She said he could see the town’s potential and that whenever they went away he was always promoting the town.

Men’s Shed members Les Cameron and Ken Pearsall said this week that Mr Hawkins was going to be greatly missed.

“He left some very big shoes to fill - everywhere,” they said.

Kate Pietracci emails ....” I worked with Ralph Hawkins at Warrawong branch, and later when I was Manager Port Kembla, he was in Wollongong overseeing small business applications. He was a great guy, very experienced and someone you could rely on for good advice. He had a really funny laugh- a bit like Mutley the dog! He was also an epic snorer- Illawarra Managers will recall a conference at Jamberoo Valley Resort where Ralph's room mate ended up sleeping on the floor underneath the pool table because he couldn't withstand the volume of Ralph's snoring, which he reported started 'before his head hit the pillow'. It was great to see so many past and present ANZ'ers at his funeral last week- he was very highly regarded by all.

Sad news about Mick Hiscox- I will get in touch.

I did try to click on the link for the 2012 Xmas party photos on the blog, but was unable to access. If it can get up and running, this is a great idea”. (Kate, we have passed your comment to our Blog Master Peter who will assist you with that problem....Ed)

Charles Ross emails ....”Best wishes from Queensland. When the January birthday list appeared in the Newsletter my birthday date of 16/1/1933 appeared therein. The mathematics therefore made me 80 years of age on that date.

I sent a cheque for Annual membership of \$5 to the Treasurer Noel on 11-12-12 with a note to the effect that I was reaching that age. Whilst not wishing to boast about that fact I thought I might bring it to the attention of the person in charge of the records.

I have good health and still walk two rounds of golf each week and am umpiring cricket for Queensland Cricket at weekends. It does get a little bit hot {and wet} up here at times.

Regards to all.... (Thanks for drawing this to our attention Charles & we have it noted ...Ed)

President Mike emails from on holidays in Forster.....”While having a brisk walk this morning along the walkway south of Forster Beach Fran and I sat on a seat looking out to sea...After we had sat there for a while we got up and before we moved off we looked at the names on the back of the seat.....Attached is a photo of the names..... I did not know Eric but certainly know his and Eula's name.....



