



# RETIRED OFFICERS CLUB (NSW)

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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY, 2013

The July gathering attracted 52 members with stand in Chairman for today VP Phil Newsome welcoming all. President Mike Cunneen is holidaying in Russia. Included in the welcome was a special mention of the following members not seen for a while; Bill Chapman, Trevor Adams, Kevin Caisley, Chris Wheeler, Phil Minett, Alan Edmonds, and Rodney Kay.

Phil`s welcome was followed by the Loyal Toast.

### APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: Mike Cunneen (Russia), Reg Smeaton (Ireland), Laurie Sainsbury, John Turnbull, Brian Liebert, Clive Neutze, Alf. Evans and Paul Jepson. Alistair Johnston had previously emailed apologising ..”Would you pass on my apology for the June meeting. I will be invigilating university exams on that day, & also please include the July meeting, as we will be overseas in France at that time.”

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The next time you hear a politician use the word 'billion' in a casual manner, think about whether you want the 'politicians' spending YOUR tax money.....  
A billion is a difficult number to comprehend, but one advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into some perspective in one of its releases.  
A billion seconds ago it was 1959.  
A billion minutes ago Jesus was alive.  
A billion hours ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.  
A billion days ago no-one walked on the earth on two feet.  
A billion Dollars ago was only... 13 hours and 12 minutes... at the rate our governments spend it.

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### BEREAVEMENTS

The following is an extract form the ANZROC Vic July 2013 Newsletter .....

Bool	John G.	11/6/2013	84 years
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John joined the Union Bank at Traralgon in the '40s and spent time in country Victoria working through the ranks in towns such as Wangaratta, Stawell, Warrnambool, until his first management role at Casterton followed by terms in Northcote, Deniliquin, Broken Hill,

Parramatta, on retirement John was an Area Manager in NSW based in Orange. John was an active member in each community he was transferred to, that included Apex, Lions & Probus, while he was often called to handle the funds as Treasurer of sporting clubs in places such as Casterton, Stawell and the Silver City Broken Hill .He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and a staunch supporter of the Anglican Church in Ocean Grove and finally Brunswick. John had retired to Ocean Grove and returned to Melbourne in his later years with his late wife Dorothy. Ron Adams, Brian Christensen, Kevin Mitchell, Ken McNutt and Roy Peake represented ANZROC at the funeral service, which was attended by around 130 family, friends and colleagues.

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Mother Skunk had two children and a very hard time keeping track of them. They were named In and Out. Whenever In was in, Out was out. And if Out was in, In was out. One day Mother Skunk called Out and told him to bring In in. Out went right out and brought In back with him. “Good!” said Mama Skunk. “But how in the great forest did you find him in such a short time?”  
“It was easy,” said Out, “*In*-stinct.”

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## WELFARE

Ken Dighton our Welfare Officer reported to the July Lunch.....

### Sick List:

- John Penn – just completed 3 weeks of ray treatment for prostate cancer, and he is expecting results within a few weeks. Medicos are confident of a good result. We hope that is the case John.
- Jim Nicholson – at home after his knee operation, and able to drive his car. However, still a bit tender and not quite strong enough to walk any distance, and unfortunately unable to come to lunch today. Happy birthday (#92) for 31<sup>st</sup> July Jim.
- Peter Dawson – just returned home from his regular melanoma treatment in Sydney. Chemotherapy is not an option and therefore he is undergoing a new drug trial, fortunately thus far Peter is not having any side-effects. Time will tell as to its efficacy.
- Phil Hitchcock – he recently received a very encouraging report (dialysis not required at this stage) from his kidney specialist.
- Bob McEwan – A recent hacking cough has been diagnosed as Pulmonary Fibrosis. Bob is under specialist care for this very serious lung disease, and unfortunately the prognosis at this stage is not good. We wish Bob all the best for his ongoing treatment.
- Elizabeth Machado – her recent knee replacement surgery was successful. Elizabeth is undergoing rehab. at Hunters Hill Private Hospital.
- John Mitchell – he’s going into hospital within a few days to receive a replacement pacemaker.

I made contact with the following people who enjoy the esteemed title of **Honorary Member** to check up on them in their birthday month:

- Trevor Adams (81) – good to see you at lunch today Trevor. I'll let the members here judge how you're looking (fit and healthy I would say!), and happy birthday for the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Ian Auld (81) – He is well, and with Pam is currently on an overseas holiday. Still enjoying his golf with Roger Hickman, (also on Hons Birthday list), but it seems his game causes him some grief at times (not unlike most golfers really!). He expressed his thanks for the monthly Newsletter.
- Ray Ball (85) – he sounded chipper and he received a good report from his recent medical check-up. Still enjoying a game of golf.
- Kevin Caisley (81) – good to see you looking hale and hearty at lunch today Kevin. He's been busy over the past few weeks on the family property up Lismore way. A bit of trivia – he and Trevor Adams went to each other's 21<sup>st</sup> birthdays!
- Roger Hickman (83) – keeping in good health. Playing golf at Castle Hill, and like his mate Ian Auld, not always happy with his game. But he enjoys it!
- Reg Nicholson (86) – maintaining quite good health (considering his mileage!). He was about to enjoy a birthday dinner when I phoned last night. He has been retired from ANZ for 31 years. Reg sends his regards to ANROCNSW members and old work colleagues.
- John Reading (82) – now living at Casuarina Beach (Nthn NSW). In good spirits and keeping active, and generally in pretty good shape.
- Reg Tuxford (87) – going along OK. Still playing 9 holes at Manly golf course twice a week. Reg said (almost apologetically) he and his regular partner use a cart – I think at 87 that doesn't detract very much from the achievement! Reg (a former ANZROCNSW President) sends his regards to members.
- Barbara Omond (85) – unable to make contact, but left a telephone message.
- Leo McCulkin (85) – we have no contact details for Leo. If any member can put us in touch with him we can update our records.
- Reg Bate (83) – Reg is currently in an aged care facility.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

-The Pitt and Hunter Sts Staff Photo from 1962, with all names shown, is now on the blog site.... so have a browse around as you access your Newsletter on the blog.

-Below are some links which will be of interest to various ANZROC NSW members , these have been sent to us from ANZROC Vic by our dual state member Gary Mason.

<http://tinyurl.com/anzroc-newsletter-july-2013>

<http://tinyurl.com/london-pensioners-newsletter>

<http://tinyurl.com/latest-apt-offer>

**-From ANZROC Vic July Newsletter....."1956 OLYMPIC MEMORABILIA**

Chris Harris, a member of ANZROC NSW, is an avid collector of any articles and items large or small of Aussie Olympic stuff and is looking for a 1956 Melbourne Olympics number plate. If you can help Chris can be contacted at 36 Clarey Crescent, Spence ACT 2615 or [bcrh36@bigpond.com](mailto:bcrh36@bigpond.com)"....(good luck Chris...Ed)

**-Sydney ANZ Staff Club Shop has moved!**

A reminder to keep an eye out for in-store specials involved in the move to 242 Pitt St Sydney. The new Staff Club shop is on Level 9, 242 Pitt Street.



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Verlie	BEHLEVANAS	1st	Roy	EASTON	12th	Chris	MIRANA	8th
Albert	BEN MAYOR	24th	Wayne	FABRICATO	24th	Kevin	NELSON	4th
John	BURG	28th	Tony	HARDMAN	12th	Gary	O'MEARA	24th
Betty	BURWOOD	16th	Ray	HAWKES	27th	Graham	PELLEY	31st
Bill	CHAPMAN	10th	Garry	HEIRON	15th	Graham	POPE	24th
Peter	CHIRAUX	24th	Ken	JOHNSTON	17th	Jamie	ROBERTS	18th
John	COX	10th	Ron	KENNEDY	9th	Ron	SKEEN	5th
Keith	CRAWFORD	25th	Graham	LLOYD	13th	John F	SMITH	16th
Roy	CRAWFORD	16th	Warwick	LYONS	29th	Wayne	SMITH	29th
Bob	CUNNINGHAM	29th	John	MACKENZIE	29th	Bruce	STEVENS	27th
Mal	DONALD	18th	Gary	MASON	20th	Colin	STONER	27th
Geoff	DUCK	16th	Sandra	McCALL	26th	Phil	TIMMS	29th
Vic	EAST	17th	Ian	McLACHLAN	5th	Margaret	WRIGHT	31st

## THE "HONS"

Ron	BOOTH	12th
Alan	BROWN	15th
Gary	BROWN	15th
Allen	BURRIDGE	26th
Carl	FLEMING	29th
Keith	JOHNSON	16th
Brian	MADDISON	27th
Keith	NUNN	25th

**Congratulations to Gary BROWN, Carl FLEMING and Keith JOHNSON on joining the "Hons" this month.**

**Birthday wishes were extended by VP Graeme Bool to the following members present at the July Lunch;  
Alan Edmonds, Wal Hardy, Rodney Kay, Brian White and the two Veterans Kevin Caisley and Trevor Adams, both looking good at 81.**

## NEW MEMBERS

New member Lindsay Norton emails from Brisbane .....”I look forward to catching up with some familiar faces and meeting new ones, and will certainly attend some lunches.... A brief history of my ESA/ANZ career is as follows... Joined at Rosebery NSW in February 1965, then to Rockdale, Branch Securities, Byron Bay, Lismore (Molesworth St), Lismore (Woodlark St), Albury (Dean & Olive Sts), Leeton and Mayfield (Newcastle). Also did relief stints at Broadway, Mosman, Mullumbimby, Hay and Berrigan, and worked at the Agency at the Sydney Royal Easter Show).”

Tom Doumani, who retired in November 2011 after 40 years with ANZ is also a member of ANZROC VIC. While most of Tom’s career\was spent in Melbourne, the first 18 years were in Sydney. Tom is currently in Thailand doing a Doctorate on "Cross Cultural Performance Management" so we don't expect we will see him any time soon. The last 4 years of Tom's career were in PNG, so he has been around a bit!

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Our apologies to David Harris for the confusion with the article re the Commonwealth Games coin in the June Newsletter where David was referred to as Keith Harris.

Kevin Watson and his wife Susan have moved to Apartment A702 Claremont Residences, 2 Bovell Lane Claremont WA 6010 - tel 08 9383 2084.

## INTEREST RATES

From 1/7/2013	
Less than \$20,000	1.80%
Greater than \$20,000	2.31%

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Four old retired men are walking down a street in Yuma, Arizona, USA; they turn a corner and see a sign that says, "Old Timers Bar - ALL drinks 10 cents." They look at each other and then go in, thinking, "This is too good to be true." The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the Room, "Come on in and let me pour one for you! What'll it be, gentlemen?" There is a fully stocked bar, so each of the men orders a Martini. In no time the bartender serves up four iced Martinis - shaken, not stirred - and says, "That'll be 10 cents each, please." The four men stare at the bartender for a moment, then at each other. They can't believe their good luck. They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced, with the Bartender again saying, "That's 40 cents, please." They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity gets the better of them. They've each had two martinis and haven't even spent a Dollar yet. Finally one of them says, "How can you afford to serve Martinis as good as these for a dime apiece?", "I'm a retired tailor from Phoenix," the bartender says, "and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the Lottery jackpot for \$125 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs a dime. Wine, liquor, beer - it's all the same." "Wow! That's some story!" one of the men says. As the four of them sip at their martinis, they can't help noticing seven other people at the end of the bar who don't have any drinks in front of them, and haven't ordered anything the whole time they've been there. Nodding at the seven at the end of the bar, one of the men asks the bartender, "What's with them?" The bartender says, "They're retired people from Australia, they're waiting for Happy Hour when drinks are half-price."

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## **SOCIAL/SPORTING**

Minister for Good Times Alex Morgan addressed the Lunch re some upcoming events. The Hon. Warwick Smith, ANZ Chair for NSW, has offered to host a Boardroom Lunch for Club members on 9/9/2013, at the new ANZ NSW Head Office at 242 Pitt Street, Sydney.

**This will replace the normal September monthly lunch at CTA Club.**

Numbers for this event on 9/9/2013 will be strictly limited to 75 attendees. Priority will be given to those who were unsuccessful in their attempt to enjoy the 20 Martin Place experience last year. Preference will also be given to any country based members wanting to attend. To register please contact Alex Morgan [aamorgan@bigpond.net.au](mailto:aamorgan@bigpond.net.au) phone 02 99708668, or Phil Newsome [hmazar@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hmazar@optusnet.com.au) phone 02 42625047

**It is imperative that the names of attendees are known in advance as entry to the new ANZ Tower is strictly administered by security staff; if your name is not on the list you will not be admitted.** The list of those to attend will be finalised by the August lunch. If you would like to go, let Alex or Phil know asap.

**"STOP PRESS"** Ladies and Partners Annual Luncheon.

We now have two lunch offerings in September!

Not only can our Members enjoy a meal at ANZ Tower as above, your Committee has also arranged a Partners' Luncheon at The Apprentice Restaurant, TAFE, Level 7, Harris St, Ultimo, on Monday 16th September (our usual meeting date) commencing at 12.00 Noon. **Of course, there will be no gathering at the CTA Club in September.**

Cost of the three courses, with two drinks (soft or wine), Luncheon for Members will be \$30.00 per head, **with wives/friends and partners attending free.** Additional drinks may be purchased at your cost on a single Bill per table basis.

This Luncheon has been thoroughly enjoyed by all in the past, with excellent food and service, and the pleasure of enabling Hospitality Students from all over the Globe to learn the intricacies of fine dining. So...bring your partner, wife, friend, ex work mates.....and enjoy a great social dining experience at a very, very reasonable cost!

Please contact Alex Morgan or Noel Fox for Reservations. We need to pay up front, so we need your cheques with your request to attend.

Numbers are limited... so be quick!!!

The 2013 Xmas Cocktail Party will be also be held at the ANZ new State Head Office. Members are asked to pencil in 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2013 for this event, more information to be provided later in the year.

"Doc" Wilson, who organises events in Newcastle, attended the July meeting and advised that the next get together will be in November, with more concrete details to be advised in the next Newsletter.

A snippet from the UK ANZ Pensioners Association Newsletter ... "Back in the early 'Fifties, a young Sikh lad, my colleague the late Gurmeet Malhotra, applied to the old Grindlays Bank for appointment in the Bank as, what in those days was called "a Covenanted Officer", i.e. management. He came from a well respected traditional Sikh S(h)imla-based family – his father was the Indian Government National Savings Commissioner– and the people in Parliament Street SW1 sent him an application form. He promptly returned the completed form, accompanied by the requested recent photograph, showing him turbaned and bearded as befits a Sikh. Imagine his surprise to receive a letter from Grindlays Staff Department by return, asking him to submit another photograph, this time 'without his hat on'.....Later, his father told me that the family was furious at the time, but in due course came to see the funny side of it....Ron Button"

## AUGUST LUNCH

Our next monthly Lunch will be at our usual venue, CTA Club, Martin Place, Sydney, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013. 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.

No booking is required, socialise & enjoy yourself. You will be made very welcome. These get-togethers are relaxed fun and a great link with friends & acquaintances. If you haven't been for a while, come along and join in.

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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Russ and Sam, two friends, met in the park every day to feed the pigeons, watch the squirrels and discuss world problems. One day Russ didn't show up. Sam didn't think much about it and figured maybe he had a cold or something. After Russ hadn't shown up for a week or so, Sam really got worried. However, since the only time they ever got together was at the park, Sam didn't know where Russ lived, so he was unable to find out what had happened to him. A month had passed, and Sam figured he had seen the last of Russ, but one day as Sam approached the park lo and behold there sat Russ!

Sam was very excited and happy to see him and told him so, then he said, "strike a light, what in the world happened to you?" Russ replied, "I have been in goal."

"Goal" cried Sam. "what in the world for?"

"Well" Russ said, "you know Cindy, that cute little blonde waitress at the coffee shop where i sometimes go?"

"Too right," said Sam, "I remember her, what about her??"

"Well, one day she filed rape charges against me; and at 89 years old, I was so proud that when i got into court, i pleaded 'guilty.'"

"The judge gave me 30 days for perjury!!!!!!!!!"

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kevin O'Connell emails from Coffs Harbour..... "I refer to your article in the February 2013 Newsletter and wish to correct a comment regarding the dreadful Granville Train Disaster. Bruce Pedersen, a lovely young officer was actually a member of the Accountants Department at S (M & G) at the time. His title was assistant to the Assistant Accountant (Allan McCormack) and I, Kevin O'Connell, was the Accountant. His loss was felt throughout the whole branch; for the record Martin Place & George St. was at that time the largest branch (staff wise) of the ANZ. There were over 200 staff including service staff and covered 5 floors of work area. Size wise it was eventually trumped when 2 large Melbourne branches merged.

Keep up the good work with the Newsletter presentation. It's great to read stories from the "oldies" and is really something I look forward to receiving each month. Regards to all."

Irene Norris emails from Rossmore NSW...."As I read and re-read the wonderful history of his career written by Mr Jim Nicholson, I realised that having had this wonderful man as my Manager for many years of my service within the E.S. & A, then later the merged A.N.Z. Banking Group I did recall how much of an inspiration he was to my Banking career. He was

my Manager from approximately 1961 until the mid 1970's. During this time the decimal currency changeover was probably the biggest challenge, followed by the merger of the E.S. & A and A.N.Z. in 1970. Such a fair and considerate Manager - I travelled constantly during the decimal currency period and not one day would go by when he would not telephone and check on my welfare.

Following the reading of this article on Tuesday of this week I was truly delighted today (Wednesday) to receive a telephone call from Mr. Jim Nicholson himself enquiring as to my welfare and to advise he was doing very well after his recent surgery. It was a wonderful conversation when we talked of old times and even in his early 90's he sounds the same Jimmy Nicholson as I remember in 1961."

Bill Bricknell emails from Brisbane....."You should receive a knighthood for the effort you put into the monthly Newsletter. (Thanks Bill but it is a great team effort....Ed). I look forward to receiving it each month as, being up here in Brisbane, it keeps me up to date with what is going on down south. It is informative as well as being humorous. Please keep it coming. Hopefully we will do our annual trip to Sydney later this year and get to a monthly lunch. Warm regards to all."

An email from Paul Jacka in Kilabean Bay NSW...öJohn Bool was a true blue Victorian and a fanatical supporter of Collingwood. I had the pleasure of working with him at Broken Hill in the seventies. He was a replacement for Gordon Oliver (now deceased). Jim Heath was also at the Branch at the time. Nothing seemed to faze John and I recall he retired to Ocean Grove in Victoria."

Ray Brennan emails....." Re Ian Cowley. Ian was a wonderful cricketer who played for Tasmania and first grade District cricket in Melbourne. I believe he played for Northcote in the famous unlimited time first grade final when the opposition declared at 9 for 702. Skipper Bill Lawry came into the dressing and said "Boys they have just made their first mistake - they declared ". Northcote then went out chased down the 700. Lawry got a triple century. Cowls tells the story so well".

Re Jimmy Nicholson. A great little bloke loved by all who know him."

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## Golf Wisdom

It's good sportsmanship to not pick up lost golf balls while they are still rolling.

Mark Twain

Don't play too much golf.. Two rounds a day are plenty.

Harry Vardon

Golf is a game in which one endeavours to control a ball with implements ill adapted for the purpose.

Woodrow Wilson

A golfer's diet: live on greens as much as possible.

Author Unknown

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My mate just hired an Eastern European cleaner, took her 15 hours to "hoover" the house. Turns out she was a Slovak.

Cheers

Noel