

# 17 CONSTRUCTION SQUADRON WORKSHOPS VIETNAM ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JULY 2007



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**April 2009**

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**George Jones**  
Patron  
Member

**Danial J Garlin**  
Foundation  
Member

## Message from Past President Bob

Hi All,

Firstly, a special thanks to our past committee, Secretary Mike Shean and Treasurer Ryan Critchlow.

Secondly to my wife Margaret who helped me get things done.

Thirdly to our sponsors and benefactors listed below, who assisted with donations and gifts.

Helen Blackburn – Fund Raising

Helen Ingrey – Major Raffle Prize - Throw Rug

Eric and Marj Campbell – Major Raffle Prize - Painting

Anna McKenzie - Major Raffle Prize - Painting

Kevin Pearce - Pens

Denis Cush – 17 Construction Hats

Allan Lennox – Major Raffle Prize - Sapphire pendant

Tom Tubbs – 17 History Booklet

John Schrader – Vietnam Era CD

Alan Pratt – 17 Website

George Jones (Patron) – Sponsor \$2500

John Anictomatis AO – Sponsor \$1000

John Fenton – DVA \$3000.00 Sponsorship

Robyn Secrett – APT Tours

To all those that attended the reunion we enjoyed your company and had a fantastic time, to those that couldn't come, we missed you, see you all in The Alice. We look forward to the next reunion in Alice Springs in April 2009, under the stewardship of incoming President Snowy Whykes and his team.

Bob Shewring

Outgoing President 2004 – 2007



## Final Treasurer's report – Ryan Critchlow.

Just a few words to close off the last three years of preparing for the Darwin Reunion.

A big thank you to Bob and Margaret for the absolutely great three days of the reunion. As most of you will appreciate, they planned and organised all the venues, functions and logistics on their own. A big effort by two big hearted people.

Thank you also to all those people who put in time and money, in the form of fundraising, donations, memorabilia and services – their efforts resulted in a more than doubling of the \$110 per person registration fee.

On the financial side, we inherited \$6,384, left over from previous reunions, and we're passing on **\$9,185** to the Alice Springs Reunion Committee. The total cost of the Darwin Reunion was \$31,500. If anyone wants more detail of the financials, please contact me and I'll send you a full breakdown.

Finally, like everyone else, I'm looking forward to the next reunion in Alice Springs, and fully support the new committee in the innovations they've suggested for the funding and organizing of the event.

See you in 2009

Cheers

Past Treasurer 2004 – 2007 - Ryan



## A message from Incoming President Snowy Whykes

G'Day one and all.

Well, the Darwin reunion has now come and gone. This was the sixth of our reunions and without doubt, one which made us all proud to be part of **17 Construction Squadron Workshop** - it was a real credit to the organising team, the whole reunion was easy going, very enjoyable and a lot of fun. I am sure this will reflect in the feed-back and photo's when they hit the web site.

Darwin is a great place, historic, picturesque and fairly laid back and the reunion was organised with exactly that theme. Bob Shewring, Mike Sheahan and Ryan Critchlow were the organising committee, but there were many people acknowledged on the night of our dinner, as being key players in making Darwin such a huge success.

To those who worked so hard, from all who took part in this magnificent reunion

THANK YOU

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### ALICE SPRINGS – APRIL 2009

As one event closes another commences. At our General meeting, it was voted that Alice Springs would be the next reunion venue. It was also concluded that we would hold our reunions every two years rather than three. This was almost a unanimous decision with only Bob Callinan opposing it - without really knowing why!!

A new committee was then elected and the following people have been sentenced to two years hard labour.

President: Snowy Whykes

Secretary: Alan Pratt

Treasurer/s: Ray & Judy Firth

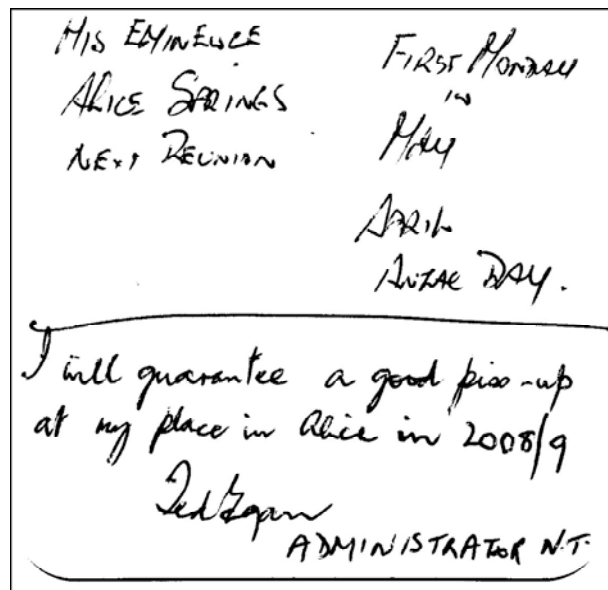
The objectives of the incoming committee for our next reunion are:-

- a. To keep costs to a minimum by having varied/affordable accommodation (including caravan park) at the primary location.*
- b. Source the best available events and functions.*
- c. Do something a little different.*
- d. Communicate to you regularly.*

Planning has already commenced and the team is very keen to make the Alice Springs reunion as enjoyable as those of the past.

One of the reasons that Alice Springs was nominated for our next reunion was that Ted Egan (Administrator of NT) was very keen to have us come back to the Territory. Ted Egan met with us at the Darwin RSL prior to our meeting to welcome us to the NT.

He was so keen in fact, that he gave us a written guarantee that he would look after “*The boy’s of 17*”. Below is a copy of that guarantee. His note is below the dividing line. The notes above the line are my scratchings



We need to keep the ball rolling and in closing I have a couple of requests. Firstly, we have a very good web site that was produced and is maintained by Alan Pratt. To access our web site click on the following link: [www.17construction.org.au](http://www.17construction.org.au).

Please make sure that your details are up to date. If you change your residential address and/or your email address, please inform Alan as we want to keep in contact with everyone.

Second - In an endeavour to keep our workload down and costs to a minimum, we intend to send future newsletters by email. If you are not on email we will post communications out to you.

And last but not least. I encourage those of you who have had the pleasure of attending past reunions to contact your mates and let them know what they are missing. We would love to have two hundred attend Alice Springs.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in,

## A Town Like Alice

Regards

Snowy Whykes  
PRESIDENT  
2007 - 2009