



South Australian Division

Presidents Report 3/2010

Greetings fellow members, In this report, it is with regret, that I must record the resignation of one of our long serving and dedicated members Vice President Don Battams. Don has been on the sick list for some time and as is his way, he soldiered on regardless until he finally had to admit that his health was more important than his work with the association. His efforts were legend particularly his efforts on ANZAC Day with the distribution of Lollypops and unit signs. I am happy to advise that Bill Chappell has agreed to replace Don until the next AGM, thank you Bill.

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since my last report. They are new members, N Eldrege, E Wark, rejoined S Watherston (Mitcham) and new member S Howie, (Elizabeth/Salisbury). I would also like to remind members that we need to recruit new and former members so that our ranks do not get thinner. In this regard, if you know of a former member, why not seek him/her out and encourage them to rejoin the fold.

Since my last report, I have represented the Association at a DVA luncheon address by Director of Australian War Graves and attended the re-structure and integration of 24 Squadron & Combat Support Group Edinburgh parade which was very impressive and displayed the professional qualities of todays Air Force.

The National Division, DFWA, RAR and other ESOs continue to lobby on behalf of DFRDB Superannuates for a fairer deal for those retirees who receive superannuation payments. I understand that there may be some movement toward a private members bill being presented in the near future and given that a large number of ministers, (not labour), have indicated their support for our cause there may be some hope!

It was with sadness that we lost one of our longest serving and Life Member, Ray Deane OAM recently. Ray was deeply involved with the Association and was a hospital visitor for over 50 years. He also served as State President and State Secretary in the mid 60s. For his efforts he was appointed a life member in 1967 and was further recognised by the award of the OAM in the June 2009 Queens Birthday list for his efforts with the association.

Regards

Dave Helman