NEWSLETTER - February 2024

STOP THE PRESS - NEWS FLASH





The new "Commodore" of the Queensland University Regiment Association Inc

Major Nick Dubravcic

EMAIL: presidentqura@gmail.com

The following members were elected to the Executive Management Committee for 2024

President

Vice President / Historian

Secretary

Treasurer

Retail Sales (Memorabilia)

Information Technology

Media Manager/ Non Metropolitan Member Manager

<u>Members</u>



Some of the attendees at the Annual General Meetiing 2023 from Left to Right

Toni Clews, Garry Collins, Scott Revell, Nick Dubravcic, Trevor Luttrell, Brian Venz

Nick Dubravcic Trevor Luttrell

Bill Beach

Bruce Davis

Bruce Davis, Bill Beach

David Ross

Rob Van Dyk

Greg Adams, Col Ahern, Toni Clews Garry Collins, Donna Lea Greaves, Sophie Maric, Jack Robson, Paul Smith

General Business Notes

- 1. The Association is now registered as a Not for Profit Charity with the ACNC.
- 2. In accordance with the Rules of Associations, QURA advises all members that it does not hold Public Liability Insurance.
- 3. The IT processes used by the Association will be redeveloped including a new website, greater access for members to Association notifications, and standardisation of computer programs.
- 4. Several more social activities will be planned for the new year.
- A project group will be formed to assist any member who finds themselves in need of support. More information is provided in this newsletter.

The year 2023 was highly significant for the Queensland University Regiment (QUR and the Queensland University Regiment Association Inc (QURA).

1. On 11 May 1948 The HQ of Northern Command gave approval for the raising of A Company QUR. It was placed under command of 7 Infantry Brigade and was attached to 9th Infantry Battalion for the purpose of training and administration. On 1 May 1950 QUR had achieved the required numbers for LTCOL Gus Gerhmann to be appointed to command the Regiment.

2023 was the 75th Anniversary of the foundation of the Queensland University Regiment.

2. The Queensland University Regiment Association was founded on 8th Spetember 1983.

2023 was the 40th Anniversary of the formation of the Queensland University Regiment Association.

- 3. On Saturday 20 May 2023 the Assocition conducted a military and religious ceremony to honour the soldiers who lost their lives whilst serving their country. During this ceremony a second glass fronted case holding the second Queen's and Regimental Colours was installed in the Emmanuel College Chapel at the University of Queensland.
- 4. On Thursday 17 August an Anniversary Dinner to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of QUR and the 40th Anniversary of the Association were held at the United Service Club, Brisbane.
- 5. The Annual General Meeting of the Association for the year July 2022 June 2023 was held at the Yeronga Services Club RSL on 12 October 2023.
- 6. Reports of the activities above can been seen within this newsletter.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The President and Members of the Queensland University Regiment Association Inc wish to thank the following people for their support over the past year:

- 1. The Principal, Staff and Students of Emmanuel College, University of Queensland for the excellent support to conduct the Encasing of the Colours ceremony in the Emmanuel College Chapel.
- 2. The members of the South East District RSL QueenIsland, and the Toowong Sub Branch RSL Queensland, for their generous donation and support to conduct the Encasing of the Colours ceremony in the Emmanuel College Chapel.
- 3. The members of the Queensland University Regiment Association Inc for their donations to conduct the Encasing of the Colours ceremony in the Emmanuel College Chapel.
- 4. The President and Members of the Yeronga Sub Branch RSL Queensland for the use of their Board Room for Executive Meetings.

Dates for 2024

15 March Morning tea 1 (catch up) St Lucia

2 April Professional Military Education Leadership and Management

Dr O'Quinn, drinks and nibbles, USC (to be confirmed) (Note 1)

14 June Morning tea 2 (catch up) St Lucia

23 July Professional Military Education Topic TBA (Note 1)

BTR, Present new graduates, food, Walcott Street, St Lucia.

16 August Morning tea 3 (catch up) St Lucia

22 October Professional Military Education (Note 1)

12 September AGM and Annual Dinner, USC

TBC Cocktail Party (QUR Function) OCDT and partners

6 October Visit to Winery (Vineyard lunch, wine tasting)

22 October Profesional Military Education TBA

15 November Morning tea 4 (catch up) St Lucia

21 November Xmas Drinks Yeronga RSL, Yeronga

Notes:

1. Part of the training of the Officer Cadet is that they are to participate in lectures to expand their Professional Military Education. Specific details will be forwarded as soon as they are confirmed,

- 2. Plans are underway to conduct a trip to the following areas:
 - a. QueensInd Alr Museum at Calounndra
 - b. Visit and inspect Caloundra RSL Museum
 - c. Luncheon at the Caloundra RSL
 - d. Visit to a boutique Gin Distillery just north of Caloundra.
- 3. A reminder will be sent to all members prior to the activities. Hopefully our new website and Facebook will also display the activity details.



LEST WE FORGET

Recently we were saddened to learn of the passing of Jim Babon. (circa 1961). He was commissioned in QUR as a Lieutenant and posted into the 6th Battalion, The Royal Victorian Regiment.



From the Commanding Officer's desk

I felt very privileged to commence my tenure and custodianship of the Queensland University Regiment (QUR) in 2023 as the 27th Commanding Officer. QUR has always had a special place in my heart and felt honoured to lead the regiment in its 75th Anniversary year. I must acknowledge and thank the previous command team of LTCOL Gabrielle Raffin, CSC and WO1 Jason Moriarty who handed the unit over in a good state to myself and WO1 Daniel Duncan. This has allowed us to build upon their work and continue to enhance and improve the unit's ability to generate capability across both the officer and soldier streams.

The first six months of 2023 seemed to be extraordinary busy and on reflection it was filled with a lot of training and complimentary activities. Occupying the St Lucia Barracks for the headquarters and Jacka Company was the first priority after the unit was once again devasted by floods in 2022. Significant effort and work had been invested to ensure the buildings were ready for occupation in 2023 and I thank those staff that personally had a hand in that.

Mandatory training and course commencement quickly followed with the unit conducting its first five courses in February while concurrently having to undertake a number of governance and audit activities. This was on top of out obligations to support other courses that reside within the 8th Brigade as well as supporting strategic International Engagement Activities throughout the year. One example was PTE Koce (Main Q-Store) who attended the Avalon Air Show in Feb/Mar 23 to support the Mongolian military delegation with his linguist capabilities. It was also a pleasure to attend Government House early in the year to witness CAPT Stanton (Training Company) receiving the Prince of Wales Award from Her Excellency.

The April/May period continued to be busy with a number of major activities the unit participated in. I am most proud of the unit's participation in and raising of funds for Legacy with Run Army 2023. The unit was the highest raiser of funds for the event reaching an amount just shy of \$10,000 beating a number of other Army Units with establishments far bigger than QUR. OCDT Goodman was also recognised as the individual that raised the most and he contributed over \$1500 to the unit's total. QUR was also very active on ANZAC Day with a number of members speaking at schools and services across the state. QUR contributed a catafalque party and guest speaker to the Toowong RSL Sub-Branch Dawn Service at Toowong Memorial Park which was attended by over 4000 people.

The following month was pretty special as the unit celebrated its 75th Anniversary, which was attended by members of the QURA, special dignitaries and members of the unit. The highlight of the evening was the attendance of Brigadier Sam Harrison MBE RFD ED (Retd) and his wife Dr Jennifer Harrison who was one of the inaugural members of the unit as well as a former Commanding Officer and Honorary Colonel. It was very special that he was able to officially open the library that is in his name's sake. This library was established with a significant contribution by the Australian Army History Unit but has grown through further donations including many books donated by members of the QURA. The month also saw the laying up of the colours in a ceremony at the Emmanuel College Chapel at the University of Queensland. The ability to lay up the colours had been delayed due to the floods in 2022.

The year was broken up by a Unit cocktail evening in July which was attended by the majority of the unit. It was wonderful to acknowledge the 16 officer cadets that graduated mid-year and introduce them to their new Brigade Commander. This was in addition to the 17 officer cadets that graduated at the end of the year with a larger than normal graduating class overall for 2023. Our Officer Cadets did very well during their final Training Blocks with three receiving prizes mid-year (OCDT Linn – recipient of the RNSWR Association Prize for demonstrating exemplary field skills and tactical knowledge; OCDT Coverdale - recipient of the Peter Stuckey Mitchell Trust Award for demonstrating the most effective leadership qualities and OCDT Dang - recipient of the Defence Bank Award for demonstrating the best physical fitness standards). QUR also produced the Sword of Honour recipient (OCDT McRae) at the November graduating class which was an outstanding achievement. I was pleased to also learn that two of our members (OCDT Goodman and PTE Newman) were successful at their respective selection boards to attend RMC full time in 2024 and undertake the inaugural 12-month full time officer course that has been established at Duntroon.

QUR continued to provide opportunities for its members to serve on operations and were fortunate to have CPL Mitchell (Training Coy) and CPL Morrow (Training Coy) deploy on OP RESOLUTE as part of the Transit Security Element (TSE 109) that closely works with the Navy to protect out northern borders. Both members did the unit very proud with CPL Morrow also being awarded a Navy Commendation for his efforts from the Commanding Officer of HMAS Stalwart. MAJ King (Officer Training Team) also had an opportunity to deploy on an International Engagement opportunity in the second half of the year spending some time in Apia, Samoa as part of the Australian Contingent.

Professional Development was and continues to be one of my focus areas with a number of opportunities afforded to our members to attend non-career courses, symposiums and events that enable growth. One example where I could align a soldier's passion with an opportunity was to send PTE Kachanski (Jacka Coy) on a unit photographers' course that she not only thoroughly enjoyed but the unit gains the capability to be able to take high quality photos which we now publish on our Unit Facebook Page. We also sent three of our members (MAJ Strachan, MAJ Peach and CPL Anastasiou) on the Women in Defence & Defence Industry Leadership Summit 2023 which allowed these QUR members to develop powerful strategic relationships with attendees and hear from women leaders of high-performing teams in both Defence and non-Defence roles. I also encouraged and facilitated Professional Military Education sessions with guest speakers such as MAJGEN Mick Ryan, AM speak about Leadership in the context of the current Russian-Ukrainian conflict. We were also very fortunate to have Bob Buick and Lindsay Morrison, veterans of the Battle of Long Tan, address the members of the unit and QURA on their personal experiences during the desperate battle.

I was very proud to recognise some outstanding and worthy members throughout the year for either their long or exemplary service to the unit and the Australian Army. In addition to a number of service and deployment medals, I presented MAJ Hastie (OC Jacka Coy) and WO2 Wheeler (Regt OPSWO) additional bars to their Long Service Medals and I felt very fortunate to watch MAJ Dutton (Officer Training Team) receive his Federation Star in Puckapunyal, Victoria from the Commander 2nd Division, MAJGEN Thomae, AM. A number of members displayed exemplary service throughout the year and was so pleased to award a few commendations and awards. Congratulations go to MAJ

Strachan (Regt 2IC) and SGT Kaukau (Regt Ops SGT) for being awarded Bronze Commendations and to PTE Bazzica (Coy Clerk, RIC-SQ) for being awarded a Soldier's Medallion for Exemplary Service. I was also very proud to learn that SGT Brynes (Instructor – Trg Coy) was one of only five instructors across the Australian Army to be awarded the Inaugural Australian Army's Instructor of the Year Award. This award allows the recipient to wear the very rare Gold Military Instructor Badge on his uniform during ceremonial activities.

I anticipate that 2024 will be another busy year for the Queensland University Regiment. The unit has already deployed three of its members (CPL Woodhome, PTE Jones and REC Brock) to the far north of Queensland as part of the ADF response to Tropical Cyclone Jasper. We will also see the movement of two of the unit's companies (Regional Induction Company – North Queensland and South Queensland) to 11 BDE on the 15 Jan 24. Whilst this change reduces the strength of the unit, it does allow us to focus specifically on training whilst trainee management will be the responsibility of the Raise, Train and Sustain brigades.

I am excited for the year ahead and look forward to continuing the custodianship of the unit in my second year of command.

Kind regards Scott Revell LTCOL CO/CI QUR



QUR Grduates at RMC November 2023. OCDT McRae was the Sword of Honour recipient. Top LHS of picture.

Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of QUR and the 40th Anniversary of QURA.

On 17 August QURA conducted a mixed celebratory anniversary dinner at the United Service Club of Queensland. 83 guests attended.

The celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of QUR was led by the Commanding Officer who presented a quick update of the Regimemt and its organisation. This was followed by a presentation by Paul Smith who gave an overview of the history of the Regiment over the past 75 years.

Brigadier Sam Harrison then presented his thoughts on the history of QUR and the Association. Sam was recruited into QUR and was one of the first university student entries. Throughout his career he was trained and commissioned in QUR, commanded the Regiment in (1965 -1968), commanded the 1st Training Group, which was the senior formation of QUR. He held every position which was available at that time. His service was so unique that no other person will ever be able to serve in each of those command positions.

Finally Trevor Luttrell reviewed the role which the Association has played over the past 40 years.

There was an excellent range of former QUR soldiers who served in QUR at the function.



From left to right: Craig Blanch, Mike Bond, Brian Venz



Michael Brown, Ken Stanley, Barry Weller, Serge Voloschenko, Anna Voloschenko, Mary Ann Williams, Mark Willians, Dave Sallows, Ernest Dunwoody

Lexophilia - Although not in the dictionary, it is reported that "Lexophile" describes a person who loves sentences such as, "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish," and, "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."

An annual competition is held by the 'New York Times' to see who can create the best original lexophile.

This year's submissions:

- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.
- I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- \blacksquare I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Police were summoned to a day care center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
- When she saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down

75th Anniversary QUR and 40th Anniversary QURA Dinner, continued



LHS to RHS
Richard Palk, Denis Luttrell, Paul DeJersey, Jennifer Harrison, Rhonda Farragher, Ian Bunce, Helen Palk, Sam Harrison, John Pearn.



LHS to RHS

Brian Venz, Graeme Nimmo, Garry Collins, Trevor Luttrell, Paul Smith, Ian Harding, Tom Sullivan

<u>LHS to RHS</u> Ros VanDyk, Bruce Davis, Beth Davis, Erin Davis, Michael Davis, Rosie Lee, John Lee



LHS to RHS
Rob Cumming, Donna Lea Greaves, Wayne Barclay, Sophia Maric, Gina Privitera, Rob O'Brien

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LHS to RHS

David Thomae, Gabby Raffin, Mark Armstrong, Scott Revell, Nicole Revell, Michael Bond, Wayne Pearce, Tim O'Brien

LHS to RHS
Michael Brown, Ken Stanley,
Barry Weller, Serge Voloschenko, Mary Ann Williams, Mark Williams, Anna Voloschenko, Ernest Dunwoody



<u>LHS to RHS</u> Peter Sharwood, Dave Sallows, Elona Drain, John Byrne, George Fryberg, Rob Byrne, Philip Bushell- Guthrie, Viv Hawke

<u>LHS to RHS</u> Garry Symons, Susan Goodhew, Jamie Underwood, Barney Smith, Laurie Smith, Rob Cavaye, Paul Carr, Chris Backstrom



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Sam Harrison



Members of the Legal Fraternity - QURA members



David Purvis, Rhys Thomas, Col Ahern, Jack Robson, Johanna Brown, Noel Brown



Sophie Maric , Chris Backstrom



Richard Cosgrove, Peter Sharwood, Graeme Nimmo, Denis Luttrell



Ros VanDyk and Rob VanDyk

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THE ENCASING OF THE QUEEN'S AND REGIMENTAL COLOURS AND THE MERRINGTON FLAG AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE MAY 2023



Above - The two sets of Colours mounted on the wall of the Chapel at Emmanuel College. The case on the LHS holds the Colours which were laid up in 2021. The case on the RHS holds the first Colours presented in 1959. A plaque is still to be mounted between the cases indicating what the Colours are. Apologies for the reflection of the stainedglass windows on the glasst holding the Regimental Colours from 1959.

On Saturday 20 May 2023 the Association held a ceremony in the College Chapel of Emmanuel College, St Lucia. During the ceremony a commemoration service was held to honour the soldiers who lost their lives whilst serving for their country.

Following the traditions of the military when new Colours are presented to a unit, the old Colours are laid up in secure areas. In 2021 QUR had been presented with new Colours and as a consequence, arrangements had to be made for those Colours to be displayed in a safe area. In 1978 the first set of laid up Colours were installed into a glass fronted display case in the College Chapel of Emmanuel College, University of Queensland, St Lucia. The Commanding Officer at the time, LTCOL lan Bunce, generously arranged for the supply and construction of a case.

In May 2023 the next set of Colours, which had been laid up in 2021, were installed into a similar diplay case at Emmanuel College. The ceremony also included the mounting of a very special Australian Flag into a similar case. This flag was held by the College. It was an Australian Ensign of WW1 vintage used by a Chaplain Colonel Dr Ernest Northcroft Merrington MA PhD in his religious services on the battlefield and with his other activities in WW1. His service included Egypt, Gallipoli and France. This Flag was understood to be the one flying over the largest depot of Australian soldiers in France at the actual time of the Armistice.

Merrington came to Brisbane as a clergyman in 1910 after gaining outstanding academic qualifications and made a significant contribution in a number of ways to Queensland and Brisbane in particular. In 1911, he was the Committee Convenor to establish Emmanuel College (of UQ) then on Wickham Terrace in Brisbane City and was shortly appointed the inaugural Chairman of the College Council. In 1913 he was the Senior Chaplain of the First Military District of Queensland. On his return to Australia after WW1, he presented his Flag to Emmanuel College. Merrington became Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland in 1916/17 and was a Member of the University of Queensland's (UQ) Senate in 1916 (for 7 years).

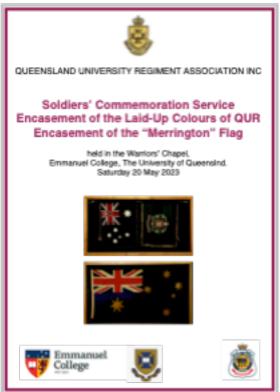
What is also of particular interest is that Merrington was also one of the inaugural committee of the Returned Soldiers Association, Queensland which later became the Returned Soldiers and Sailors Imperial League. In early 1917, he was elected as the President of the Queensland Branch. It is understood that this was the forerunner of today's RSL. He could arguably have been the RSL's (Queensland's Branch) first President.

The present Emmanuel College Principal said that the Flag had been used at the College at St Lucia since 1950 but had been secured away for quite some time due to its condition. QURA proposed to the College that it too should be encased and displayed in the Chapel.

QURA conducted a fundraising campaign to cover the costs of the Colour's cases. Members of QURA generously donated funds for the activity. An appeal for funds to the South East District of the Returned Soldiers League (RSL) of Queensland was successful. Special thanks are extended to the QURA members who donated to the compaign, and the President of the SED RSL Queensland. We are indebted to the Principal of Emmanuel College who made the Chapel available and who provided resources for the ceremony. Thanks are also extended to The President and Members of the Toowong

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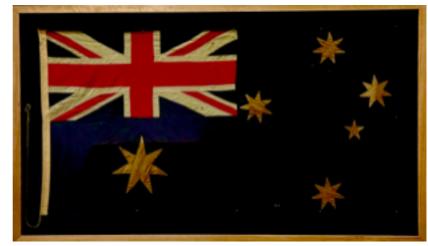
The booklet which was given to the congregation at the ceremony.



Front cover of the booklet provided at the ceremony is displayed.

We have some spare copies of this booklet and they can be mailed to you. An electronic copy is also available.

There are many photos from the ceremony and these can be provided on request. Emmanuel College recorded a small video covering the period from the first stage of planning to the ceremony. We will attempt to mount the video on our website. Should you wish any of these items please contact Trevor Luttrell (*vicepresidentqura@gmail.com*). We would appreciate a small donation to help cover costs of postage if surface mail is used.



Above: The Merrington Flag.



The Queen's and Regimental Colours presented to QUR in 1959.



Display of the history of QUR on the outside front wall of the Chapel.

ENCASING THE COLOURS AT THE CHAPEL AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE



From Left to Right

Brian Venz (former CO QUR), Tim O'Brien (former CO QUR), Peter Jerffrey (Colonel Commandant QUR and former CO QUR), Mark Armstrong Commander 11 Brigade, Arran Hassell (Commander 8 Brigade), Brooke Hastie (Representing CO QUR).



From Left To Right - Front Row)

Bill Beach, Secretary QURA, Stephen Peake (Principal Emmanuel College) Stephen Howell (Chairman of the Board, Emmanuel College), Professor Aidan Byrne (Provost, University of Queensland), Major General Stephen Day (President RSL Queensland), Trevor Luttrell (President QURA).



Ian Bunce (former CO QUR), Garry Collins (former CO QUR) Second Row, Philip Bushell Guthrie (former QUR)



Stephen Howell, Tom Sullivan, Mrs Sandra Sullivan, Paul de Jersey (former Governor of Queensland)



The Colours mounted high on the Chapel Wall . Standing for the playing of the Last Post.

LHS The Merrington Flag

RHS The Queen's and Regimental Colours laid up 2021 (Closest to the front of the Chapel)
The Queen's and Regimental Colours laid up 1978

ENCASING THE COLOURS AT THE CHAPEL AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE



Fom left to right: Johm Byrne, Paul de Jersey, Richard Palk



Fom left to right: Tom Sullivan, Trevor Luttrell



Fom left to right: Jenny Cotton, Bruce Davis



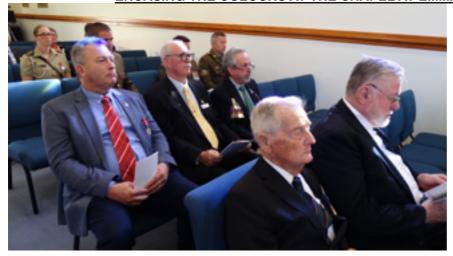
Fom left to right: Garry Collins, Rhonda Farragher, Brian Venz



Stephen Day
State President RSL Queensland.

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ENCASING THE COLOURS AT THE CHAPEL AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE



From Left to right:

Front row -Bruce Maughan, George Fryberg Tim Robb, Secretary, Toowong RSL Second row -

Treasurer, Toowong RSL Toowong RSL Vince Atley -

Keith Lamb -



From Left to right:

Keith Lamb (Toowong RSL) Jennifer Harrison, Sam Harrison, Bugler, Alex Gilfedder(St Peter's College) Aidan Byrne (Provost University of Queensland)



From Left to right: Keith Lamb - (Too (Toowong RSL), Vince Atley - (Treasurer, Toowong RSL), Tim Robb (Secretary, Toowong RSL) Trevor Luttrell (President, QURA)



The altar in the Chapel of Emmanuel College.



QUR and QURA Supporting the Toowong Sub Branch of RSL Qld.

Ever since 1948 QUR has enjoyed close relations with the Toowong Sub Branch RSL Qld. Since then a body of troops from QUR participated in the Anzac Day march. When the QUR band was formed the march was led by the QUR band. During these years former members of the Regiment (QURA) attended the ceremony. The members enjoyed catching up with their "digger mates."

Today many members of QURA have chosen to join the Sub Branch and assist the Sub Branch with their activities, especially the Anzac Day and Rememberance Day.

Prior to each of these ceremonies the Sub Branch establishes venues in The Tooowong Shopping Village and Wesley Hospital. QURA assists with these activities by raising funds through the sale of memorabilia. In 2023 the Sub Branch Toowong RSL generously assisted QURA to conduct Encasing of the Colours in the Chapel at Emmanuel College.

Remembrance Day 2023



Remembrance Day 2023 from L to R

Peter Gow President Toowing Sub Branch RSL Nick Dubravcic President QURA

Tim Robb Secretary, Toowong Sub Branch

RSL

A wreath was laid by Nick Dunravcic.



Remembrance Day 2023

OCDT from QUR mounting the Catafalque Party.

LTCOL George Hulse delivering the address.

Are you aligned with an RSL Club?

If you wish to join many of your old mates from QUR why not become a member of the Toowong Sub Branch.

If you are interested please contact Trevor Luttrell

(vicepresidentqura@gmail.com)

Members of QURA supporting The Toowong Sub Branch Toowong RSL fundraising



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023 from Left to Right: Bill Beach, Vince Atley, Keith Lamb, Trevor Luttrell



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023 from Left to Right: Garry Collins. Bill Beach. Peter Gow. Laurie Smith

XMAS 2023 Gaythorne RSL Club - 23 November 2023



Ros Vandyk, Johanne Brown, Vicki Ahern, Noel Brown, Bill Beach,
Nick Dubravcic, Col Ahern



LHS to RHS Rob Van Dyk, Ros Van Dyk, Vicki Ahern, Noel Brown, Bill Beach, Nick Dubravcic, Colin Ahern



LHS to RHS
Garry Collins, Wayne Barclay, John Adams, Beryl Mc Greevy,
Kerry McGreevy, Baz Weller, Greg Bulow. Michael Bond.



Rob O'Brien, Bill Beach



Two old soldiers enjoying a coffee. Laurie Smith and Michael Van Baarle.







CHANGING THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS

QURA will use modern technology to enhance communications between members of QURA.

FACEBOOK.

QURA has two facebook sites now operating:

- a. Queensland University Regiment Association.
 - This site will focus on current Association matters including any activity which is conducted by the Regiment and the Association
- b. Queensland University Reginment Association History

For many years the Association has been accumulating photos and documents from many sources with the aim of upgrading and updating the current written "History of QUR and QURA." Following the election of Nick Dubravcic as the new President QURA, Trevor Luttrell (now Vice President) will continue the development of the new history. The Association will regularly post some information about previous activities of QUR and QURA. Any visitor to the facebook "QURA History" page will be encouraged to contribute any copies of photos, documents and stories, which can be inserted into the new "History of QUR and QURA" publication. In addition to the Association's website, the committee will also use facebook to advertinse an upcoming activity and to report on each activity to be conducted.

QURA WEBSITE

As the Associattion is now registered as a "Not for Profit" charity we are now eligible to acquire programs and IT equipent for free, or at heavily discounted prices. Work has begun on original website (as seen below) using the new software.





CONGRATULATIONS

QURA wish to congratulate Brigadier Mark Armstrong who was honoured with the award of the Conspicuous Service Cross. (CSC)

For outstanding achievement as Commander Joint Task Group 629.3 on Operation FLOOD ASSIST 2022 from April to December 2022.

Brigadier Mark was the Commanding Officer of the Queensland Unniversity Regiment from 2012 to 2014. He was commissioned through the Regional Universities Regiment of Queensland in 1993.



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A slice of history:-

The Regimental Dinner held at Cromwell College 2013







Chris Pyke, Rod Hamilon.



Elona Drain Regimental Dinner 2013

***** Restaurant Three Ninety One *****

The Management Committee of QURA has conducted several management meetings at the Yeronga Sub Branch of RSL Queensland. This is situated at 391 Fairfield Road Qld 4104. Phone 38480796. The restaurant (Restaurant 391) at the Club offers an excellent luncheon and dining experience.



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"THE HISTORY OF OUR AND OURA" PROJECT

The concept of producing a history of QUR and QURA was first raised in the early 1980s after the raising of the QUR Association. Prior to this Rod Hamilton, Neil Heather, Garry Collins, Ian Hughes and Gary Chandler all contributed to the development of the history. In 2002 Paul Smith published the "History of QUR" in book form up to the year 2000.

In 2003 Trevor Luttrell (President QURA) commenced a project to update the history of QUR and QURA. During that time all members were encouraged to provide any article, document and photo to the team. Due to the regularity of floods all of the collected history was stored at Trevor Luttrell's house.

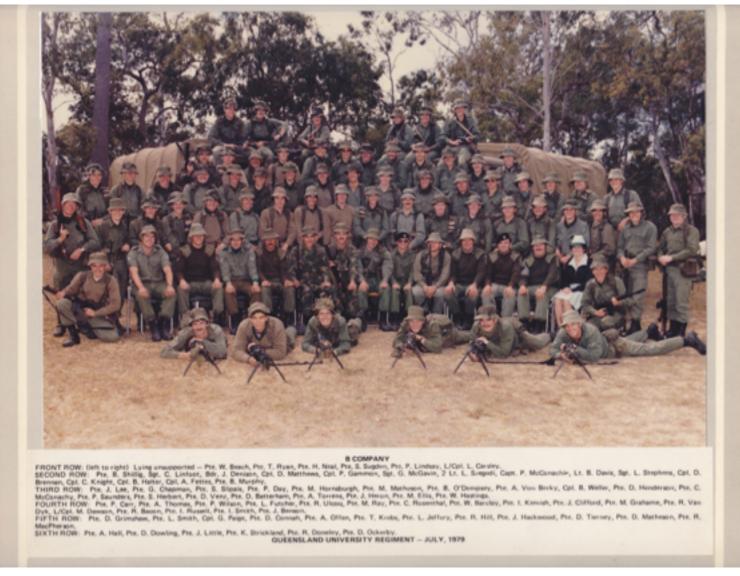
Now Nick Dubravcic has been elected President QURA, Trevor is now focussing on the mammoth task of writing the next years of history.

The cost of publishing any written work is extremely expensione so the next development of the history will be stored as an electronic file with the intention of making it freely available to all. During 2024 Trevor L will be asking for more documents, photos and stories from any former member of QUR. To make this history worthwhile it is critical that members assist by contributing.

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING WHICH COULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE HISTORY

Please contact Trevor L. (vicepresident qura.com.au.) or phone on 0437442 964.

You can send your contributions via email, or arrangements can be made to pick up the items of historical interest. All contributions will be digitised so originals can be returned to the member.



Trip to Bunjurgen Winery, Boonah 8 October 2023

On Sunday 8th October, 2023 members of QURA and partners met at the Bunjurgen Winery to enjoy a great spring luncheon. David McMaugh, our host and long time member of QURA, welcomed us with a glass of high quality wine from the estate, and gave us not only an introduction to the art of fine winemaking, but also a history lesson on winemaking in Australia. David's presentation was highly informative, educational, and entertaining. He also shared the history of the Bunjurgen Winery including his and his wife's personal history which is intertwined with the property for generations. We thank him for sharing his story with us. The luncheon was a delicious BBQ with fresh salads followed by lemon meringue and pavlova for dessert. All produce was sourced from local suppliers in the greater Boonah area.

The chef, David himself, outdid himself with the locally grown tender steaks.

With the dessert, David introduced the group to his famous Ruby Port as well as his Tawny Port. The dessert and drinks were excellently paired.



We ensured that David was not forgotten as we sang Happy Birthday, a day late but not forgotten. Members voted unanimously to put the Spring Luncheon at Bunjurgen Winery on the QURA calendar as an annual event.

Thank you to all who attended. It was great to catch up and enjoy some quality time together. It is the committee's intention to organise additional opportunities for us to meet and greet with each other and enjoy some quality time together in beautiful surroundings in the future. Planning is on its' way, keep posted and join us for our next adventure!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CATCHING UP WITH YOUR SOLDIER MATES?

QURA are happy to assist you to conduct a <u>reunion</u> of the soldiers of your cohort. We can assist to contact members. We can issue invitations to those who are interested in attending. We will research items of significant historical interest and will assist in the coordination of those photos and documents. Please contact the Vice President for details. (vicepresident gura@gmail.com)