

## RAAV SAVINGS

## Special points of interest:

- > North East Meeting -25th May
- > Ballarat Meeting - 21th May
- > Doncaster Meeting - 19th June
- > South West Meeting - 5th August
- > New Members
- > Paper verses PDF



AV Headquarters  
Doncaster



## Reporting the March General Meeting at Doncaster

The first meeting for 2013 was held at Doncaster Headquarters of AV on Wednesday 13th March with an attendance of 50 members and guests. The meeting commenced with usual welcome from our President, Chas Martin and a welcome to several new members. There were several reports tabled in regard to the new Rules of Association and the information to be considered by the committee before we can make a final submission to all members. The financial position of the Association is very sound but we must continue to be aware that the subscriptions may need to be reviewed in the future. Our current bank balance is General Account: \$379.00 and the Term Deposit

\$6500.70.

Membership is now on the verge of exceeding 200 members and we are continuing to receive applications for membership on a regular basis, which is very encouraging as many new members are coming from the regional areas and with the continued development of regional bases we can only expect more new members over the coming months. The first replies from the members requesting updating of details are being processed and it is hoped that all members will be able to file their completed forms soon. Following the meeting we were entertained by John Byrne who kindly stepped in at the last minute, due to our organised speaker being

unable to fulfill his commitment. John gave an interesting insight into the new procedures for the major disaster division of the Service and the many new and innovative strategies being undertaken.

Lunch followed and all enjoyed the usual discussions that ensue following the meeting.

The next meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday 19th June will be held as usual at Doncaster Headquarters of AV, commencing at 10.30am. Our Guest Speaker for the day will be a representative from the State Ombudsman's Office. We look forward to seeing you all on the day.

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## Ballarat Zone - On the Move

On Tuesday 16th March the first meeting of the Ballarat Zone was held at the Brewery Tap Hotel in Warrenheip (just outside Ballarat). We were very encouraged with 6 members in attendance and the signing of another new member on the day. Over an enjoyable lunch we formulated a small program

to attempt to encourage more former members into our ranks from this area. Several members could not attend on the day but have indicated that they will certainly attend when we hold the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 21st May. The venue for this gathering has had to be changed

to The Robin Hood Hotel Bistro 33 Peel Street cnr Shepherd Street Ballarat - time will be the same, 12 noon.

Please let Bob Gosden know if you are able to attend by phoning him on 5335 8516 before Thursday 16th May.

### Shirts & Caps

We are very pleased with the take up offer of our shirts & caps offer. These have been ordered and will be delivered throughout late May and June. It is anticipated that we will have to have another offer of shirts & caps again next year.

### More Zone Meetings

We are hoping to introduce more meetings in more regional areas of the State throughout the rest of this year. The next area may be Geelong very soon. Of course any member is entitled to attend when and where you like

### Car & Lapel Badges

We have acquired new car badges and lapel badges which will become available from 1st. June this year.

If any member requires either or both of these please hold your horses until we are assured that we have enough in stock to meet the need.

The lapel badges are limited in number and as we do not know where these were made. At present we are attempting to find another supplier for future stocks.

Prices of these are available from all committee members.

### Guest Speakers

As always we are on the look out for some one who has an interesting career or project that would be of interest to you all. We strive to get these people for free but as with most organisations and volunteers we find it very difficult to provide suitable speakers. Therefore we are asking for your support in this area. If you or a friend has seen or heard of a great speaker please give Ian Cameron a call or email with the details so that we can bring you all the best speakers we can find.



**Brighton Ambulance Station in Nepean Highway Brighton East**

### Can You Help?

### Suicides Within the Ambulance Service

Members may be aware that there has been several suicides within the Ambulance Service of late. Ambulance Victoria and the Ambulance Employees Association have asked our Association for assistance in the form of any member who may know of, or had contact with, an Ambulance Officer who has committed suicide to consider talking about the ordeal. This is an attempt to gain a better understanding of the issues involved, not only for the suicide victim but also those left behind. This will hopefully give A V and the Union a better working base to try to stem the suicide rate and be able to offer Operational Staff a better method of resolving the issues before they become paramount

Any Member interested in participating please contact Chas Martin on 03 9725

### Subscription Payments

Annual subscriptions are due on the 1st July 2013.

If you wish to direct debit or bank transfer to our account. The details are:

Commonwealth Bank

Account Name:

Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria

BSB: 063109

Account #: 00921958

Please include your name or member number as a reference and notify our Secretary of the payment details including the amount paid please.

### Condolences

We are saddened to report the passing of two of our life members - Keith Atkinson on the 14th April and Maurice "Jim" Gillett on 17th April.

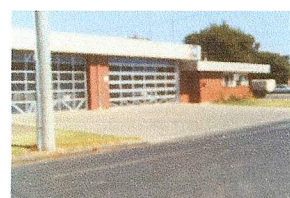
The Association was represented at both funerals with many members supporting the families at this difficult time.

### Holidays for the Secretary

Our Secretary, Ian Cameron, has decided to take a bit of time out for some rest & recreation commencing from 22 June until the end of July. He informs us that he and his dog will be travelling through New South Wales back country and southern Queensland whilst trying not to get lost too

much. Should any member wish to contact Ian over this time he will be available on mobile and email where these facilities exist. Other matters for the Association can be directed to Chas Martin or any other committee member. We wish him well in his travels.

**The Benalla Ambulance Station which replaced the former station just around the corner.**







Lead Car at Maurice "Jim" Gillett's' Funeral - Part of our Benefits scheme

### Members update forms

Thanks to all the members who have completed their membership update form and returned them. All the forms are currently being processed and the changes you have provided are being entered into the data base. Most members have had little or no change in their details except we have discovered that many members have included email addresses which will make contacting all members even more easy.

The information you provide does occasionally change and we need to keep our records

including contact details as up to date as we can.

Any Member who has not yet returned their form or would like to check their details please contact Ian Cameron for a form or to review the register

### On The Sick List

Ray "Plod" Thomas has been in hospital following surgery. We wish him well and look forward to his return in the not to distant future. To any other member who has been unwell we wish you a speedy recovery.

### New Members

The Association continues to attract new members and we are pleased to welcome aboard the following:

Frank Bonzer - Yarrawonga  
Bill Steegstra - Benalla  
Ross Robotham - Wangaratta  
Rodney Poulson - Mansfield  
Ray Churches - Wodonga  
Joy Mayhew - Lal Lal  
Samuel Hadden - Port Fairy  
John Fahey - Lane Cove  
John Haines - Beaconsfield  
David Gawne - Shepparton  
Pat McKenzie - Warrnambool  
Robert Henshaw - Pambula

Looking forward to seeing you at a meeting soon.

### Paper verses PDF

Now with so many members on our email list we are able to offer the service of sending all notices, newsletters and information letters via email instead of through the postal service. This will save us time and money both in having to print, fold and envelope all the current forms of communication.

If you would like to receive all mail through the email service

please send an email to :  
i.cameron@y7mail.com

With a heading of "Notices Please Email"

Although your name will not be removed from the Mailing List we will mark it as "IT Only" Mail coming from AV will still be sent via Australia Post..

If you do not want to receive mail via email you do not have to do anything and it will remain as it is now.

Email  
Verses  
Post

### Meetings in the Zones

Monday August 5th - South West Zone will be Held at Hamilton - venue to be advised. As usual commencing at 12 noon

May 25th North East Zone gathering will be again be held at the Benalla Bowls Club for lunch and a relaxed afternoon of discussions. Set for a 12 noon start.

May 21st Ballarat will host their gathering at the also for a lunch and relaxing day of reminiscing. Timed to start at 12 noon.

### The North East Zone Report

On Saturday 16th February the first gathering of members and guests from around the North East converged on Benalla Bowls Club for a lunch and a "Getting to Know You" gathering. We were excited to have 21 members and guests present. There was much exchange of greetings and catching up on what and where each member has been of the past few years particularly from

those who cannot get to the meetings in Melbourne. It was pleasing to have five past Ambulance staff members request to join on the day and these five have now been officially welcomed into the Association. All members are looking forward to the next meeting, also being held in Benalla Bowls Club, on Saturday 25th May.

### Funeral Benefit Plan

We have been encouraged with the take up of our Funeral Benefit Plan.

Any Members who has not yet considered or completed a Plan or any member who may wish to review what you have already decided then please contact Chas Martin on 03 9725 7826 or Ian Cameron on 03 8503 7745 to obtain a Form or review your existing Plan.

The Warrnambool Ambulance Station



## Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria Incorporated

Address All Correspondence to:  
The Secretary  
Unit 2 / 20 Brooks Street  
Bentleigh East  
Victoria 3165

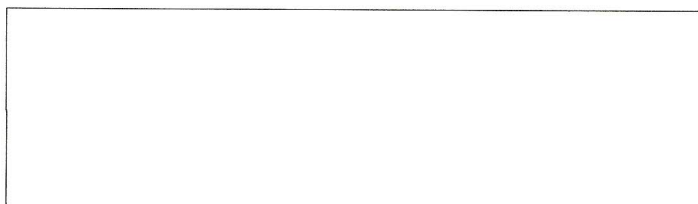
Phone: 03 8503 7745  
Mobile: 0466968509  
E-mail: i.cameron@y7mail.com



Check us out at  
[www.retiredambulancevictoria.org.au](http://www.retiredambulancevictoria.org.au)

## Your Committee

- **President**  
**Chas Martin**
- **Vice President**  
**Peter Leek**
- **Secretary**  
**Ian Cameron**
- **Treasurer**  
**Darrell Rintoule**
- **Committee**  
**Bill McKnight**  
**Ron Jacobs**



## The Priest

A priest was invited to attend a house party.  
Naturally, he was properly dressed and wearing his Priest's Collar.  
A little boy kept staring at him the entire evening.  
Finally, the priest asked the little boy what he was staring at.  
The little boy pointed to the priest's neck.  
When the priest finally realised what the boy was pointing at,  
He asked the boy, "Do you know why I am wearing this?"  
"It kills fleas and ticks for up to three months".

## The Back Page

## Bee Sting

A young woman had been taking golf lessons.  
She had just started playing her first round of golf  
When she suffered a bee sting.

Her pain was so intense that she decided to return  
To the clubhouse for help and to complain.

Her golf pro saw her come into the clubhouse and  
Asked, 'Why are you back in so early? What's wrong?'

'I was stung by a bee', she said.

'Where', he asked.

'Between the first and second hole',  
she replied.

He nodded knowingly and said,

'Then your feet are too far apart.'

## \*\* Special Offer \*\*

A special deal has been offered to our Association to view the  
**AFGHANISTAN HIDDEN TREASURES**  
Exhibition at the Melbourne Museum . If we can gather 10 or more members who would be interested in seeing this exhibition then we will take up the offer but be quick tickets are limited and time is short. Please contact Ian Cameron if you are interested by the 19th June.