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RAAV Ravings



Aggression towards Ambulance Personnel

Mr Stephenson said there was a "significant act of violence" against a paramedic every day and the number of assaults are under-reported.

"A lot of paramedics will tolerate this stuff and ignore it. I don't think you'd tolerate something to this extreme but they do tolerate aggression reasonably frequently," he said.

"It is an increasing phenomenon. It's something we're increasingly concerned about.

"Our number one priority really is to provide a safe workplace for our guys and at the moment that's a pretty difficult thing to do when these sorts of things are happening."

Mr Stephenson said Ambulance Victoria has a close relationship with police who regularly helped paramedics on duty.

However, he said, with more than 1,000 cases a day and half of them at night it would not be practical to have officers

escort paramedics to every job.

We, as retired Ambulance personnel, deplore these type of actions and offer our support to any and all our colleagues who have suffered from the now constant threats to their safety - something we never considered would happen. Certainly not in our time as Ambulance Officers. This is something we certainly did not have to endure..



Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Presidents Report | 2 |
| Seminar | 2 |
| Birthday Greetings | 2 |
| Maffra Station Redevelopment | 3 |
| Shirts, Caps & Badges | 3 |
| Regional Meeting Dates | 4 |
| District Reports | 4 |
| Caravan Club Report | 5 |
| The Back Page | 6 |



With the official opening of the new Museum imminent the committee and members of the society are still keen to hear from any member of our Association who may have any items of interest that can be added to the

increasing memorabilia. In particular the history of the various Stations around the state and Staff who took care of these and the general public.

Attendances at District Meetings

Our District Convenors request that all members wishing to attend meetings advise them of such attendance or unavailability. This includes meetings at Doncaster.

This is to ensure there is sufficient catering and seating allocations.



Former Ambulance Officers outside the very old Dandenong Station - Date unknown

Presidents Report

Here we are already into April and the year is flying by as usual. There have been a number of Regional meetings to date and talks with AV are continuing to be very productive regarding assistance offered to the Association.

On the 31st March talks were held with AV Acting CEO Tony Walker. Ian Donaldson, Darrell Rintoule and Ian Cameron met with Tony and were very pleased with the outcome of the meeting with talks centered on the areas of Welfare/ Peer support, Web site assistance, logos, T shirts and Association

budgets. It has been suggested these types of meetings could take place quarterly.

We will have more information to pass on at the next General meeting in Melbourne and the future Regional meetings. If any members need clarification of information please feel free to contact executive members at any time.

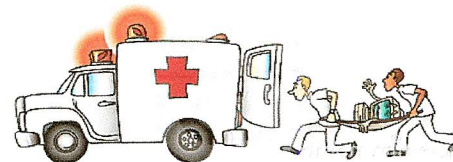
Ray Loughheed

President RAAV Inc.

New Website

Thanks to the assistance of Timothy Price at Ambulance Victoria RAAV now has a new very interactive web site that all members and non members can peruse. Simply type in www.retiredambulancevictoria.org.au and have a look at the site. While there is still work to be done we would like your feedback as to the operation of the site and the information available.

Ray Loughheed



Australian Resuscitation Council Inc. Invite to RAAV & Historical Society

The Australian Resuscitation Council (Victorian Branch) sixth State Conference will be held at the AMREP Education

Centre, Alfred Hospital Prahran on Saturday June 4

The Victorian conference is targeted to the full range of emergency health care workers -from volunteer first responders

to the specialist resuscitation and emergency care professional. Past conference attendees have included first aid training

providers, paramedics, nurses and emergency / critical care physicians.

The theme for this year's conference is '2016 - What Do We Know', reflecting the updated knowledge from the 2015

International Consensus Statements (ILCOR -CoSTR 2015) and the 2016 Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines

update released on January 13

Topics include:

- Basic Life Support and Adult Life Support guideline changes,
- Education and Resuscitation guidelines
- Paediatric Life Support, and

- First Aid guidelines.

This is the first time that first aid has been included in the international consensus statement process.

The conference will include the controversy regarding cervical collar use. There will also be presentations of recently

published local research on choking management and airway management for drowning victims, both funded by past

research grants from our Victorian Branch of ARC.

Our Association and the Historical Society will be providing a stand at this conference and we hope to gain a better insight into the modern techniques that may be of interest to us.

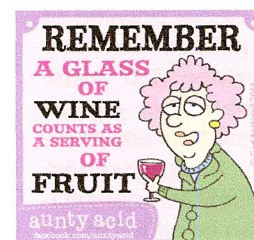
We will also be providing information directly to all delegates about both the Association and the Historical Society.

Birthday Greetings

We trust the following Members who had a birthday in April managed to have an enjoyable day with Family and Friends.

Bob Curzon-Siggers 5th
Peter Croker 5th
Ian Cameron 7th
Keith Lloyd 12th
Frank Bonser 12th
Ron Jacobs 13th
Glen Robertson 13th
Ted Mawby 14th

Peter Moroney 15th
Allan Jackson 16th
Neil Barrett 17th
Neale Johnson 19th
Gregory Taylor 19th
Marilyn Raft 20th
John Allen 22nd
Jim Osmotherly 26th
Bob Gosden 28th
Frank Abela 30th



New Maffra Ambulance Branch Opened

The new 24 hour Maffra Ambulance Branch was officially opened on Wednesday April 20

It coincided with a community open day which included tours of the branch, a meet and greet with paramedics and CPR demonstrations.

The branch was funded by the former Coalition Government and Ambulance Victoria.

The branch houses sixteen paramedics and includes a mix of advanced life support paramedics and intensive care paramedics.

Member for Gippsland East Tim Bull says the facility is a great use of taxpayers' funds to support such an important emergency service.

"The new station has been the final

component of improving services and I am pleased that during our term in office we were able to provide more paramedics to Maffra."

Maffra Ambulance Station Team Manager and Mica Paramedic John Foley says all staff were delighted with the final result and the design of the facility.

Member for East Gippsland, Tim Bull and Team Manager John Foley



Maffra now boasts a 24- hour ambulance station

MAFFRA'S ambulance service has become a 24-hour multi-officer station after receiving six new paramedics since the second half of last year.

Maffra ambulance service acting team manager Sandra Tozer said the changes should improve services in the region, reducing response times in the immediate area.

She said the addition of six new staff

would mean "24 hours a day you will get a two-person response paramedic".

Three ambulances operate out of the Maffra depot, their normal 24-hour response vehicle, a special Complex Patient Ambulance Vehicle, referred to as a CPAV, and a 'city sprinter' ambulance with four-wheel drive capability.

The CPAV is the depot's pride and

joy, according to Ms Tozer.

While it is stationed at Maffra permanently, it has been used to respond to patients in Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance and Traralgon.



Shirts, Caps & Badges

We currently have a full range of shirts in sizes from small to 5XL.

Our caps are one size fits all.

Please support us by making a purchase of a shirt or cap or both. We will send them through the normal postage system or you may order them to be brought to a meeting in which ever area you reside.

Shirts are \$25.00 each & Caps \$15.00

Car Badges are \$2.00 each and are either inside looking out or outside looking out.

Lapel Badges \$5.00 each

Bumper Stickers \$2.00 each

All orders are to be placed through Dennis Meek either via

Mobile : 0409 071 192 or



Email: dennis.meek@bigpond.com

Alternatively orders can be given to any Committee Member and these will be processed as soon as possible.

South West District Report

The 1st meeting for the year started at the HEMS4 helicopter at the Warrnambool Airport at 1030hrs and was attended by 9 members from the SW, 2 members from Ballarat and 2 from Melbourne with 7 apologies. A number of partners also attended at the Airport.

The crew at HEMS4 were very obliging and informative and explained in depth the operations of the service. Members were also shown all the ambulance equipment and were given a close up view of the internal workings of the helicopter.

The visit to HEMS4 was organised many months ago but, in the meantime,

SW member Peter Cassady had a very serious heart attack in which he arrested 6 times. He was able to attend the meeting to thank the HEMS4 crew for his quick flight to Geelong which was instrumental in his recovery.

After the visit to HEMS4 all members moved to the Flying Horse Inn in Warrnambool for lunch. 19 attended the lunch to hear of the latest news from the State executive.

The next meeting in the SW will be on the 27th June.

Ray Loughheed

SW Convenor.

Ballarat & Central
West Members
Lunch 2nd March



Gippsland District

Thursday 25th February saw our Gippsland Members gather at the Morwell Club for lunch and meeting. 7 Members attended with 3 guests. There were 6 apologies for the day. During the lunch there was the usual chatter and discussion associated with the establishment of the Caravan Club with many members showing interest to join in. All enjoyed the lunch and chance to relate many stories from and about each other

Neil Hall - Co-Ordinator

North West Victoria

Mildura RSL Bistro hosted our North West members on Thursday 17th March. 6 Members and 1 guest received 3 members of our Caravan Group along with Secretary, Ian.

The informal nature of the lunch made for great conversation and the rekindling of old friendships.. New Member Alan Cooksley has raised his hand to be the Co-ordinator for our Members in the North West - Thanks Alan

North East Victoria

Saturday 9th April welcomed a large number of our North East Members to our lunch meeting at the Benalla Bowls Club.

As always there was the exchange of greetings from those of us that we hadn't seen for some time as well as greeting a few new faces and reviving old friendships.

An enjoyable day was had by all.

Jim Osmotherly - Co-ordinator

Birthday Greetings to our May, June & July Members

May Birthdays

George Jackson 2nd
Roger Street 2nd
Denis Rowe 6th
Peter Cain 7th
Garry Cassells 8th
Bruce Westerland 8th
Allan Oakes 10th
Stephen Nangle 14th
Bob Boucher 14th
Graham Mant-Old 14th
Don Pollard 15th
Darryl Wells 16th
Eric Edwards 18th
Ron Hartley 20th

Robert Reeves 20th
Max Beeson 21st
Bryce Lindermann 21st
Brian Phipps 24th
Dave Talbot 25th
Norman Burville 28th
Michael Wilson 28th
Peter Donovan 31st
Alan McNie 31st

June Birthdays

Graham Carpenter 3th
John I'anson 8th
Alan Neocho 10th
John Jukes 14th

Robert Adams 16th
James Mason 19th
Alan Cooksley 21st
Clive Wawn 23rd
Ian Mc Pherson 24th
Evelyn Sherlock 24th
Bill Van Den Akker 24th
Bob Gilmour 25th
Leslie John 25th
Terry Courtney 26th
Brian Scully 26th
Ian Rowed 28th
Brian Beckwith 28th
Gerry Van Hees 29th

July Birthdays

Thomas Chapman 7th
Allan Hadden 7th
Rob Phillips 7th
Michael Higgins 10th
Jock Purves 12th
Phillip Worboys 12th
David Skinner 16th
Ted VanDyken 16th
Paul Malone 17th
Peter Watson 21st
Ray Churches 22nd
Peter Leek 22nd
Neil Carolin 25th

Darryl Tinker 25th
Peter O'Meara 28th
Colin Arscot 31st



South West Members at the Ansett Museum

Ballarat & Central West

On the 2nd of March our Ballarat & Central West members gathered at the Ballarat Golf Club Bistro for lunch and a social catchup.

With 8 members and 4 guests in attendance we all enjoyed a day of reminiscing and renewed contact with our former colleagues. We were honoured to have George & Joy Prolongue as guests and after a chat and providing him an insight into our Association George agreed to become a member. At 99 years young he is our oldest member.

It is with regret that Joy Mayhew has

stood down as Co-ordinator, we are now asking all members in the District to consider the role into the future.

Sick List

We wish all Members who are not of the best of health at present, particularly

Brian Shott
Drew Haldane
Les John
Peter Cassady

Our Oldest Member -
George Prolongue with
his wife Joy, Peter Skinner
and Secretary Ian



Our first Caravan Adventure Report

Tuesday 15th March saw 3 Caravans gather at Brim Caravan Park for the evening. After the formal introductions and a getting to know you drink the group settled in for a pleasant evening. The next morning we headed off for Mildura and following a few stops for refreshments and "watering stops" we arrived in Mildura mid afternoon. Having chosen the Buronga Tourist Caravan Park for our stay we again settled in

and enjoyed the afternoon with drinks and nibbles.

Thursday saw us combine with our North West Members at the Mildura RSL for lunch and this made for a great chance to meet and greet each other.

During the evening we hosted some members from Mildura and enjoyed a very pleasant time together.

Friday morning some commenced the

return to their home base and we are convinced that the trip was well worth while and look forward to the next trip.



"I THOUGHT YOU SAID IT WAS CHILD'S PLAY REVERSING A CARAVAN!"

Regional Meeting Dates

Our next round of Regional Meetings are as follows

Geelong & Surf Coast on Wednesday
18th May commencing at 12noon -
Geelong RSL Belmont

Gippsland Region - Wednesday 26th
May 12noon at Morwell Club

Ballarat & Central West - Wednesday 1st
June 12noon Venue TBA

Metro (Melbourne) Wednesday 8th
June -10.30am at Doncaster AV Head-
quarters.

South West Victoria - Monday 27th June
10.30am at Warrnambool Venue TBA

North West Victoria - Tuesday 12th July
- 12noon Mildura RSL

North East Victoria - Saturday 30th July
12noon at Benalla Bowls Club.

New Members

We welcome the following new Members

Andrew Wilson - Cairnlea
Glenn Robertson - Edenhope
George Prolongue - Sabastopol
William Sleep - Ballarat AEast
Phillip Worboys - Botanic Ridge
Frank Abela - Traralgon
Alan White - Warrigal
Les Wood - Vermont South
Lawrence Timpson - Terang
Stephen Hutchins - Sunbury

Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria



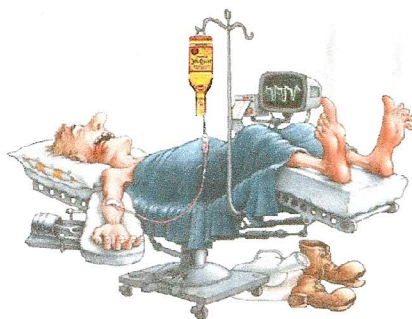
All Correspondence to:
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www.retiredambulacevictoria.org.au

Facebook: Retired Ambulance
Association of Victoria Inc.

Plan G - Nursing Home Plan



Say you are an older senior citizen and can no longer take care of yourself and the government says there is no Nursing Home care available for you. So, what do you do? You opt for "Medicare Plan G".

The plan gives anyone 75 or older a gun (Plan G) and one bullet. You are allowed to shoot one worthless politician. This means you will be sent to

prison for the rest of your life where you will receive three meals a day, a roof over your head, central heating and air conditioning, cable TV, a library, and all the Health Care you need. Need new teeth? No problem. Need glasses? That's great. Need a hearing aid, new hip, knees, kidney, lungs, sex change, or heart? They are all covered!

As an added bonus, your kids can come and visit you at least as often as they do now! And, who will be paying for all of this? The same government that just told you they can't afford for you to go into a nursing home. And you will get rid of a useless politician while you are at it. And now, because you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any more income taxes!

The Back Page

A bookie was at the races playing the ponies and losing his shirt. He noticed a Priest step out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4th race.

Lo and behold, that horse - a long shot - won the race.

Next race, as the horses lined up, the Priest stepped onto the track. Sure enough, he blessed one of the horses.

The bookie made a beeline for a betting window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though it was another long shot, the horse won the race.

He collected his winnings, and anxiously waited to see which horse the Priest would bless next. He bet big on it, and it won. As the races continued the Priest kept blessing horses, and each one ended up winning. The bookie was elated. He made a quick dash to the ATM, withdrew all his savings, and awaited for the Priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to bet on ...

True to his pattern, the Priest stepped onto the track for the last race and blessed the forehead of an old nag that was 100/1.

This time the priest blessed the eyes, ears, and hooves of the old nag. The bookie knew he had a winner and bet every cent he owned on the old nag.

He watched dumbfounded as the old nag pulled up and couldn't even finish the race. In a state of shock, he went to the track area where the Priest was.

Confronting him, he demanded, 'Father! What happened? All day long you blessed horses and they all won. Then in the last race, the horse you blessed never even had a chance. Now, thanks to you I've lost every cent of my savings! The Priest nodded wisely and with sympathy. "You're not Catholic are you my son?" "No, I'm Jewish".

"That's the problem", said the Priest, "you couldn't tell the difference between a blessing and last rites".



Members of our North East District at lunch in Benalla

Committee: of Management

President: Ray Lougheed
Vice President: Ian Donaldson
Secretary: Ian Cameron
Treasurer: Darrell Rintoule
Committee Members:

Bill McKnight
Ron Jacobs
Peter Leek
Dennis Meek