



# *Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria Inc*

All Correspondence to:  
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## **Welcome to the May 2012 Edition of our Newsletter.**

The past few months have been very busy for members of the Committee with a number of projects starting to come to fruition, The first being the Funeral Plan questionnaire which has been received very well and I encourage all members to consider the options so raise and to fill in the form and return it if you have not done so yet.

### **Web Site**

Our proposed web site has suffered a slight set back due to the chosen internet provider not being able to deliver the requirements asked for, and we have now changed providers with the hope of having the site up and running very soon.

### **For Your Consideration**

Along with this newsletter we have included a survey in reference to meeting timing and days for next year, please fill in the survey and return as soon as possible.

### **Records Update**

Considerable progress has been made in updating and computerising all our records and this task is now nearing completion with only minor changes to finalise and any updates to be entered into the system.

### **Comments from the Last Meeting**

Our last meeting in March, held at The Port of Melbourne Training Complex, was not very well attended. This could have been due, in part, to us not realising that our chosen day was the one before the Labour Day Long weekend, or to it being a little difficult for some members to get to. However it is a well set up function facility and the Members of the Emergency Management Team did us proud with their presentation and display of the equipment now available to them. Some of the equipment we did not see was the Mobile Hospital which was in use in the Goulburn Valley flood area at that time. We intend to try and gain their services in the future to give more members a chance of seeing this exceptional equipment. During the meeting we welcomed Howard Smith to his first meeting and we welcomed back a couple of faces we have not seen for a while. We look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting.

## **The Sick List and Those Who Have Left Us**

Wally Ross appears to be the only one still on the sick list; there are no reports of members passing away, although we were saddened to learn of the sudden and untimely passing of Ron McLeod a serving Officer in Metropolitan Region in February, along with another former Officer in Kelvin Ford also in February. Our condolences go out to both their families.

## **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be returning to our usual venue at AV Headquarters Doncaster on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> June commencing at 10.30am. The selected guest speaker is Mr Alan Gray from Puffing Billy Railway. Please advise Ian Cameron of your impending attendance or no before Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June either by Tel: 03 8503 7745 or email: [i.cameron@y7mail.com](mailto:i.cameron@y7mail.com)

## **Our Funeral Benefits Plan**

You have all seen the various ads on TV about funerals and their impact on families and friends when there is no direction as to the needs of the dearly departed. We, through discussion with Ambulance Victoria, have come up with our own plan of needs as to what we suggest the Association to do for our Funeral. A few weeks ago we sent out a Benefits Plan, please fill in the form and return it as soon as possible or bring it with you to the next meeting.

## **Interstate Contacts**

We have been very busy over the summer period in redefining the needs of and contacts with our interstate sister organisations. We are happy to report that the Retired Associations of New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia have been contacted and are fully supportive in maintaining an ongoing relationship of contact and sharing for the continued benefit of our members. Along with this we are providing them with our Service publications and newsletters whilst they are doing the same. If any member wishes to become involved with this program of share and share alike, please contact Secretary Ian for details.

## **Regional Contacts**

With the ever increasing membership from our regional areas contact has been made with all Group Managers for their support in identifying areas of need that we may be able to provide and the encouragement of retiring members to join our ranks. To this end we have been afforded the assistance of some of our members who are looking to establish area meetings in the major centres of Victoria. Our Secretary has travelled to some of these areas this year and will be visiting more over the coming months.

## THE STORK



*The teacher was telling the kids about the birds and the bees and she explained that when a man and a woman meet and fall in love, nine months later the stork usually brings them a little baby from its nest.*

*Little Gemma at the back of the class put her hand up and asks the teacher, are you sure about the stork, miss? I think you're getting your birds mixed up 'cos my big sister just got a little baby and she said it was from a shag at the beach..!!!*

## **New Members**

We welcome five new members to our ranks - Ms. Evelyn Sherlock from Kilmore, Mr Bernie Morellini Sth Australia, Mrs. Alison Campbell Montmorency, Mr. Bob Beggs, Cobram and Mr. Barry Schurmann, Hamilton. We are looking forward to seeing our new members at a meeting in the near future.

## **Guest Speakers**

As usual we are always interested in locating guest speakers who may be able to provide us with interesting and exciting topics. If you know of someone who may fill these criteria, please contact Secretary Ian with the details.



## **Survey**

Don't forget to fill in our survey on the proposed meeting dates /times for next year and send it to Ian or bring it with you to the meeting

## **Service Magazines**

Ambulance Victoria distributes copies of their magazines AV and Perspective to our members. If any member is not receiving these publications please advise Ian Cameron. Both magazines are published on a 3 monthly basis. Please remember it can take 4 or 5 months for these to be sent out after you join the Association

## **Don't Forget**

The meeting at AV Headquarters, Doncaster on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> June commencing at 10.30am.