



## 2/2 Field Regiment Association Inc.

### 2022-23 Annual Report to Members

It is with pleasure I present my second annual report to Members of the activities of the 2/2 Field Regiment Association for 2022-23.

Firstly, I must acknowledge the sudden passing last November of our last known surviving member **Bill Rowe** who was a regular at ANZAC Day and our AGM/Annual luncheon and was in fine fettle this time last year. Bill's passing came as quite a shock even with his advanced age. It was always a pleasure to sit and chat with him about his beloved family and the AFL Bulldogs. RIP Bill.

Your committee has continued to solidly represent the Association where applicable and uphold our Mission Statement of "*...to Preserve, Study and in particular Promote the History of the 2/2 Field Regiment as part of Australian Military Heritage*".

The committee is committed to and has continued to work to our 5 year strategic plan (1922-27) with some projects either completed or nearing completion.

The Association has delivered on becoming an;

- Incorporated Body
- Has obtained an ABN Number
- Finalised the "Dargie" Brallos Pass artwork to the AWM
- Produced a Virtual Honour board
- Developed proformas for Serviceman's Profiles
- Met with The Shrine representative to begin negotiations of having the Dargie paintings displayed at The Shrine with 2/2 FRA assisting.
- Developed a new web page for the 2/2 Field Regiment Association.

The Committee has carefully considered and taken the initiative in reducing the cost of the Annual Luncheon and heavily subsidised today. We ask that everyone here today makes an effort to reintroduce another family member for next year in an effort to increase numbers.

The ANZAC Day march this year was very successful with 39 descendants (2 families made their first pilgrimage from NSW to march) marching with several supporters cheering along the route to The Shrine.

For the first time in many, many years the Association met for lunch following the march for a wonderful afternoon of catching up with old friends and making welcome new members for the first time (there was no 2-up though!). We have already rebooked the hotel for next year and would welcome you attending.

Back to the subject of our meeting with The Shrine and a possibly display, it would assist The Shrine if anyone has memorabilia they would be willing to add either as a loan or permanent donation to The Shrine. It would be catalogued and well cared for whilst in their possession. Let either Terry Cole or myself know if you have anything that could be used.

The 2/2 Field Regiment was formed on 13 October 1939 with the first **"ACTION FRONT"** produced in January 1940 at Puckapunyal, The Editor is always looking for material that may be of interest to us all. As a background, Action Front was I believe the first Regiment newsletter produced and has been continually produced since, certainly a record we should be proud of. We are in the process of scanning every issue we have in our possession and these will be available on our new website soon. **If anyone has the full set we would like to borrow them to ensure we have them all, they will be scanned and returned to you and will be well looked after.**

Available today is the proforma for you to take away and fill in re your father, grandfather's Service history which we would like to use as a regular feature in Action Front, we hope you can help.

I would like to acknowledge the work done by my son Lee in developing the new 2/2 Field Regiment Association webpage which is nearing launch date, also to Dale Munckton of **ACE Communications** for his help in assisting Lee. There have been hundreds of hours involved in getting to this point.

A key platform we are pursuing is sponsorship of the Association where businesses can place an advertisement for a fee or kind on the webpage. If you have a business that would like to sponsor the Association we would be pleased to meet with you to discuss. ACTION FRONT used to carry ads of member's businesses right back as far as 1947! The sponsorship money received would in part be used to reintroduce scholarships for Veterans descendants and perhaps a kindred Greek school for study/travel to study, learn and promote the 2/2 Regiments campaigns overseas during WW11.

The Association has actively been involved in all the Greek commemorative days held at the Hellenic Memorial and The Shrine and laid a wreath at each event.

I would finally like to acknowledge the Committee members for their commitment and diligence in continually promoting the 2/2 Field Regiment and the Association at every opportunity.

In closing I thank you all for your continued support of the Association and wish you well for the year ahead. Please encourage a family member to also become involved.

Kindest regards

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