



2/2 Field Regiment Association Inc.

2023-24 Annual Report to Members

It is with pleasure I present my third annual report to Members of the activities of the 2/2 Field Regiment Association for 2023-24. (Printed in latest edition of ACTION FRONT).

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 (2022-27) with more projects either completed or nearing completion.

The Committee has carefully considered and taken the initiative in reducing the cost of the Annual Luncheon and has again 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.

On ANZAC eve Historian Terry Cole and myself represented the Association at Oakleigh Grammar School's ANZAC Day commemoration. Terry presented an outstanding speech to 700 attentive students and staff re the 2/2 Field Regiment's commitment to the Greek and Crete campaigns. Terry then presented the Principal with a 2/2 Plaque with the “Banner bearers” for our standard receiving pens and lanyards as a token of thanks.

The school's welcome and presentation was outstanding and left a lasting impression on both Terry and myself.

The ANZAC Day march this year was very successful with 30+ descendants marching with several supporters cheering along the route to The Shrine.

For the second time in as 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.

Following on from my report last year re The Shrine and a possibly display (further meetings see this project coming to fruition), 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 are available on our new website as scanned. **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. In**

particular the editions of the 1950-60's we do not have and keenly seek to scan and preserve.

On the ACTION FRONT, we welcome **Ms Sarah Jaboor** to the role of Editor (this being her first official edition). Sarah has taken over the role from her brother David who has held the position for the past 8 years. David has reluctantly stood aside from the role due to his continued studies, a growing young family and new homeowner.

We sincerely thank David for his long association as Editor of Action Front and his initiatives during that time, I am confident Sarah will add her touch to the role and leave her mark as the new standard. (See separate article in ACTION FRONT).

Available today is the proforma for you to take away and fill in re your father, grandfather, relative's Service history which we would like to use as a regular feature in Action Front, we hope you can help. There are 2 profiles to read in the latest Action Front

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

We would also encourage some new younger committee members to bring some fresh eyes to the Association. Please consider putting your hand up if you have some spare time and looking to become involved, you will be made most welcome.

FINALLY, I am making an impassioned plea for more descendants to become involved in our Association even it is just the AGM & Annual Luncheon. With the work that has been put in over the past couple of years it would be devastating to see the 2/2 Field Regiment Association go the way of other associations and just die!!!! The 2/2 is one of the last surviving and we are better than that and for the minimum of ½ day a year we seek your support, more if you can afford a bit of your time. We are strong at present but we are all aging and we need to be pro-active and get more involved!

In closing I thank you all for your continued support of the Association and wish you well for the year ahead.

Kindest regards

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