



Volume 30 | Issue 3 | Spring 2022

# TPI *News*



*Our thoughts are with Her Majesty The Queen and her family at this time. Elizabeth II, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of her other realms and territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, rest in peace. Long live the King.*

Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Service Men and Women

*Disabled in our Service – United in our Cause*

171 Richmond Road, Richmond SA 5033 | Tel (08) 8351 8140 | Fax (08) 8351 7781



## Departed Comrades

At the going down of the Sun we will remember them.

**VALE-LEST WE FORGET**

"I tell you they have not died,  
They live and breathe with you,  
They walk here now at your side,  
They tell you things that are true."

### ARMY

R. Pert, R. Potiuch, J. Keefe, M. Tilley,  
B.R. Woof, P.J. Vort-Ronald,  
G.S. Bridgeland, D.W. Kerslake, X. Quain,  
R.A. Cameron, J.H. Thurgood,  
G.A. Howell, G.R. Campbell, G.H. Ansell

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Patron

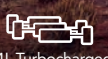
His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO  
GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## ALL-NEW SUBARU OUTBACK ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

*Turbocharged*



Symmetrical AWD



2.4L Turbocharged  
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Capacity<sup>2</sup>



11.6" Touchscreen

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### turbocharge your next adventure

Subaru's most technologically advanced SUV is set to supercharge your adventures. Introducing the all-new Subaru Outback AWD Sport XT and Outback AWD Touring XT boasting a new 2.4-litre turbocharged horizontally-opposed Boxer engine. Pushing out more power and torque, the turbocharged Boxer engine boasts an impressive braked towing capacity of up to 2,400kg<sup>2</sup>.

Pre-order Subaru's flagship SUV now and discover more power to explore.



Contact us at Jarvis Subaru.

190 West Terrace, Adelaide | 50-52 Murray Street, Tanunda

Call us today on 1300 13 77 33

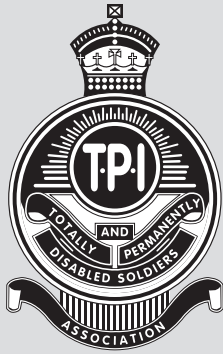
Jarvis  
Subaru



1. Subaru Outback AWD Sport XT and Outback AWD Touring XT feature a 2.4-litre turbocharged Boxer engine. 2. Towing capacity is subject to regulatory requirements, tow bar and vehicle design and towing equipment limitations. If the towing mass is greater than 2,000kg, an Electric Brake Controller must be fitted and is only capable of towing a trailer with a maximum of 2 axles. Requires fitment of optional tow bar accessory. Refer to Owner's Manual for towing instructions.

MVD 195878





## ***TPI Management Committee***

### ***Executive Members***

#### ***President***

*Brett Grosser*

#### ***Vice Presidents***

*Gary Pope*

*John F. Genovese RFD JP  
(Services)*

#### ***Secretary***

*Julie Conry*

#### ***Treasurer***

*Trevor Sampson*

### ***Committee Members***

*Kym Hogan  
(Deputy Secretary)*

*TBA  
(Deputy Treasurer)*

*Ray Vadeikis  
(House Manager)*

*Mick Curry OAM  
(Hospital/Welfare)*

*Tony Mogridge  
(Office Volunteer)*

*Mark Thompson  
(Office Volunteer)*

*Rod Pope  
(Bar Manager)*

*Gary White  
(Library/Memorabilia)*



*TPI Office  
(08) 8351 8140*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*by Brett Grosser*



Dear Members,

Welcome to spring and the promise of warmer weather. We have had a productive couple of months over the traditionally quieter winter period for the Association.

I attended the Veterans Health advisor Committee run by SA Health in August. The primary issues discussed included the continued difficulty our welfare team are having accessing patient information at a couple of sites in Adelaide and the ongoing management of the wellbeing centre at the Repat. The wellbeing centre has a draft governance plan but is hamstrung by a lack of recurrent funding, once again a great facility has been built with no allowance for ongoing funding.

It is that time in our management cycle for elections to our management committee. If you wish to nominate for any of the positions please email [office@tpi-sa.com.au](mailto:office@tpi-sa.com.au) for a nomination form. The nomination form can also be picked up at the counter in TPI house. Once completed please return the nomination form to Rudi Boss at TPI House. Nominations need to be received by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. More information is at page 15.

I attended the Federation Congress in September on your behalf. The congress spanned two full days in Canberra and was productive. The bad blood that seemed to dominate discussion has largely been settled and good progress was made on reshaping and re-evaluating our collective priorities moving forward. Of note, the Federation President has negotiated with a regional Victorian TPI Association based in Geelong and they have now joined as the Victoria representatives. This effectively makes us a truly national association once more. The Federation Presidents report is contained in the magazine for your information.

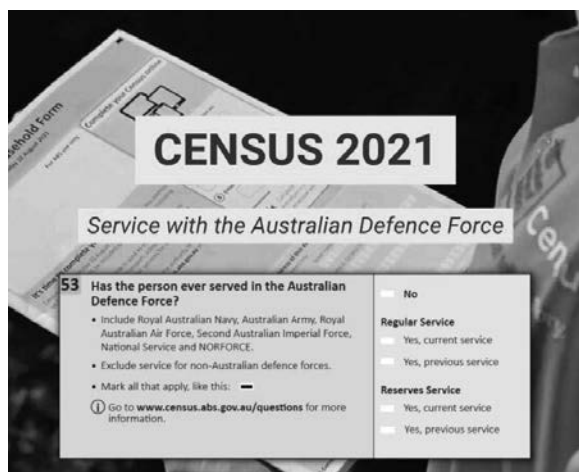
If we are to be a successful Association and transition successfully to the next generation of Veterans we need to look in at our Association and bring back those services that assist younger and older veterans alike. The first step in this process has been to re-enliven our web and social media presence and our membership database. This is now coming to completion and will go live in October. One of the tools we will have is a mobile phone App that all of our members will be able to download and interact with. From messaging, updates on happenings, changing your personal information and membership renewal will all be able to occur through this App. Of course you don't need to download it if you do not wish and you will always be able to come in and do things as you always have been able to, but the option will be there.

Out.

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# Census 2021 - Veterans



The 2021 Census was the first to ask questions relating to service in the Australian Defence Force. The question asked whether the respondent is currently serving, or has previously served in the Defence Force, and the type or types of service. The Census question captures the various forms Defence Force service can occur – both regular and reserve and the different combinations thereof. The first tranche of 2021 Census data was released on 28 June 2022. Further tranches of data will continue to be released into 2023.

In the initial release, the data was generalised to:

- currently serving in the regular service,
- currently serving in the reserve service,
- not currently serving (but previously served in either regular or reserve), and
- have never served.

The data released focuses on:

- Household composition, housing, high-school education, and household income
- Age and sex, long-term health conditions, location, indigenous status, assistance requirements.

[Download the data tables as Excel spreadsheets from the ABS website.](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/service-australian-defence-force-census/2021)

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/service-australian-defence-force-census/2021>

Much of the initial media coverage has been on the numbers and locations of veterans, with some interesting 'big-hands' statistics:

- 581,139 Australians reported that they have served or are currently serving in the ADF
- 60,286 currently serving regular members
- 24,581 currently serving reserve members
- 496,276 former members (regular and reserve)
- Queensland has the most people who reported that they have served, at 163,112
- New South Wales has the most currently serving regulars, at 18,007, and reservists, at 6,506.

You can read the [Department of Veterans' Affairs summary here.](https://www.dva.gov.au/newsroom/latest-news-veterans/census-reveals-nearly-600000-veterans-australia)

<https://www.dva.gov.au/newsroom/latest-news-veterans/census-reveals-nearly-600000-veterans-australia>

While these statistics are interesting, the Census data provides a treasure trove of information about the veteran population, which will inform veteran policy development into the future.

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# TPI Noticeboard

## New Members

### **ARMY**

**M.J. Mavromatis, S. Nuttall-Jones, S. Bridson, H.J. Griffiths , D. Harvey,  
W.W. Jefferson, M.J. Ross**

### **NAVY**

**D.B. Heron, C.J. Pitman,**

### **RAAF**

**M. Whittaker, A.R. Muir, M. Hushen**

# JARVIS

## \$500 Discount\* on New & Used Cars for TPI Members.

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SAVINGS  
FOR TPI  
MEMBERS**

Now there's even more choice for TPI Members at Jarvis. Choose from the new range of Ford, Toyota, Subaru, Suzuki, Isuzu Ute, Škoda, Peugeot or Citroën, or select from over 400 quality used vehicles across a huge range of makes and models.

**Remember, every Jarvis vehicle comes with the very special TPI Member \$500 discount.**

Jarvis has been helping TPI Members for many years, our staff are familiar with all the necessary procedures to make your next purchase a pleasant one. Bring your Driver's Licence, Gold Card and current registration papers and let us do the rest.

In addition to your TPI Member discount, with every used vehicle purchase you will receive:

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- ✓ 3 Year Fixed Price Service

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LMVD 169915  
[jarvistoyota.com.au](http://jarvistoyota.com.au)

**OH WHAT A FEELING**

<sup>^</sup>Driver assist feature. Only operates under certain conditions. Check your Owner's Manual for explanation of limitations. Please drive safely.



The Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen & Women Ltd  
(Incorporated in the ACT)

## **TPI FEDERATION AUSTRALIA**

*"Disabled in our Service - United in our Cause"*



# **Federation President's Report**

**September 2022**

Now that the Government is back at work the TPI Federation has managed appointments with a number of politicians.

Over the two-week period of the first sitting of the 47<sup>th</sup> Parliament, and in the order in which the appointments were conducted, the TPI Federation met with, Brian Mitchell MP (Tas), Senator Jacqui Lambie (Tas), Senator Jim Molan (NSW), Nola Marino MP (WA), David Smith MP (ACT), Gavin Pearce MP (Tas), Luke Gosling MP (NT), Phil Thompson MP (Qld), Barnaby Joyce MP (NSW), Keith Wolahan MP (Vic) plus 2 other appointments with the DVA Minister's Advisor and Chief of Staff. The TPI Federation thanks all these Members and Senators for making the time for us to introduce ourselves to you, and to hear the issues of TPI/SRs in the hope of garnering support for all.

The enthusiasm of some, especially Senator Lambie, Gavin Pearce MP and Phil Thompson MP was pleasing to see and it is hoped that we can continue this positivity into the future. Unfortunately, the one-hour appointment with our new Minister was reduced to fifteen minutes due to other commitments that he had. The follow-up appointments with his staff were appreciated. It is hoped that he can allocate time for a subsequent appointment at our Congress and/or during the next sitting session in September.

It should be noted that some of the newer politicians will have much to learn as they settle into their new surroundings, so it will take time to fully appraise them of the needs of our community. Our new DVA Opposition Minister, Barnaby Joyce MP, was very interested and will be approached again to reinforce our concerns and alert him to the needs of the TPI/SR community over the next few months.

### **Legislation**

The new Government met for the first time in Canberra on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and quickly tabled a number of pieces of legislation.

*The Defence, Veterans' and Families Acute Support Package Bill 2022 has now been tabled. This Bill "provides more vulnerable veterans and their families with more flexible support through the Defence, Veterans' and Families' Acute Support Package, extending to a wider eligible group the levels of financial support available through the current Family Support Package.*

*The measures in this Bill will increase access to support when it is needed most. It will ensure support is provided on the basis of need rather than service type, supporting vulnerable veterans and their families to adjust to challenging life circumstances."*

This Bill one of the results of the report from the Productivity Commission's "A Better Way to Support Veterans" Report tabled in June 2019. The Bill was specifically designed to provide supports to the family unit as a whole, rather than specifically to the veteran. This is the first Bill that encompasses all 3 DVA Compensation Acts for all Veterans and their families. That is, except if you are over 65 years of age.

The combined efforts of the Australian War Widows, the Partners of Veterans and the TPI Federation wrote to, and lobbied, the Government, and the new Minister, Matt Keogh MP, to have the six instances of the words "under 65" removed from the legislation. This discrimination of the older generation of Veterans and their families, who also may have a need for emergency crisis assistance, does not encompass the entire Veteran Community as it was alleged that this Bill enabled.

***Continued on page 20***



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FROM THE MINISTER OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS...

The Hon Matt Keogh MP

## 75 years of Australian Peacekeeping



Australia's reputation as a global citizen will be commemorated tomorrow in Canberra with a service recognising the 75th anniversary of our involvement in peacekeeping operations to be broadcast live on the ABC.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Matt Keogh MP said more than 66,000 Australian men and women have served in more than 60 international peacekeeping operations since 1947, and tragically 16 have lost their lives while serving.

"In 1947, Australians were part of the first United Nations peacekeeping operation when military observers were deployed to the Netherlands East Indies (now Indonesia)," Minister Keogh said.

"Since that time, Australian peacekeepers have served in locations around the world, ranging from the Middle East to Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

"This commemoration is an opportunity for all Australians to honour the service and sacrifice of our military, police and civilian peacekeepers.

"I am pleased that the Australian Defence Force, the Australian Federal Police and civilian peacekeepers will all be part of tomorrow's service, recognising the diversity of Australia's participation in peacekeeping over the past 75 years."

The commemorative service will take place from 10.30am at the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial on Anzac Parade in Canberra, and will be broadcast live on the ABC.

"I encourage everyone to take a moment to watch the service tomorrow, either on the ABC or if you are in Canberra come along to Anzac Parade," Minister Keogh said.

"We should all take this time to recognise the service and sacrifice of our fellow Australians who served as peacekeepers, and ensure that their dedication to service and commitment to improving people's lives in places where war and conflict have taken place is always remembered."

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# Welfare & Hospital Report...

By Mick Curry



## TRANSPORT/ FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

We have a significant number of older people in our ranks and not all are computer literate. DVA, like many organisations, are increasing the availability of on-line functions to manage our lives. Rather than making life easy, this can impose difficulties. Fortunately, DVA still provide options, but many of these are not well known. Such is the case for transport.

DVA provide transport assistance for Gold and White card holders travelling to receive treatment within Australia. White card limitations re accepted conditions apply.

Assistance can be in the form of reimbursement for transport by your own arrangements (including use of private transport) or by using the "Booked car with driver" through DVA.

### DVA arranged travel.

Some members are unable to easily arrange their own transport and for others, specific matters may make use of personal arrangements impractical. No matter! Making a booking for transport is easy. Yes! You talk to someone in Brisbane, but the system works and you get well-organised transport services. Mention your assistance dog if you have one.

The number to use is **1800 550 455** between 0800 and 1700 (local time).

Your health provider may be registered with DVA and be able to order transport for you. **ASK!** Otherwise, your authorised representative, health provider or medically required attendant can call DVA to make a booking on your behalf.

Travel after hours or on weekends, must be arranged with DVA during office hours. You will be given booking details, contact numbers and instructions when making the booking. However, if it is after hours, you will need to pay and apply for reimbursement.

### Some important points for booked travel.

- Be ready at the booked time, be polite and cooperative. Ask the driver for help if needed.
- For the return trip, wait for the driver to find you – the first taxi to arrive may not be for you and using it could cause problems.
- Do NOT pay and do NOT sign for anything (*if the driver demands that you do; note the fare, take the driver's details, note the number of the taxi and tell the driver you will report his demand. The company has the contract. If the driver continues to make demands, sit still and get him to call his base or the police.*)
- The contract is for delivery to your destination and if needed, have assistance entering the premises. Don't agree to being dropped off nearby as a driver convenience.

### Reimbursement.

If you make your own arrangement for travel, you may apply for reimbursement by either completing form D0800 or by using your on-line MyService account. Claims must be submitted within 12 months of expenditure. Receipts for expenses over \$30 must be kept for at least 4 months. (D0800 can be downloaded from DVA site, else ring and request copy).

### Dental -payment procedures – SA Dental

As experienced recently by a member, SA Dental do not recognize DVA Gold Card for payment, but will accept DVA Pensioner Concession Card. Any top up fee will be limited to \$163.00. Basic work, X Rays etc are free. As we know, most private concerns accept Gold Card & **total** bill goes to DVA.!

**Problems?** Contact your Welfare Team. 0417843262

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## The TPI-SA Hospital Veteran Visitor Program

The Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex Service Men and Women's Association, South Australia (TPI-SA) is an association that provides support and assistance to ex-service men and women who have been totally and permanently incapacitated because of their service in the Australian Defence Force.

### What is this about?

Each week, this dedicated volunteer group spends valuable time with Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) related hospital patients as part of the TPI-SA Hospital Veteran Visiting Program.

Visitors work closely with hospital staff to identify veterans in need of company, conversation, support, and assistance. In many cases the veteran visitor program deals with clients who have suffered from their personal service experience or that of their partners (War Widows). The team member listens and works on their behalf with the hospital, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and often, their families to resolve any issues that may be worrying them.

The Veteran Visitor Program brings empathy and confidentiality. Importantly, the clients they meet get answers to their questions, which they value. Developing issues are entry into Aged Care & End of Life matters. Being veterans themselves, the people they visit in the hospital greet them as a friend and they greatly appreciate the fact that they are there to help. Cliché but true ....veterans like dealing with veterans.

It is not just about talk. It is about genuine ongoing follow-up & support with a personal health advocate.

See more details under Association Welfare Services

### How do I arrange a visit?

The hospital values the dedicated input of the Veteran Visitor Program as we work together for the well-being of our clients.

If you consent to a visit from TPI-SA, please speak with **hospital staff** who will happily coordinate a visit.

### You can also contact:

Mick Curry Ph - 08 8447 7171 / 0417 843 262

Email: [mcur3581@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mcur3581@bigpond.net.au)

Website: <https://www.tpi-sa.com.au> or the SA Health Veterans' Health Advocate - Darren Renshaw - Ph: 0449 766 778

Email: [Darren.Renshaw@sa.gov.au](mailto:Darren.Renshaw@sa.gov.au)

### Association welfare services

- The Association Welfare team's services for members & family include:
- Weekly Hospital Visitations to all Public, as well as Calvary & Flinders Private medical sites. Additionally, the Jamie Larcombe Veterans Mental health Centre.
- Visits to other Private Hospitals, Aged Care or Home situations on request
- Home/Family/Aged Care site visits
- Support with access to D.V.A. services, e.g., wellness support facilities in the home, viz ramps, walking frames, security equipment, home care, DVA provided transport, taxis, ambulance, accounts etc.
- Help with personal management, family help, viz partner, children, end of life issues such as DVA support, financial help & advice, Aged Care decisions, Legal support, Funeral Services, Department of Human Services help.
- As well, involvement of other Ex Service Organisations, such as Legacy, War Widows Guild, RSL Care, Partners of Veterans etc.
- We can also facilitate pension support using Pension Officers in other ESO's & for War Widows, Legacy in particular. Speak to us about this also.
- In the first instance, if you wish, please feel free to contact Mick Curry 84477171/0417843262 or email [mcur3581@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mcur3581@bigpond.net.au) for any help/guidance re. the above



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## **Veteran Certificate of Appreciation!**

If you're a veteran or a veteran's family member, you may be able to apply for a Certificate of Appreciation. These are issued as a national gesture of thanks for you or your families military service to our nation.

### **Who can apply:**

You can apply for a certificate if you are a veteran (who meets the eligibility criteria below) or a family member on behalf of a deceased eligible person.

### **What service qualifies?**

Certificates are issued for service with Australia's Defence Forces:

- in overseas wars, conflicts or peace operations during the specified dates in the application form; (these include but are not limited to border force; special operations;

Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, various peacekeeping operations, Middle East, Somalia, Australian service between 1945-1975 etc) and if you or a family member served on the home front during the Second World War.

### **Steps to apply :**

To apply for a Certificate of Appreciation you simply need to download and complete the application form and send your completed application form to your local federal member of Parliament.

The Application can be found at <https://www.dva.gov.au/.../default/files/dvaforms/d0755.pdf> and...

Your Local federal members can be found at [https://www.aph.gov.au/senators\\_and\\_members/members](https://www.aph.gov.au/senators_and_members/members)





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# TPI & VETERANS GOLF CLUB REPORT

By Kevin Simper



Eight members from left Steve Tanner, Peter McHugh, Gary Pope, Mike Sarson, Peter Burgan, Kevin Simper, Liam Ibbetson, Peter Murphy, took part in the Legacy Golf day at Grange, while only winning some minor prizes my congratulations to Mick Curry and company for putting together an excellent day of golf. The TPI club will be staging our golf day during Veterans Health, Week 21<sup>st</sup> October North Adelaide, every body is invited, golfers non golfers come and enjoy the day with fellow veterans. For more information call Kevin 0423524884



A new member to the club Bill Seddon is presented with the club shirt by Kevin Simper thanks to Reuben, Adelaide Exercise Physiology.



June game played at Adelaide Shores

1<sup>st</sup> Mike Sarson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gerry Jonek, 3<sup>rd</sup> Peter Burgan, 4<sup>th</sup> Colin Krechsmer, 5<sup>th</sup> Eric Szaflik

July game played at Penfield

1<sup>st</sup> Eric Szaflik, 2<sup>nd</sup> John Sadlier, 3<sup>rd</sup> Kevin Simper, 4<sup>th</sup> Peter McHugh, 5<sup>th</sup> Pete Murphy

**Our next game September Adelaide shores**

On a sadder note my brother Colin Simper has passed away. Vice Captain of the club and a veteran of sorts, conscripted basic and corp training Canungra jungle training, then failed a final medical and discharged with bad eye sight. He was rushed to hospital 26<sup>th</sup> January, Australia Day 2022 found to have encephalitis and died in hospital 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Colin was a popular and well liked member of the club and will be sadly missed.



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## Medicinal Cannabis Access for ADF Veterans

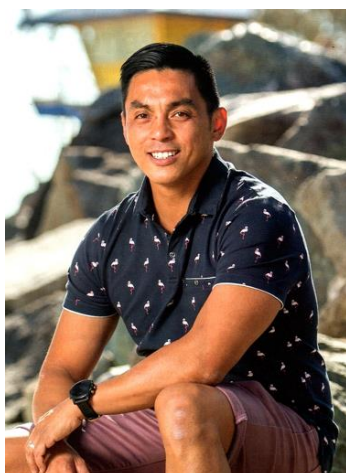
In February 2022, Provocatus, an Australian and Veteran Owned pharmaceutical company, launched a compassionate program to assist Australian Defence Force (ADF) Veterans to access medicinal cannabis treatment. Provocatus' decision to launch this program was based on the fact that, unlike non-veteran patients, ADF Veterans seeking medicinal cannabis face a number of barriers which not only delay (and in some circumstances prevent) treatment access, but also make medicinal cannabis treatment more costly.

Provocatus' compassionate access program, otherwise known as the Veteran Access Scheme (VAS), provides eligible veteran patients with a supply of medicinal cannabis products to cover the period of time it takes for the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to process their treatment claim. The VAS has been established with two pathways:

- *Pathway A* - Pathway A is the chronic pain pathway. Patients accepted onto Pathway A will receive medicinal cannabis products to the value of \$1000.00.
- *Pathway B* - Pathway B is the mental health pathway. Patients accepted onto Pathway B will receive subsidised medicinal cannabis products to the value of \$700.00 for a total period of 12 months.

As the VAS aims to prevent fragmented care, it is recommended that patient's speak to their own doctor in the first instance about whether medicinal cannabis treatment is the right option for them. Provocatus has developed a number of resources to assist patients with this conversation, and which also provide information more generally about access to the VAS. These resources are available on the Veteran Access Scheme page on the Provocatus website - [Medicinal Cannabis - Veteran Access Scheme — Provocatus \(theprovocatus.com\)](https://www.theprovocatus.com/medicinal-cannabis-veteran-access-scheme).

If your doctor is not supportive of medicinal cannabis treatment or you would like to speak to a member of the VAS project team for further information, please email them at [vas@theprovocatus.com](mailto:vas@theprovocatus.com).



*"I registered for the scheme, receiving immediate support and found the process to be hassle free with good advice from the medical professionals involved. Provocatus understands Veteran needs and the DVA process, making this option finally accessible to me"* Andy Fermo, Director of Invisible Injuries ([Invisible Injuries](#)) and Army Veteran.





GOVERNMENT HOUSE

# OPEN DAY

SUNDAY, 30 OCTOBER  
10AM TO 4PM

• FREE ENTRY •



IN CONJUNCTION WITH CHILDREN'S WEEK 2022

---

## Dates to remember

### ELECTION 2023

#### NOMINATIONS FOR BIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2023 – 2025

##### As per Clause 19 of the TPI Constitution

All positions on the existing Management Committee will be declared vacant at the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and nominations are now being called for members to fill the vacant positions.

Members who are interested in nominating may obtain a nomination form by telephoning or visiting the TPI Office or requesting through email.

The Returning Officer must receive nomination forms no later than 12.30pm Friday 14th October 2022.

Nominees may provide curriculum vitae together with a photo for publication in the TPI News.

The curriculum vitae is to reach the Secretary TPI no later than 12.30pm Friday 4th November 2022.

Positions vacant are:

- President
- Vice President(Admin)
- Vice President(Welfare)
- Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer
- Secretary and Assistant Secretary
- Six General Committee Members

If you don't have the time to fill a position on the committee but still feel like actively participating, why not volunteer in the office or with our welfare team. Please enquire at TPI House.

October		November	
3-8	Battle of Maryang San Korea 1951	2	Kokoda Memorial Day
11	TPI General Meeting	8	TPI General Meeting
16	Completion of the Thai Burma Railway 1943	9	Sinking of German SMS Emden by HMAS Sydney in the Battle of Cocos 1914
20	First arrival of ADF MovCon Unit (MCU) in Somalia 1992	11	Remeberance Day 1918
22	Commencement of Australia' military support to the conflict in Afghanistan 2001	19	Sinking of HMAS Sydney (II) 1941
31	Anniversary of Battle of Beersheeba, Middle East 1917	23	Royal Australian Regiment Formed 1948



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## **THE FUTURE BUSHMASTER**



**Locally designed electric Bushmaster unveiled**  
An electronic variant of the Thales-built military vehicle has been showcased at a defence technology symposium.

An electric Bushmaster Protected Military Vehicle (ePMV) has been unveiled at the Chief of Army Symposium in Adelaide.

The electric variant has been developed by 3ME Technology in Newcastle, NSW over the past 12-15

months in collaboration with Army, the Robotic and Autonomous Systems Implementation & Coordination Office (RICO), and the Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG).

The ePMV is reportedly capable of accelerating up to four times faster than a conventionally powered Bushmaster, operating with reduced noise and a reduced heat signature.

The variant is built with fewer components, potentially reducing maintenance requirements, and is able to better integrate with autonomous systems by leveraging its fully autonomous drive system.

According to 3ME Technology CEO Justin Bain, the vehicle's two main propulsion battery packs also increase "serviceability and survivability".

The vehicle's range is still being tested; however, it is reportedly capable of integrating combustion engine technology to extend its operations capacity.

"This is really just the beginning, so we're excited to do more testing and trials with Defence and look to electrify other platforms as well and demonstrate the capabilities we're running so it can be part of future capability," Bain told Defence Connect.

The project — supported by the operational expertise of veterans — is funded by the Australian Business Growth Fund, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, and R&D incentives provided by the government.

The vehicle's development forms part of a broader effort to modernise the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to ensure it is "future ready".

Following the vehicle's unveiling at the symposium in Adelaide, Assistant Minister for Defence Matt Thistlethwaite reflected on the growth of Australia's defence innovation capability.

"We have seen great success with Australian designed and built vehicles keeping personnel safe under fire and the new ePMV represents the next innovative stage in that tradition," he said.

"This ePMV brings the benefits of electric vehicles to the battlefield, particularly being quieter than its combustion counterparts, and I look forward to seeing it perform in field trials."

**Charbel Kadib News Editor – Defence and Security, Momentum Media**

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## **VETERAN SPOTLIGHT: GARY POPE**

Image: Gary Pope Operation Goodwood, Vietnam



Gary is a former Army RSM who has been volunteering at TPI House for over twenty years. He embodies the qualities of healthy and humble veteran, and those who volunteer with him feel his presence as he walks into the room. Gary has recently decided to stand down from his role of Vice President of TPI (SA) so that he can spend more time with his wife and family. We interview him here to honour his service.

### **Can you tell us why you decided to join the Army?**

I was born during World War Two and growing up, I watched my uncles when they were at home on leave from their service. I observed their comrade', their partying and heard their military stories which gave me the instinct to apply to serve my country in the Navy, at age 17.

I was in an apprenticeship scheme as a glazier at the time of applying, and unfortunately the Apprenticeship Board denied my application and demanded I stayed in my trade. The Defence Recruiting office agreed. I waited another six years until life presented the right circumstances and was then successful in joining the Army.

### **Gary, what postings did you have during your Army career?**

I joined the Army in 1967, aged 23. I was assigned Infantry Corps and after basic training, I was posted to 6 Platoon, B Company, 1 RAR at Holsworthy Barracks. After preparatory training in Canungra and Shoalwater Bay, I was promoted to LCPL before departing for Vietnam in February 1968 with 1 RAR. I was promoted again to CPL while in Vietnam. I returned to Australia with 1 RAR in March 1969 and the Battalion was only on 'home soil' for two months before leaving again for in May 1969 for Kuala Lumpur Malaya where we were serving with the 28<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Brigade. Upon arrival we completed the large scale multi-national training exercises called 'Jumping Wallaby' and 'Sheer Hell' with our strategic Five Nation partners, however we were ordered out of Malaya by the Australia Government in December 1969. At this time the Battalion was moved to Changai, Singapore due to the ongoing political rioting by the civilian populace in Malaya. I returned to Australia from Singapore as a Platoon Sergeant, with the rest of 1 RAR in December 1971. The highlight of this posting was being accompanied by wife and daughter, Michelle, who commenced her schooling while in Singapore.

*Continued on page 18*

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When 1 RAR moved from Sydney to Townsville, I was appointed Pioneer Sergeant. In, 1973 I was posted to Royal Military College, Duntroon as a drill instructor and enjoyed having the King of Thailand in my care during this time. In 1976 I was obligated back to back postings at the Infantry Training Centre, first as the Pioneer Wing Instructor Sergeant and then as the Wing Sergeant Major. In 1981, I was posted to 3 RAR as CSM D Company initially, then as CSM A Company. In 1983, I was promoted to WO1 and assigned RSM 27RAR. Due to my age, I was promoted in quick succession, from Private to WO1 in 16 years and I can honestly say that I loved the whole journey!

After discharge I returned to my trade as a glazier and rose through the ranks again to become State Production Manager at Pilkington Glass.

**Which posting did you enjoy most?**

1RAR and 3RAR were standout postings for me, but I also found RMC-D very satisfying.

**When did you join the TPI Association and why?**

I joined the TPI Association in 1998 when I made TPI. I thought it prudent to support the organisation that sponsored the cause. Also, there were a number of people from my platoon in Vietnam who were already volunteering at TPI House, so being involved was supportive and afforded me stability in being around folks who had an understanding of the impacts of service. It is this stability and support that ensured I remained involved in the TPI Association for over two decades.

**As the Vice President, what have you enjoyed about your service with TPI Association (SA)?**

I have found my time as a volunteer very gratifying as it has expanded my knowledge of the veteran community and allowed me to make friends with many people. Volunteering with TPI Association (SA) has also helped my personal development in later life, allowing me a safe space to integrate my war experiences of Vietnam into civilian life. The organisation also presents all veterans with having a say in their future, given how it integrates with government and government agencies, so volunteering at TPI felt like a productive use of my time, while also growing the veteran community.

**How do you feel TPI (SA) could be improved?**

I believe the TPI (SA) facilities are underutilised, thus I would like to see more social activities and events happening at the Richmond Road TPI House. The venue is truly wonderful, and it is a shame that more is not happening there in terms of veteran activities. However, I believe this will not occur until newer veterans come to join the association and the events occur organically.

**What are your top 3 self-care strategies?**

My self-care strategies in order have been:

*Continued on page 19*



- 
1. Family First, always.
  2. Succeeding and being adept in the civilian workforce.
  3. Maintaining my fitness, always. (Walking in particular has the dual benefit of clearing the mind).

MENTION IN DISPATCHES: Volunteering with TPI has also been a beneficial self-care strategy.

**What advice would you offer a veteran who is unsure about joining or volunteering TPI Association?**

I advise every young veteran to support and be involved with TPI Association, if you are able. As I said before, the organisation has the ability to impact veteran policies, direction and legislation, therefore it is *your* future to grow, and to have a say in. To all of you: Have a go and do not be a spectator.



Image: Gary Pope and friends FSB Coral

**Do you have a stand out memory from your service in Vietnam?**

The Battles of Firebase Coral/Balmoral will be forever etched in my mind.

**Do you have any advice that you have lived by?**

1. Be the best you can be.
2. Try not to hurt others.
3. Pick the best attributes of other people you admire and add these to your own rule book. Practise emulating those attributes.

**What is your favourite meal?**

My favourite meal is food. To this day, my first stop when I get home is the fridge!

Regardless of our efforts the Government has now tabled this Bill with the words “*under 65*” remaining in the legislation. The TPI Federation is most disappointed in this result which goes against the Human Rights Act and discriminates against at least 65-70% of the DVA Veteran and families.

The Government will also soon introduce legislation to ensure that no Veteran pays higher income tax because of the Federal Court decision in *Commissioner of Taxation v Douglas* (the Douglas decision). Before it does so, the Government has released the draft legislation for consultation.

The consultation process is being led by the Treasury. The draft Bill – *Treasury Laws Amendment (Measures for a later sitting) Bill 2022: Taxation of military superannuation benefits* – and associated draft explanatory material can be viewed on the <https://bit.ly/3JwbGpy>. The draft Bill reflects the Government’s commitment to ensure veterans are not left worse off due to the Douglas decision and that veterans who benefited from the decision retain these outcomes. Further information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3zV1rYP>.

The exposure draft, explanatory materials and more information about the consultation process is available on the <https://bit.ly/3JwbGpy>. Submissions are invited by email to [superannuation@treasury.gov.au](mailto:superannuation@treasury.gov.au). Submissions close on 5 August 2022. As only 10 days’ notice for such a submission was given by Government, the TPI Federation has requested an extension of the closing date. No response has been received at the time of writing this report.

### Pension Increases

The TPI Compensation payment was increased on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in line by approximately 2% in line with the usual CPI/MTAWE Indexation increase. The Government also applied a cost-of-living adjustment to the income support payments of approximately 2% as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. The deeming thresholds also increased from 1 July 2022. This means that the value of financial assets deemed to be earning the lower rate of 0.25 per cent has increased. The higher deeming rate of 2.25 per cent is applied to the balance of financial assets over these thresholds. Further information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3d6fVfo>.

### Royal Commission Update

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veterans Suicide is continuing, and will recommence in Hobart on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 and then in Darwin on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022. An interim report will be provided by the Commissioners on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The final report is due to be tabled on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

### Veterans Home Care Update

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 the Government committed \$70.6m in funding, over four years, to increase Veterans’ Home Care (VHC) fees for domestic assistance and personal care services. This funding is not being allocated to additional services but rather to improve the VHC providers ability to provide the services to the Veteran Community.

### Long Tan Bursary

The Long Tan Bursary application process will commence on 18 August 2022. The Long Tan Bursary helps eligible children and grandchildren of Vietnam veterans pay for their tertiary education. Each year 37 bursaries are awarded to successful applicants across Australia. Each bursary is worth up to \$12,000 over 3 years of continuous full-time study. Further information can be found at <https://bit.ly/3xJGPS7>

### TPI Federation Congress

The TPI Federation welcomes a new Member of the Federation with the acceptance of an application from the *Regional TPI Associations of Victoria* which will run out of the TPI Association in Geelong. The TPI Federation will be conducting their next Congress 14-16<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Canberra. Should you have any issues that you would like discussed at the Congress, can you please contact your State or Territory TPI Association member or the national office.

### Conclusion

The TPI Federation will continue to assist all TPIS and should you have any questions, please forward them to the email address below.



Ms Pat McCabe OAM  
Email: [federation@tpifed.org.au](mailto:federation@tpifed.org.au)  
Ph: 0417 291 546

August 2022

#### Important Dates

Royal Commission started –	8 July 2021
Rent Assistance Eligibility for TPIS begins –	1 January 2022
Royal Commission Hearings – Sydney –	14 February 2022
Royal Commission Interim Report –	11 August 2022
Royal Commission Submissions close –	14 October 2022
Royal Commission Final Report –	17 June 2024

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## *Exercise and general wellbeing*

I'm sure you are aware that movement plays an important role in the management of our physical health, but did you know physical activity can significantly reduce PTSD symptoms? Exercise plays a vital role in the rehabilitation of veterans and their transition from the ADF to civilian life.

Exercise Physiologists specialise in delivering clinically necessary, evidence based and goal-oriented exercise for the management of physical and mental health conditions, injuries and disabilities.

Exercise has been shown to have a number of positive psychological outcomes in veterans including

- Reduction in the symptoms of re-experiencing
- Reduction in avoidance and numbing
- Reduction in hyper-arousal associated with PTSD
- Reduced anger levels
- Improved mental alertness
- Improved sleep quality

Exercise increases energy levels, empowering veterans to overcome a lack of motivation which is often associated with PTSD. An increase in motivation has proven to increase the amount veterans walk and the time they spend participating in enjoyable activities.

Exercise provides a feeling of respite from symptoms of PTSD that leave veterans feeling exhausted. Exercise also has the power to reduce veteran's reliance on medication to cope with symptoms of PTSD.

Still not convinced?

Research shows those with PTSD have an increased risk of negative health outcomes such as cardiovascular disease, obesity and alarmingly, early mortality.

Put simply, becoming physically active can increase your psychological quality of life, beyond targeting the symptoms of PTSD.

For many Veteran Gold Card holders, rehabilitation becomes a full-time job and may need to become a priority in their life. Exercise is a viable form of medicine for veterans' mental health and Exercise Physiologists can help.

So how do you access an Exercise Physiologist? A referral from any of the following:

- general practitioner (GP)
- medical specialist
- treating doctor in hospital
- hospital discharge planner

*Resources and more detailed information.*

Nick Caddick & Brett Smith (2018) Exercise is medicine for mental health in military veterans: a qualitative commentary, *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*, 10:4, 429-440, DOI: 10.1080/2159676X.2017.1333033

*Continued on page 22*

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Goldstein, LA, Mehling, WE, Metzler, TJ, Cohen, BE, Barnes, DE, Choucroun, GJ, ... Neylan, TC 201: 'Veterans Group Exercise: A randomized pilot trial of an Integrative Exercise program for veterans with posttraumatic stress', Journal of Affective Disorders, vol. 227, pp. 345–352.

Come and see the team at Empowering Wellness Exercise Physiology located in North Adelaide!

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P: 0435 081 501

W: [www.empoweringwellnessep.com](http://www.empoweringwellnessep.com)

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Annual subscriptions are due on 1 January each year, A member who is un-financial as of 28 February shall automatically forfeit their membership and shall no longer be entitled to any Association benefit, including Honorary RAA membership.

**SUBSCRIPTION FEE \$50.00**

Name (Print)..... Member No: .....

(PRINT)

Tel: ..... Mob: .....

Address ..... Town/Suburb: .....

State: ..... Postcode: ..... Email: .....

**Please enclose the subscription fee and a stamped self-addressed envelope or pay by Direct Debit (See below)**  
**Send to: The Secretary, TPI Association, 171 Richmond Road, Richmond. SA 5033**

## PAY SUBSCRIPTIONS BY DIRECT DEBIT

Annual TPI Subscriptions can be paid by EFTPOS or directly to TPI (SA) bank account by Direct Debit.

TPI Bank Account details are set out below;

**Account Name** – TPI ASSOCIATION (SA) INC

**BANK** – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA, 283 Anzac Highway, PLYMPTON

**BSB** – 065 148; **ACCOUNT NUMBER** 1024 3192

**Record your surname and TPI Badge Number** as a reference for your transaction

**Note:** The onus is on you to **Contact TPI Office** if you do not receive your membership card within seven working days

## APPLICATION FORM FOR HONORARY RAA MEMBERSHIP

Surname: (Print)..... Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Given Names: ..... Member No: .....

Street: ..... Town/Suburb: ..... Postcode: ..... State: .....

Tel: ..... Mobile: ..... Email: .....

**Send to: The Secretary, TPI Association, 171 Richmond Rd., Richmond. SA 5033**

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### **AMBULANCE COVER (ACE Insurance)**

TPI Gold Card covers you for Emergency attendance and/or transport by SA Ambulance, for Non-emergency transport you are responsible to pay. PLEASE CONSIDER taking insurance cover (small fee) with ACE Insurance, for general enquiries contact [AmbulanceCover@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:AmbulanceCover@health.sa.gov.au) or 1300 136 272

### **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Name: (Print)..... Badge No:  
.....

New Address: ..... Town/suburb: ..... Postcode:  
.....

State: ..... Tel: ..... Mob: ..... Email:

Send to: **The Secretary, TPI Association. 171 Richmond Rd., Richmond. SA 5033**

### **HOSPITAL VISITS**

As a service to members our Hospital visits team services most hospitals; if you or a mate are going into hospital please advise our Hospital Visit Manager Mick Curry OAM.

Mob: 0417 843 262 or via email: [mcur3581@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mcur3581@bigpond.net.au)

### **WELFARE MATTERS**

If you need advice on welfare, please contact our office at (08)8351 7784 or (08) 8351 8140

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

General meetings are held monthly (Feb to Dec) on the second Tuesday of the month at 11.30 a.m. It is a good way to be informed and participate.

***Some member attending always wins a Prize!***

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## Free legal help for TPI SA members

Do you have an experience you want to share with the Royal Commission into Defence & Veteran Suicide?

The Defence & Veterans Legal Service (DAVLS) can help you make a submission to that inquiry for free.

Talking about various mental health issues that arise during, or out of, your involvement in the defence forces will help the Royal Commission make recommendations that can improve outcomes for yourself and others. You can also talk about the lived experience of your friends in the defence forces or the families of defence force members, particularly if they are not able to talk about those experiences themselves.

### Where do I start?

Knowing what to say and how to say it can be difficult. Lawyers at DAVLS provide confidential and free advice tailored to your specific needs. They can help you make a submission to the Royal Commission, and that submission can remain anonymous if you wish.

Contact the Defence & Veterans Legal Service on 1800 33 1800 for advice or to book an appointment.

### Need help with other legal issues?

If you need help with a legal issue that does not relate to the Royal Commission into Defence & Veteran Suicide, contact the Legal Services Commission on 1300 366 424.

The Legal Services Commission is the largest provider of free legal help in SA and can provide preliminary assistance regarding a wide range of legal issues.



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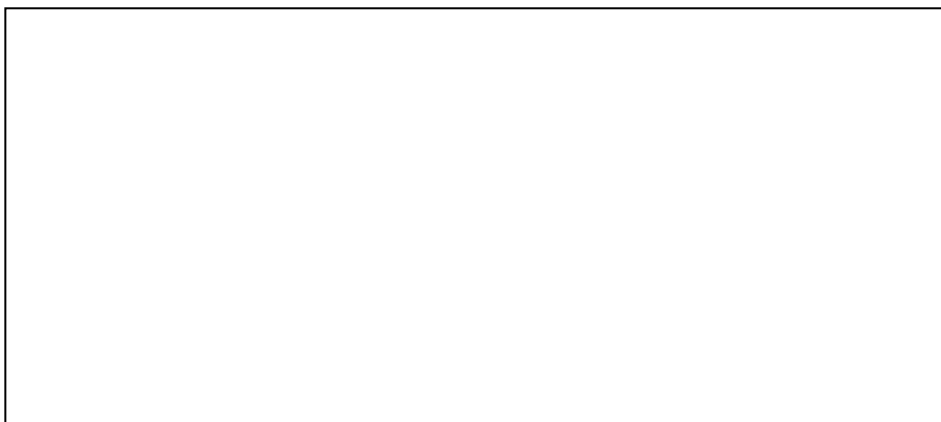
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