

Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Association Inc.

Joining Forces



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the 18th edition of *Joining Forces*.

In this edition we feature the biography of the inimitable Suzan Malligan OAM. Her twenty year and then some story is such a great read including photos of her experiences. As always Suzan includes lots of her sense of humour and also a more serious side.

Last month we held our Annual General Meeting to bring us in line with our new financial year. We thank everyone for attending. There were no changes to the Management Team and I wish to thank them for their dedication and hard work. They are a Team to be proud of.

Just a reminder that on 6th June 2024, Queensland Day, we have our Annual Luncheon. If you haven't yet paid or advised Deirdre that you intend to come please do so as soon as possible. The RSVP is 25th May 2024. Please note that all monies are to be paid by the RSVP date as no monies will be accepted on the day. Theme this year is *Celebrating Queensland* so dress mode is anything Queensland. It will be lots of fun.

ANZAC Day was a great success with Ex- Service Women from all over the Coast marching with great pride. Photos inside. Well done to all.

One further piece of important information. Did you know that the Ex in Ex Service Women stands for Exceptional. Not a truer word spoken.

With respect.

Lorraine Houlihan

May 2024—August 2024

Edition 18

Inc Assn IA 59129

ABN 15 390 668 848

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Editor's Note;

I do not have a Bio for our next edition and as usual I am always looking out for new Bios. I am always happy to help you put it together.

It would be a shame to have two blank pages at the beginning of the next edition.

Cheers

Lorraine

SUZAN MALLIGAN, OAM. WRAAC F22224



Honours and Awards:

Order of Australia Medal
Defence Forces Service Medal
Reserve Forces Service Medal



“WHEN THE SHOOTING STARTS – LAY FLAT ON THE PLATFORM”. These were the first words my parents saw on a sign at Kuala Lumpur (KL), Malaya, Railway Station when they disembarked from their train upon arriving in 1947.

They travelled from Britain to Malaya for a 2 year job in British tin mining – and stayed for 23 years! After the Japanese surrender, there was the Malayan Emergency, so you can imagine my lifestyle and upbringing was so very different to many of you in Australia. No wonder I was a bit of a “tom boy”. My father wore a pistol (he was a mining/dredging engineer), and my mother slept with a pistol under her pillow, we had an old Indian armed guard at the front door – who I was told arrived at his post each night and slept better than anyone else. My first home (until I was 2 years old) was the Japanese Commandant’s residence – complete with the red stains on the ground floor room, which my mother refused to use. Just for interest – that house, which backed onto the original KL racetrack, is now Petronis Towers. Additionally my mother worked for the Special Branch. My early schooling was in KL – with mainly English teachers, and then I was sent to Sydney, Australia, to finish my education. We children were scattered – in United Kingdom/Perth/Sydney for our senior education, but always reconnected at home in KL for school holidays. We also lived through the “Confrontation” in the 1960’s.

After studying overseas for 12 months (languages and a secretarial course) I returned to Sydney to work, and wait for my parents who retired in 1969. My dream was to be an international air hostess (as my mother did work a few years for QANTAS in KL), hence the study of languages – however I was 18/19 years old and the minimum age back then for QANTAS was 21 years. So I enjoyed working with the Australian Gas Light Company (old 2 way radio and PABX switchboard), then a few years for a brick company. That was in 1971 I heard about the Citizen Military Force (CMF) – Army. That’s for me I thought – try before you buy! Well – I loved it! Those were the days where the skills you learnt were so so different to the mundane “civvie” life. I joined 2 WRAAC Coy in Sydney in 1971, and did every parade, training course etc. etc. that was possible – doing maximum days. I loved the discipline, the regimented way of life etc. which was instilled within me at a rather strict ladies school Methodist Ladies College (MLC) and then college. I regret not accepting an offer to change to Australian Regular Army (ARA).

Just summarizing my history in the CMF and then Full Time Duty (FTD) from 1971 – 1991.

2 WRAAC Coy – Moore Park Barracks, Sydney, 8 Signal Regiment, Bardia Barracks, Ingleburn (Opposite 2 Military Hospital). I was firstly employed as a driver Employment Code Number 109) and then with Non Commissioned Officer NCO qualifications was a recruit instructor. Even driving Left Hand Drive Studebakers!

3 Royal New South Wales Regiment (RNSWR), Cootamundra depot and Wagga Wagga

2 Training Group, (TRG GP) Ingleburn – as a Warrant Officer Class 2 (WO2) on FTD. I was employed as an instructor on Recruits, Subject 1 Corporal (CPL), Subject 1 Sergeant (SGT) promotion courses, and Training Development courses.)



Suzan in Summer uniform



Platoon Commander Recruit March Out Parade

The change from WRAAC to Royal Australian Corps of Transport (RACT), meant I had to qualify for an extra subject, Subject 4. I held the position of Warrant Officer 2 Coordinator (WO CO-ORD) for the Training (TRG) Wing.

Other positions held include Headquarters 2 Training Group (HQ 2 TRG GP), Administration and Instruction at Officer Cadet Training Unit (OCTU), Sydney on Direct Entry Officer (DEO) and Officer of Cadets (OOC) Courses.

I loved the variety of the jobs, and the dealing with all ranks. One very interesting position I held in 1990 was at Sydney Workshop Company (WKSP COY), Mascot – a Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) workshop, which employed both defence and “civvie” personnel. I was there to organize the pack up and move the whole unit to a new location, nearby in the Botany Bay area. The unit was housed in an old (and I mean old) QANTAS hanger, adjacent to Sydney airport. The airline wanted their hanger back, but would give us a new location to build a new purpose built facility with “everything”. I had only just started calculations of the section areas and equipment for removal when we learnt this lovely new area of land was “contaminated” “as you were” – we stayed put! After only 6 or 7 months I moved to Australian Army Reserves Recruiting (ARES) in Randwick Barracks, and again after 3 months took discharge due to my mother’s failing health.

There have been so many highlights and adventures during those 20 years – too many to list, however the biggest thrill was being awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List of 1990. Ladies if you did not like our formal mess kit (long skirt, corps stripe and white jacket) – blame me! I did put in a submission to the Dress Committee Army Headquarters, mid 1980’s and most of it was accepted.

As you can all relate, we have made many unique and special friendships over our “green” time. I worked with and at the same time learnt so much from many “old and bold” soldiers from the Vietnam era and the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam AATTV.



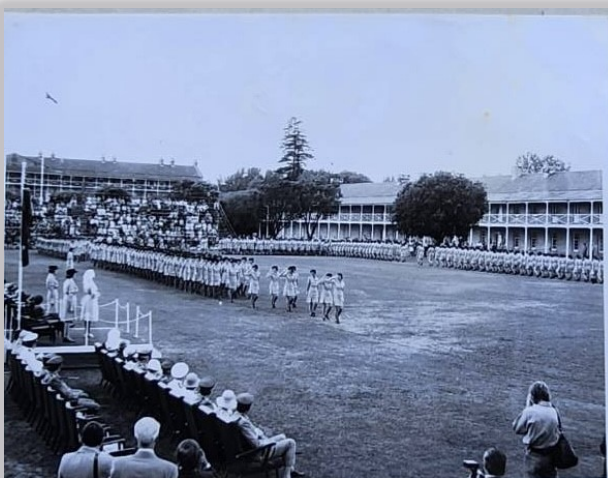
Receiving OAM at Government House



Australian Army Training Team Vietnam



Working with the old and bold Vietnam veterans



Platoon Sgt on HRH Princess Margaret parade at Victoria Barracks Sydney 1975



Instructor Development Course

I look forward now to all the WRAAC and other service associations for our reunions and get together and fondly remember the fun times shared at the WRAAC 60th, 65th and hopefully 75th anniversaries. So many memories, with a few photos to assist!, and of course the WRAAC legends – Alice C, Marg F, Pat R and others. I recall winning the “Alice Curran Golf Trophy” – twice! How can I even forget my “old” workmates/roomies etc. – Fran, Denice, Carolyn, Griggy, Doreen, Christine and all other New South Wales Association friendships – too many again to list. God Bless you all!



1985 the three Mouseketeers



Same, three years later



Function with Marg Fossey

In 1991 my partner Les (also retired after 24 years, regular Royal Australian Army service, and a Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) and I packed up all the “greenery” and moved to Lake Macquarie, NSW for a quiet retirement. However that lasted 6 years when we were both “invited” (conned) to assist in raising a school cadet unit, at Toukley on the NSW Central Coast, and 236 Recruit Cadet Unit (RCU) was born! Another 4 years in green again but what a challenging and rewarding time that was – working/teaching and also learning with boys and girls 12-18 years of age. From Warrant Officers to Officers of Cadets. Using all our contacts still in the system we trained locally and also had many wonderful bivouacs and annual camps with “Our” cadets. So many remain in contact today – some Army Company Sergeant Majors (CSMs), Officers and also Naval Officers and a helicopter pilot from the Royal Australian Air Force. See photo – invite to one of OUR boys at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) for his Graduation Ball.



AT ADFA Graduation Ball for Lt James Casey. He is now a Major

Now we are both fully retired, no longer wearing green, and enjoying our “senior” years in Queensland. Our favourite travel mates for cruising and overseas golf events are Denise and Kevin (ex RSM-A) Woods – friends from over 40 years at Ingleburn. I treasure the camaraderie and friendships I have shared over all those years, and still today with new friends in the WRAAC and Ex Service Associations To all those friends who “marched on” – thank you. (adjacent to this paragraph – photo of four)

REST IN PEACE and LEST WE FORGET.



Kevin and Denise Woods and Suzan and Les. Mates for 40 years. Met at Ingleburn

Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Association Inc — 2024 Annual Luncheon



**SUNSHINE COAST
EX-SERVICE AND SERVING
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION INC**



**Invitation to all Service Women
ANNUAL LUNCHEON
6 June 2024**



**Help us Celebrate
QUEENSLAND DAY**

(Beautiful one day perfect the next)



to be held at
**MAROOCHY RSL CLUB
Memorial Ave
MAROOCHYDORE**



11.30am for 12.00 midday

COST: SCESWA (Financial) members \$35 - Non-Members \$40

RSVP 25 May 2024 with payment

Dress Code: Celebrating Queensland

Carers are welcome



Tea and coffees will be available, for early arrivals who have travelled long distances.



A complimentary meal, at the Bistro, will be available for bus drivers (please advise)

Below are the details payment options:

- ◇ Internet Banking Auswide Account **SCESWA BSB 645646 Acct No 102736405**
Please include your name as reference:
email payment details to: Judi Taylor at judimtaylor@gmail.com
- ◇ Cheques made payable to: Sunshine Coast Ex Service and Serving Women's Assn Inc.
sent to:
The Secretary
Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Association Inc.
PO Box 654
BUDDINA Qld 4575 .

PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE ARE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY / ALLERGY REQUIREMENTS

**Please note that all monies are to be paid by 25th May.
No monies will be accepted on the day.**

Defence Servicewomen's RSL Sub-Branch (Qld)



Invites you to join them on a Bus Trip

WHEN: Wednesday 22nd May 2024

WHERE: The Light Horse Education Museum, Mudgeeraba



The Museum entry is free and offers a fascinating glimpse into the history of the Australian Light Horse.

A required fee has been paid to also include a display of robust horsemanship by the 14th Light Horse Regiment commencing at 9.30am.

We will also be supplying morning tea.

At the completion of our visit we will proceed to the Nerang RSL where you can purchase your lunch.

In order to arrive at our destination by 9.00am, our Coach from Mystic Mountain Tours will need to leave the Maroochydore RSL between 6.00am to 6.30am (time yet to be confirmed) with two pick up points.

Pick Up Locations

1. Bribie Island Road turnoff (at McDonalds near the rear of the Sundowner Hotel)
2. 167 Ann Street, City (outside Salvation Army Temple) Time to be Confirmed

Cost: \$10.00 for Bus and Event. Lunch is at your own expense.

Please RSVP by: Wednesday 15th May 2024

To: Janet Noack (M) 0419 659 902 or janet.noack@rsldefenceservicewomens.rslqld.net.au

Provide: Names and nominate your pick-up location

Pay: \$10.00 to Defence Servicewomen's RSL Sub-Branch

BSB: 034065

ACCT: 314719

Looking Forward To A Wonderful Day In Good Company

Please note that if you wish to attend it is most important for SCESWA members that you advise Janet Noack and pay the \$10.00 fee by 15th May 2024 as indicated above. If you are wanting to leave from Maroochydore advise Deirdre Elliott so we can be assured that no one is left behind. Be at the Maroochy RSL by 6am. The RSL has kindly agreed to open the Carpark at 6.00am. The bus will be leaving promptly.

**Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Assn
Photo Round up**



Coffee and Catch Up held at Maroochy RSL on 7th March



OGM/AGM held on 4 April 2024 at Kawana Surf Club



SCESWA
Members
enjoying the
Veterans Hub
Maroochydore
on
International
Women's Day
hosted by
Mates
for
Mates



**Glasshouse Country Women United by Defence Monthly luncheon.
on 8th May 2024**

Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea.

Usually held on 2nd Wednesday each month at 11.00am. This months event will take the form of Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea.

Contact Fran Sinclair on 0416 013 987 for further info. All welcome.



Bribie Island Ex-Service Women's Monthly Luncheon

The Luncheon for the Bribie Island Ex-Service Women is held the 4th Monday of the month at the Bribie Island RSL, 99 Toorbul Street, Bribie Island.

Contact Anita Cooper on 0402 246 408 for any further info. All welcome.



ANZAC DAY ACROSS THE COAST



Deirdre, Ingrid, Kim & Mag-



Maroochydore Ex Service Women



Jennie & Maggie



Margaret Jones Laying WRANS wreath assisted by Deirdre



Jan and Judi wreath laying at Caloundra RSL



Left:
Lorraine at Chancellor State College for ANZAC Day Address



Above Rt - Glasshouse Ex Service Women Val, Wendy, Sally, Fran, Brenda & Mo



Cindie—Bribie RSL



Proud Bribie—Ex Service Women



Dot, Cindie, Trudy & David at Bribie



Jenny Waldron—Front page of local Newspaper. Jenny had the honour of Leading the ANZAC Parade



Hervey Bay Ex Service Women



Left & Right Bundaberg District Women



Bribie Island RSL Display



ANZAC Day at Woodgate—Anne, Tracy & Sam



NAVY Women—Brisbane March



WRAAC—Brisbane March

OGM Meeting and Committee Meeting Dates -2024



18 April 2024 —SCESWA Committee Meeting



16 May 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



6 June 2024—Annual Luncheon—Maroochydore Events Centre



20 June 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



18 July 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



1 August 2024—OGM Maroochydore—RSL Sub Branch



29 August 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



3 October 2024—OGM—Kawana RSL Sub Branch



17 October 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



7 November 2024—Wreath Laying Maroochy RSL Gardens



21 November 2024—SCESWA Committee Meeting



5 December 2024—OGM and Christmas Lunch—Kawana Surf Club



COFFEE and CHAT & Other Association Dates—2024



Thursday 2 May 2024

**@ 11.30am—Lunch at Cooroy RSL Club
* Please Note that this replaces the
previously advertised C n C location**



Thursday 4 July 2024

Bus Trip to Bribie Island (details released soon)



Thursday 5 September 2024

Bower Tree, 10 Courage St, Sippy Downs



Thursday 7 November 2024

**Maroochy RSL Gardens—Annual Wreath
Laying (further info to be provided closer to the
date)**

The dates below may change, if so, you will be updated in advance.



Saturday 27 July 2024

Council of Ex Service Women Church Service



Wednesday 11 Sept 2024

**Council of Ex Service Women—Pine Rivers
Wreath Laying Ceremony**



Monday 15th July 2024

**Bundaberg District Women Veterans 57th
Birthday Luncheon. Members \$30.00 Guests
\$40.00. Theme Pixies & Pirates**



Fri 18, Sat 19& Sun 20 October

**Hervey Bay Ex Service Women's 40th
Birthday weekend (theme celebrating 40th
Ruby, red, and anything in those colour themes)**

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

Dianne Pearce, Trudy Avery, and Cindie Manzie

JUNE

Christine Birch, Heather Christie, Pepita Cross, Judy Friend, Narelle Gourlay, Margaret Nason, Judi Taylor, Margaret Winduss

July

Kathryn Bulluss, Anita Cooper, Dizzy Dowsett, Val Machin, Fran Sinclair,

August

Lorraine Banks, Joyce Colclough, Margaret Jones, Lynne Zillman-Jones



NEW MEMBER

Lorraine Stone —WRAAF & RAAF



POPPY SERVICE



Remember to notify your local RSL Sub Branch if you would like to have a Poppy Service or alternatively ensure you advise your family of your wishes.

Facebook — Combined Ex Service and Serving Women Australia

The *Combined Ex Service and Serving Women Australia* is a very informative site on Facebook for ex servicewomen and is independently administered by ex service women. Ex service women from all over Australia have registered and make frequent posts providing interesting information, military photos and fun ditties. To join, simply answer two questions relating to your service, and once the Administrator approves your request you will have unlimited access to other Combined Ex Service Women Australia's members posts, photos and importantly all events that are coming up for numerous Associations throughout Australia. Whilst this Facebook site is not part of our Association, the committee ensures that all events relating to the SCESWA are recorded on this site.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2024

Executive

President: Lorraine Houlihan, Phone: 0408 126 710, Email: president.sceswa@gmail.com

Vice President: Deirdre Elliott, Phone: 0408 222 592, Email: deirdre_colin@bigpond.com

Secretary: Jan Thorne, Phone: 0410 448 433, Email: thornejl@hotmail.com

Asst Secretary: Chris Birch, Phone 0403 905 023, Email: christinebirch52@gmail.com

Treasurer: Judi Taylor, Phone: 0430 597 836, Email: judimtaylor@gmail.com

Committee members

Health & Well-Being: Jan Thorne, Phone: 0410 448 433, Email: thornejl@hotmail.com

Events Co-ordinator: Deirdre Elliott, Phone: 0408 222 592, Email: deirdre_colin@bigpond.com

Membership Officer: Chris Birch, Phone 0403 905 023, Email: christinebirch52@gmail.com

Grants & Merchandise: Fran Sinclair, Phone: 0416 013 987, Email: fran@kandfspace.com

General Committee Members

Maggie Winduss

Dot Kunde

Newsletter

Editor: Lorraine Houlihan, Phone: 0408 126 710, Email: l.houlihan1@bigpond.com

Postal Address: Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Assn Inc., PO Box 654, BUDDINA, Q 4575

Email: thornejl@hotmail.com

Members: Please note the email address for our Association.



NAVY WOMEN QUEENSLAND CALENDAR OF EVENTS for 2024

14 May	Victory in Europe Service	South-Eastern District RSL, New Farm
19 May	Navy Women Old OGM	3 rd Sunday due to Mother's Day date
30 May	Service @ Jack Southbank	Vietnam Ships Lost Crew
6 Jun	Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Assoc Inc Luncheon Maroochydore	Civilian dress with name tags
9 Jun	Navy Women Old OGM Geebung RSL	
13 Jun	CE SWA Bi-Monthly OGM	Delegates attend
27 Jun	Service @ Jack Southbank	Gulf War
7 Jul	Reserve Forces Day Wondal	
14 Jul	Navy Women Old OGM Geebung RSL	Bastille Day
25 Jul	Service @ Jack Southbank	Korean War
27 Jul	CE SWA Annual Church Service	Formal Uniform
27 Jul	Korean Veterans Day	
8 Aug	CE SWA AGM and GM	Delegates attend
11 Aug	Navy Women Old GM Geebung RSL	
10 Aug	Victory in Pacific Day	South-Eastern District RSL, New Farm
18 Aug	Vietnam Veterans Day	
29 Aug	Service @ Jack Southbank	Timor
6 Sep	Battle of Australia Commemoration	
8 Sep	Navy Women Old OGM Geebung RSL	
11 Sep	CE SWA Commemoration to Service Women of Australia	Women's Memorial Pine Rivers Kallangur Formal Uniform
14 Sep	NAA Golden Rivet 2024	CSI Ipswich - Hosted by Redcliffe SS
26 Sep	Service @ Jack Southbank	Sandakan March
10 Oct	CE SWA Bi-monthly GM	Delegates attend
13 Oct	Navy Women Old GM Geebung RSL	Breast Cancer Fundraising WEAR PINK
October	Hervey Bay Birthday weekend	
17-19 Oct	All Navy Reunion	Sunshine Coast
31 Oct	Service @ Jack Southbank	Sydney II
2 Nov	Navy Women Annual Reunion Luncheon	Tattersalls Club Brisbane
10 Nov	Navy Women Old OGM	
11 Nov	Remembrance Day Service	
28 Nov	Service @ Jack Southbank	Cyclone Tracy
8 Dec	Navy Women Old GM Geebung RSL	Xmas Party
12 Dec	CE SWA Bi-monthly GM	Final meeting for 2024



First Saturday of each month
Third Tuesday of each month
Fourth Monday of each month
Last Thursday of each month

Western Suburb Lunch
Gold Coast Brunch
Bribie Island Lunch
Jack Memorial

Bribie Island RSL, Social Cafe
Ship Inn, South Bank



Congratulations to Major General Susan Coyle AM CSC DSM on her promotion to Lieutenant General and appointed as Chief of Joint Capabilities.

Lieutenant General Coyle (3 Star General) is the first Corps of Signals officer to reach this rank and only the third woman to be promoted to this rank. We offer our heart felt congratulations from all Ex Service Women.

BANKING DETAILS:

Name of the Account:

Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and
Serving
Women's Association Inc.

Institution:

Auswide Bank

BSB: 645 646

Account Number: 102736405

Cheque made payable to:

Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving
Women's Association Inc.

Forward to:

The Treasurer
PO Box 654, BUDDINA Q 4575

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBS: \$15.00 per year

*Membership payments are Due **31 December** each year*

If you wish to pay by Internet Banking,
Remember to include payee reference: Please quote your
initial and Surname/Subs: e.g. JSmith/subs
Payments will be accepted at the Meeting or Coffee n
Catchup

CHANGE OF ADDRESS DETAILS

***We are having a number of Birthday cards and letters returned
"NOT AT THIS ADDRESS". If you have moved address or
changed your email or phone number, please notify our
Membership Officer, Chris Birch on 0403 905 023. This will
allow your Association to continue to provide you with
updated information throughout the year.***

SCESWA MEMORABILIA

SCESWA has three different types of Badges available to our members. We have Magnetic or Pin name
badges. Please see Jan Thorne to arrange. Cost: Pin \$14.50, Magnetic \$16.00

Cloth badges are available from our Merchandise table. Cost is \$6.50

We also now have SCESWA Baseball Caps, \$22.00. Car Stickers, \$5.00. Note Books, Bags and Coffee Mugs

They may be purchased at all meetings and C n C and luncheon events. Fran will be happy to serve you.

New pieces of Merchandising to come.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for the next newsletter is 25 August 2024

Every effort will be made to use all contributions, but it may not be in the next issue.

Please send all articles, clear photos and letters to the Editor at the association address or email Lorraine at
l.houlihan1@bigpond.com. We look forward to members' input.

Disclaimer: All contributions are welcome. All care will be taken with material but no responsibility is assumed
or accepted by the publisher or the SCESWA Inc.

