

# NEWSLETTER, March 2018



**CORPS of COMMISSIONAIRES**  
ASSOCIATION Incorporated

LOYALTY • INTEGRITY • SERVICE

**AUSTRALIA**

Greetings to all members of the Corps of Commissionaires Association and to your families.

It is hard to believe that the first quarter of 2018 has nearly passed and ANZAC Day 2018 will be upon us in a few short weeks.

This year again we commemorate the Centenary of significant events that occurred during the last year of World War 1.

However, none more than the Centenary of the Armistice, when the “guns fell silent”, finally ending four years of bloody conflict, death and destruction.

Throughout this year, The Corps will participate in a number of commemorative events, commencing with the ANZAC Day march on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April in the City to the Shrine of Remembrance.

## **Dates for your diary:**

ANZAC Day Service	24 April, 1030 at the Repatriation Hospital, Heidelberg
Vietnam Veterans	17 August, 1030 at the Repatriation Hospital, Heidelberg
Remembrance Day	9 November, 1045 at the Repatriation Hospital, Heidelberg
Corps A G M,	17 November, 1830 at the RACV Club, Melbourne



## **The ANZAC Day March, 25 April 2018**

Our Treasurer and Membership Officer, Comm. Gerard VANDER attended a pre-ANZAC Day March meeting at ANZAC House and noted the following: “Despite the fact that all Army formations are reversed, that is to say current conflicts, Vietnam, Korea, WW2 and then WW1, we (The Corps) are not affected.

Therefore we shall move off from our usual position in Swanston Street near Flinders Street Station at 0900 (usual place, usual time).

The Corps still retains the traditional privileged position at the very early part of The March, and it is always an honour for me to lead you to The Shrine of Remembrance.”

Just a note on medals and dress codes please:

Each year there are issues with medals and uniforms and civilian dress. Please be aware that service medals for Corps members are worn on the LEFT, and medals issued by The Corps and service medals for your relatives, which you wear on their behalf, are worn on the RIGHT. Please ensure that if you are wearing any type of medals, that they are properly mounted and put on straight.

Corps uniforms (with white caps) and civilian dress consisting of jacket, shirt and tie are the acceptable standard. Shorts, tee shirts, runners, etc. are not acceptable and those wearing same will not be able to march with The Corps.

Even though our numbers may be down, we will maintain our high standards of the past.

I encourage as many of you as possible to march this year, as 2018 will commemorate the end of WW1 which saw Australia, for the first time, fight as a Nation on that first ANZAC Day at Gallipoli.

If any of our members require transport by the generous RACV volunteer drivers, you MUST let Corps Secretary, John McIVER know as soon as possible so that it can be arranged. John is very good at getting things arranged, but he can't work miracles if you leave him no time. John's email is [revicm@bigpond.com](mailto:revicm@bigpond.com)

## **CORPS WELFARE and SUPPORT**

The Committee met at ANZAC House on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February and a number of issues were discussed which we feel deserve mentioning to the membership.

A long discussion took place concerning support for various organisations which are directly concerned with the benefit and welfare of ex service personnel.

Organisations such as The Repatriation Hospital Heidelberg, the RSL, Legacy, The Shrine of Remembrance, The “Weary” Dunlop Foundation, various cadet units and so on.

However, Corps members are The Corps’ priority, as is your welfare and support.

If any member has a particular issue they need addressed or if any of you have an idea or suggestion that you feel may benefit other Corps members, please get in touch with any of the Committee directly and it will be considered on its merits.

The Corps is here for the benefit of its members and the wider veteran community. It is time we looked more closely at how we can support each other and how we can provide support for other like minded organisations, so that The Corps has a decisive role to play in veterans support.



### **Annual General Meeting 2018**

I know it is very early to be talking about our AGM, but for this year, the Centenary of Armistice, the Committee has decided that a commemorative dinner should be held in conjunction with the AGM.

The dinner will be a formal dinner, evening wear (including uniforms) and medals to be worn.

Our guest speaker will be a military person of note, which will be announced later this year.

The dinner will be held at the RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne, on Saturday, November 17th commencing 1830 for drinks and a 1900 sit down for dinner.

As this is such a special occasion, the Committee also decided that the cost for members and their spouse(partners) will be covered by The Corps. All other guests will be required to pay to attend and the price of this will also be announced as soon as possible.

This formal dinner will be a memorable occasion and members should make every seffort to attend. The normal meeting procedures and awards presentataions will take place during the evening.

We look forward to responses from you as soon as you decide you would like to attend.

### **Annual Membership Subscription**

Annual Membership Subscriptions are due on the **1st April 2018**. So you are welcome to pay your dues it any time prior to that date and certainly would call ANZAC Day (25 April 2018), the **Cut Off Date**.

For those members having paid in advance, thank you. For those who have not, your payment of **\$15 per year** can be made by any one (1) of the following options (listed below, in order of preference):

1. Direct Debit to our bank account: Bank of Melbourne, BSB 193-879, Corps of Commissionaires, Account 4669 33929. (Please include your Corps Number and Part of your Surname in the detail box.)
2. Cheque or Money Order, the cheque made out to Corps of Commissionaires Association, C/- 6 Algona Court, St Helena 3088
3. Payment in Cash to any Member of the Committee.

Receipts will be issued and send with the next item of correspondence.

For any queries regarding Membership Subscriptions please contact the Membership Officer, Gerard Vander via email: [gerard.vander@outlook.com](mailto:gerard.vander@outlook.com) or Telephone: (03) 9435 4477.

In conclusion, this will be a very busy year for the Corps. Your participation in the forthcoming events would be greatly appreciated as it makes the time and work put into The Corps by the Committee so worthwhile.

**LEST WE FORGET**