

Women's Royal Australian Army Corps

QLD REVIEW

Issue 171 November 2023



Soldier makes the cut

LCpl Emily Drummond
at the Chief of Army Symposium in Perth

Photo: WO2 Max Bree

Article from Army News

A NORMAL infantry section commander's knowledge of haircuts ends with what the Army Dress Manual allows.

But one member from 11/28RWAR is just as familiar with scissors and a curling iron as she is with a rifle and body armour.

LCpl Emily Drummond was born in Kalgoorlie and grew up in Dunsborough, before leaving school by Year 10 to become a hairdresser.

Inspired by her aunt, LCpl Drummond joined the Army Reserve in 2016 and went on several full-time contracts that included deployments on Operation Resolute and to India late last year.

She was part of an Aussie platoon that worked with an Indian infantry battalion, to see how the Commonwealth armies could integrate.

"At the start we were doing drills next to them. Even though

it was British-based it was different, though the foundation was the same," LCpl Drummond said.

Soldiers from each country demonstrated how they conducted activities, such as urban room clearances, worked out a way to do it together, then ran through as a combined team.

While there, LCpl Drummond met Indian women who had recently been allowed to enter combat roles.

"They were blown away by the things that I've done," she said.

"It made me feel so lucky being a woman living in Australia. I have a lot more opportunities.

"I loved being able to show them what they could be able to do, and hopefully, eventually would be able to."

LCpl Drummond was part of the RSM-A's Junior Leader Fellowship that ran from August 28-31, in conjunction with the Chief of Army Symposium in

Perth. Participants toured military bases in the area, attended seminars and heard from Australian and international military leaders.

This led LCpl Drummond to think about being more adaptable as a leader.

"The soldiers and people joining the Army are changing," she said.

"You've got to adapt your leadership style."

Apart from hairdressing, LCpl Drummond also became a civilian personal trainer, and is now a combat fitness leader at Alpha Coy, 11/28RWAR, in Bunbury.

While blow waves and perms seem a world away from combat shooting and urban assaults, LCpl Drummond's skills with the scissors still come in handy.

"I do the emergency haircuts when the boys get in trouble from the Command Sergeant Major," she said.



Acknowledgement: Thank you to the Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch for the printing.

LTCOL Vivian Bullwinkel,

AO MBE ARRC ED

The Australian War Memorial has unveiled a sculpture of Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel, in the grounds of the Australian War Memorial, the first of an individual nurse or woman, on August 2, 2023. This sculpture will stand as a constant reminder of her exceptional military service and importance to the story of Australian nursing. A collaborative project with the Australian College of Nursing, the sculpture recognises not only Bullwinkel, but all Australian nurses who has lost their lives, survived atrocities or made sacrifices while serving their country. The sculpture includes 22 inlaid stainless steel discs reflecting the 22 victims of the Banks Island Massacre. The discs are arranged at the base of the sculpture as a reflection of the stars that would have been visible in the night sky on 16 February 1942. The sculpture is located outside Poppy's Café at the Australian War Memorial.



THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE MASSACRE OF 22 AUSTRALIAN NURSES ON BANGKA ISLAND

The anniversary will be commemorated at Saint Augustine's Anglican Church in Racecourse Road Hamilton, on **Sunday 11 February 2024**, commencing at 1.30pm. Please be seated by 1.15pm. Afternoon tea will be served in the church hall following the service.



Vales

Barbara Manning, nee Coulson

Regimental No F1/57 Member No 355



Shirley Lofdahl, nee Lovett

Regimental No F15055

17/10/1938 to 27/9/2023

Aged 84 years



Rest in Peace - Soldiers of the Queen
LEST WE FORGET



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.



BUS TRIP TO THE AUSTRALIA ZOO – Wednesday 22nd November 2023

Hello all, we are now seeking numbers, for our trip. Remember this is a **FREE** entry to the Zoo and **FREE** transportation.

Mt Gravatt Coaches will be our transport for the day to arrive at Australia Zoo at 1000am and depart at 2.30pm

THREE PICK-UP POINTS

1. **8am** - Depart near the Salvation Army Temple Brisbane City
(pick-up passengers from Ann Street Stop 9 near King George Square bus stop)
2. **8.30am** - Arrive at Kedron-Wavell RSL – Kittyhawk Drive
8.45am - Depart Kedron-Wavell
3. **9.15am** - Arrive at McDonald's, Caboolture, Learjet Drive
9.30am - Depart McDonald's, Caboolture

10am - Arrive at Australia Zoo

2.30pm - Depart Australia Zoo

- **3pm** - Arrive at McDonald's, Caboolture
- **3.45pm** - Arrive at Kedron-Wavell
- **4.30pm** - Arrive back at The Salvation Army Church Brisbane City (Drop off passengers from Ann Street Stop 9 near King George Square bus stop.)

RSVP by 15th November to our Secretary Marjorie on **Numbers** and **Pick Up Point**

Mobile: 0400 0380 221 or Email: secretarywraac_qld@outlook.com

(We thank Andrew Wallace MP Federal Member for Fisher for organising the 2023 Sunshine Coast Veterans Day)

**General Meeting 25 November commencing at 10:30am
Geebung RSL, 323 Newman Road, Geebung**

**followed by a light luncheon (finger food, hot/cold)
to enjoy Christmas Cheer!**

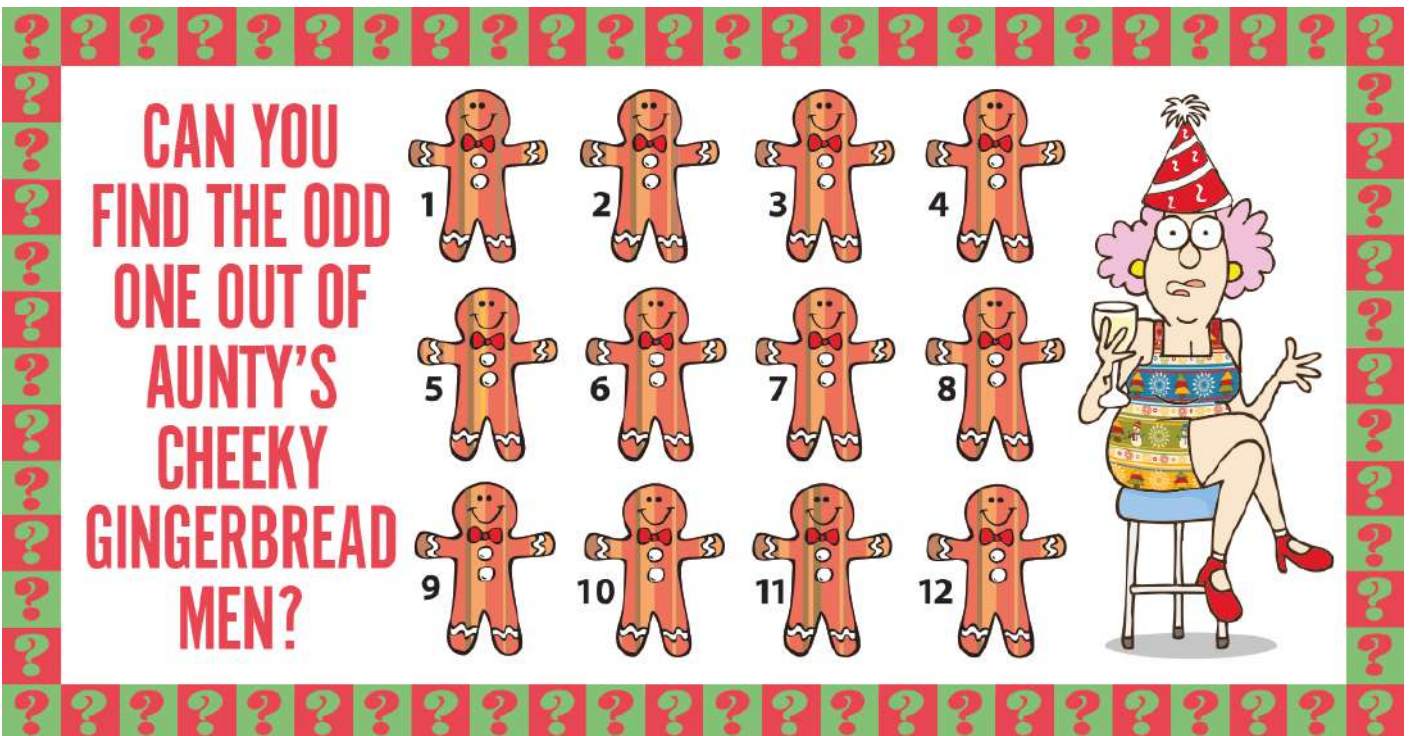
**The Association is subsidising this Event
and members are asked to pay \$10.00 each**

**RSVP and payment to Treasurer Carolyn Paul by 13th November 2023
Phone: 0402 078 632 Email: treasurerwraac.qld@outlook.com**

Why not brighten up the day and wear your festive attire!



**Your Committee wishes you and your family all
the very best for Christmas and may 2024 bring
good health and happiness to all!**



Wellbeing Training

We are endeavouring to provide a better service to all members by increasing the number of Wellbeing Support Officers in, or close to the area you live.

Currently, Eve Radford has been the only trained Wellbeing Support Officer to cover the entire Association and this has been the case for a number of years. While many other members have assisted when they were able, no professional training for these volunteers has ever been undertaken.

This set up a challenge, to see how our volunteers could receive training and while liaising with different members of the RSL it wasn't until I ran into Steve Monteath at the Banka Island Memorial Service this year, and confessed that I was desperate.

Steve, an RSL Board Member, SED Wellbeing Advocate, Sub-Branch mentor and a colleague from my past career, said that with approval, he would be happy to include our ladies in the next training session. He advised the program was being redrafted and once rolled out he would invite us to attend the first course.

On Tuesday 19th September, 10 of us attended a training day at the Sunnybank RSL Sub-Branch.



Kay, Narelle, Gwenda, Chris, Marjorie, Carmel, Deidre, Lorraine, Fran, and Maggie

The training was basic and addressed the needs of the WSO's within the RSL Sub Branches. Utilising the 'handouts' and based on the training, I am currently drafting some guidelines and practices more specific to our needs which meet the parameters as a volunteer within our Association.

After being such a driving force to get the training off the ground, unfortunately Steve was not able to attend the course due to illness.

Sadly the day after the course, Steve tendered his resignation to the SED RSL in order for him to undertake a strict health regime for the future. I wish him well.

Kay Halford



Charity Fundraiser

Win this beautiful hand made Quilt by purchasing a \$5.00 Lucky "Number"



Ensure you purchase your number now or you will miss out! Limited to 200 numbers. To purchase a number or two, refer to Internet Banking details on page 11. Please include in the reference your "name/quilt raffle", then email the secretary to receive your number/s.

The Winner will be drawn at our November meeting at Geebung RSL on Saturday 25th November 2023. Results will be published on our website and in the WRAAC Review following the draw.

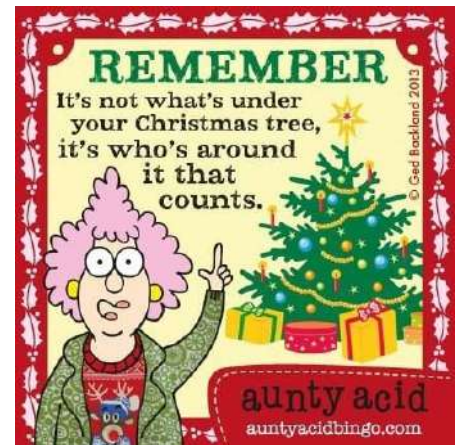
This Quilt was kindly donated to the Association by Jennifer Gilbert, Carolyn's sister. Many hours of labour have been spent to produce such a beautiful result. It will make a lovely wall hanging or a throw rug for your bed or knees during the cooler months.

All funds raised will be donated to charity.

Thank you for your support, it is much appreciated. Good Luck!



Don't delay or you will miss out!!
Drawn at the November meeting!!



Currumbin RSL - 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War - 60,000 served, 521 died, 3,000 wounded

Vi Spies WRAAF, Chris Clancy WRAAC, Pam Hardy Treloar WRNZAC
President Michael Humphreys, Currumbin RSL President addressing the crowd.

They put on a wonderful seated luncheon upstairs after. Groups came from Tassie and Melbourne. Service was historically oriented and well presented.

My husband was a nasho, he was a boat builder so went to water transport. Loaded and unloaded the ships (army style wharfie), but never went to Vietnam. Signed up again when he met me and his life has been perfect ever since!



Chris Clancy



From the President's Pen

Hello all, since the last Newsletter, Marjorie (Secretary) and I attended the Commemorative Service for Victory In the Pacific at the RSL SED. Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM Governor of Queensland was the guest speaker and it was nice to talk with her later as she mingled with guests at the morning tea. I laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.

August saw our General Meeting at Geebung and following it was popcorn and chocolates all round while we watched a special edition video to the Women's Land Army. Most interesting.

Storage of Memorabilia is still an issue, and it is not for the want of asking but, again another hurdle. I never say die, and my next visit will be to Fort Lytton to have discussions.

Sadly we lost member Shirley Lofdahl earlier this month. A number of us attended her funeral service with Dee Elliott, who drove down from the Sunshine Coast, doing an inspirational Poppy Service. A thank-you letter has been received from Shirley's daughter, Kerry.

Carolyn Paul and I met up with an ex-WRAAC who served from 1954 to 1964. Deana Carr had contacted the Association to learn more about us and after having morning tea, the application form was complete, membership paid, personal papers handed over for photocopying and as Carolyn had taken her laptop, she quickly made application for Deana's ADF Medal and submitted other necessary documents. Deana has a very colourful past and we are hoping with her approval that Gwenda may one day produce her profile which I might add has already been written as she wanted to provide us with her complete history. We enjoyed meeting her and her daughter and hopefully Deana may be able to attend some of our events.

How wonderful, the invitation has now arrived for us to attend Australia Zoo free of charge on Wednesday 22nd November 2023. I am very grateful to Andrew Wallace MP, Federal Member for Fisher who organised this and I'm sure we will have a wonderful day. Further details will be forthcoming regarding bus pick up spots and times. Two events almost back-to-back as our final general meeting and Christmas luncheon is on the 25th November at Geebung. Hope to see you at one or perhaps both events.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your support and confidence in the Association. We, the Committee are here to assist if we can, so please don't hesitate to call.

Some of our members are doing it tough, please know that our thoughts are with you. It is wonderful to see the support being provided by means of that 'common thread' that bonds us together.

To all, may your Christmas be what you wish and may we all be back next year to enjoy our 73rd Corps Day Luncheon.

Warm Wishes

Kay



Is this you?

An amount of \$30.00 was deposited from PCU. Could the member who made this deposit please let the Treasurer know so that it can be credited to their membership.

Thank you



REMEMBRANCE DAY
LEST WE FORGET



Roma Street Parklands

On Tuesday 5th September we met for a wonderful day at the Roma Street Parklands. This was only the second time I had been there as the first was to do a recce for this event.

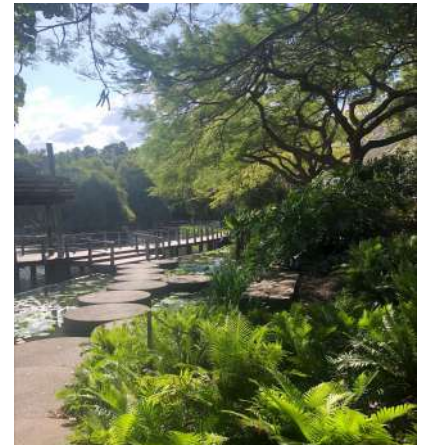
What a wonderful place and those who attended had a fabulous day. Although warm, we were blessed with a light breeze and our guided tour through the rainforest section certainly contributed to a pleasant day.

We started out by meeting at the HUB where we consumed our own lunch, chatted, and caught up on the latest news however, we did have to put up with the scrounging wildlife in particular the very frisky water dragons who displayed signs you normally see in 'springtime' and without any warning we learnt just how loud Gwenda could scream. Unfortunately the lizards got a little too close for comfort and Gwenda certainly let everyone know although, our laughter drowned her out.

Following lunch we met up with our guide and realised how fortunate we were to have Mr Lawrie Smith AO B.Arch (UQ) Dip Land Arch (QIT) ARAIA FAILA Landscape Architect with over 50 years' experience. Lawrie has been involved with the Parkland since its early inception. Although retired, he continues to volunteer and provide input to Local and State Government in ensuring our parklands in Brisbane are a place for the future. His wealth and knowledge and his 'hands-on' in this area gave us a memorable insight into its history.

A good day was had by all.

Kay H.



HIGH TEA Fran Sinclair and Narelle attended the High Tea hosted by Navy Women and the Geebung RSL on 27 Aug 2023.

Lots of laughter and chatter swirling around the room, as we caught up with friends, whilst enjoying delectable scones smothered in jam and cream, delectable sandwiches, and indulgent sweet treats.

Lucky door prizes and raffles kept us busy checking our tickets - monies raised went to the Geebung RSL Ladies Auxiliary and the Navy Women.

Many thanks to the organizers for a wonderful afternoon.

Narelle



High Tea



NOVEMBER

2023

Wednesday 22nd **VETERANS' HEALTH WEEK BUS TRIP**

A bus trip to Australia Zoo has been organised as part of Veterans' Health Week. See our Website for the details of this event, or page 3 of this newsletter, for more details.



Saturday 25th **General Meeting 10:30am** Geebung RSL, 323 Newman Road, Geebung

Followed by a light luncheon (finger food, hot/cold) details on page 3

The Quilt Raffle will be drawn at this meeting. Looking forward to seeing you there!

JANUARY

2024

Saturday 13th **Committee Meeting 10:30am** SED RSL New Farm

FEBRUARY

Saturday 10th **Corps Day** - flyer attached

Sunday 11th **Banka Island 82nd Anniversary**
Details page 2

MARCH

Saturday 9th **Committee Meeting 10:30am** SED RSL New Farm

Saturday 23rd **General Meeting 10:30am** Geebung RSL, 323 Newman Road, Geebung



Have you checked our **Website** www.qldwraac.org.au

JUST ONE CLICK AWAY

- ★ HISTORY ★ OUR ASSOCIATION ORIGIN ★ PICTURE GALLERY
- ★ ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION ★ UP COMING EVENTS
- ★ AND MUCH MORE

HERVEY BAY ESW SOCIAL CLUB 39TH BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 20 - 22 OCTOBER 2023



A wonderful time was had by one and all. Sadly Julie Chapple was unable to attend due to having COVID. The theme this year for the luncheon on Saturday was "Colour Our World" and the majority of those attending were bright and colourful. The judges were Lorraine Houlihan and Jenny Waldron and the winner was me, much to my surprise. As usual there were raffles in abundance, of which our table was extremely lucky and we also won the trivia questions. Sunday breakfast was at the Mijo Café, who opened especially for us, and we had a wonderful view over the lake from our tables. Breakfast was enjoyed by all. Thank you Hervey Bay for another fantastic weekend.



Gwenda



CESWAQ

What is the Council of Exservicewomen's Associations Qld Inc.?

The Council is a body made up of delegates from 8 Queensland exservicewomen's Associations to be an umbrella organisation for those associations.

Which Associations make up the Council?



Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld Sub-Section Inc (1977)
Redcliffe & District Ex-Service Women's Club Inc (1978)
Defence Service Nurses RSL Sub-Branch (1986)
WRAAC Association Qld Inc (1987)
Bundaberg District Women Veterans Inc (1991)
WRAAF Branch of RAAF Association Qld Division (1997)
RSL Defence Servicewomen's Sub-Branch (2004)
WRAAF Association (Qld) Inc (2019)



What is the function/role/purpose of the Council?

- To be the link between all our associations and to promote interaction between them.
- To be a link between our associations, the broader exservice community, government at all levels and the outside world.
- To promote the wellbeing of all members of all associations.
- To promote commemoration and appreciation of the service of women in the military.
- To take the issues of exservicewomen to the appropriate body and stand for the rights of exservicewomen.

How does the Council fulfill its function/role/purpose?

Each year the Council organizes three functions to which all members of our member associations, all exservicewomen generally, government representatives from all levels of government and members of the public are invited.

- Tri-service luncheon.
- Exservicewomen's Church service.
- Women's Memorial Service and Wreath Laying.

This builds community and camaraderie between the three exservice groups, all associations and respect from government and the general community.

How is the Council funded?



- Member associations pay a small membership fee
- The primary source of income is from grants from the Anzac Day Trust, which is funded by the Queensland government
- Raffles at the Tri-service luncheon

How does one judge the success of the Council's function/role/purpose?

- The success of the functions the Council initiates is judged by numbers attending, the diversity of those attending and the many messages of appreciation expressing enjoyment of said functions.
- The level of respect given to the Council by all levels of government, including DVA, and other exservice organisations.

What does the Council spend its money on?

- Organising functions to enhance camaraderie between exservicewomen — our members in particular - thereby enhancing their mental well being.
- Subsidising members at our major functions so that more of them can attend.
- Laying wreaths at many commemorations and memorial services.



COMMITTEE FOR 2023-2024

PRESIDENT	Kay Halford	0413 216 643	presidentwraac@optusnet.com.au
VICE PRESIDENT	Leanne Gibbs	0424 141 618	
SECRETARY	Marjorie McShane	0400 038 221	secretarywraac_qld@outlook.com
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Kay Halford	0413 216 643	
TREASURER	Carolyn Paul	0402 078 632	treasurerwraac.qld@outlook.com
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Cindie Manzie	0431 376 843	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Narelle Gourlay	0417 648 309	Gwenda Smith	0400 818 846

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ASSOCIATION INFORMATION



POSTAL ADDRESS: WRAAC Association (Qld) Inc.
30 Scrubby Creek Road, BROWNS PLAINS QLD 4118



WEBSITE: www.qldwraac.org.au

GENERAL MEETINGS

- ◆ 10.30 am
 - ◆ On the 4th Saturday in March, May, August and November
- It is hoped that we will be having a Bus Trip in July and also an Event in October to celebrate Veterans Health Week details TBA*

GENERAL MEETING VENUE:

- ◆ Geebung RSL
323 Newman Road, Geebung

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- ◆ 10.30 am
- ◆ Bi-monthly or as required

COMMITTEE MEETING VENUE:

- ◆ South East District RSL
42-50 Oxlade Drive, New Farm

MEMBERSHIP FEES

- ◆ **\$15.00** due on **31st March** each year

INTERNET BANKING

- ◆ **ACCOUNT NAME:** WRAAC Assn Qld Inc.
- ◆ **BSB:** 124074 (Bank of Qld) **ACCOUNT NO:** 23017767
- ◆ **PAYEE REF:** Please quote your Initial & Surname and what the payment is for. Eg. ACitizen/Fees

IMPORTANT

Please text or email the Treasurer with your payment details, to ensure your payment can be receipted correctly.



Process for borrowing:

Contact the Librarian Daniela Bensen on 3869 3190 or E: bensen21@hotmail.com

- * Borrowing time will be 3 months.
- * If you are local we would ask that you 'pick up' and 'return' at a meeting.
- * If you are not local we will try and make an arrangement to save a postage fee.

A list of available publications is on our website. For those who don't have a computer, ask the secretary, and a copy will be mailed to you.

Thank you



If you have celebrated an Anniversary, Birthday or maybe a Lotto Win ...

We hope enjoyed your special day!
Whatever you were celebrating!!



Don't Forget!

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE 31 MARCH EACH YEAR

FEES ARE **NOW OVERDUE** FOR 2023

CAN'T GET TO GENERAL MEETINGS AND FEEL LIKE YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON INFORMATION?

A copy of the Minutes from the General and Annual General Meetings will now be emailed or posted to you. If you are not receiving your copy or would prefer not to receive them, please contact the Secretary Marjorie McShane on 0400 038 221 or send an email to secretarywraac_qld@outlook.com and she will be happy to discuss this with you.

ALL GENERAL MEETINGS IN 2024 WILL BE HELD AT GEEBUNG RSL

Don't FORGET!

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS & CONTACT NAME IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY



Have you changed any of your personal details? Please advise the Secretary so we can update our records. Change of address, phone number, email address or contact name and phone number in case of an emergency. If we lose contact with you, we may rely on ringing *your* contact person.

care corner

Meg Grayson Chalmers is currently home in the care of her daughter Leanne, Desley is keeping the doctors busy. Jennifer G in Toowoomba is still having some medical issues, Verree C is keeping well ,but also keeping medical staff employed. If I have missed anyone who is not feeling so good and would like some support from us please let myself or WRAAC know.

Otherwise, I hope you all keep well.



Signing off, *Eve Radford*
0438 320 845
Wellbeing Officer

Lucky Member Draw ...



Cathie Lymbery

DEADLINE FOR NEXT REVIEW

Deadline for the next newsletter is **12 February 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, reports and letters to the Editor at the association address or email editorwraac.qld@outlook.com

Your input makes an ordinary Review "Extraordinary"

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



WRAAC MERCHANDISE

Contact Cindie Manzie
E: cintru@hotmail.com



Car Sticker
\$5



Pte Penny Gadget
A "Torch" to light your way
An "Opener" to help you refresh
A "Tape" to measure
A "Key Ring" to travel with you!
\$4



Lapel Pin
\$8



Pen
I can write
your messages
& I have a
"Stylus" for
your screens
\$2



Car Sticker
\$3

