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## 01/02/01 Message From The Caretaker President

It does not seem any time at all since John Carlyon was hounding me for a report, what do you know, he is at me again. He does not understand, I have Golf to play, lawns to mow, go on a camping trip for a couple of weeks. He does not realise just how nice camping on the bank of the Burdekin River in Macrossan reserve 20 or 30 KLMS East of Charters Towers, just far enough out of town so you can't hear the Disco at the Pub, but close enough to take Maureen (wife) to town every couple of days for a fix at the local RSL (Pokies), otherwise life would be (you know what).

I must apologise to the Boys from Newcastle way for missing them in my last report. Roll Call--- TAXI O'HARA; JOHN TRINDALL; CYROSS VESPER; ALBERT DITTON; KEN GIBSONS who made a special trip up to our meeting at the Gold Coast at Xmas time. Great to see such a dedicated team of blokes make the effort. THANKS BOYS. To me, that says alot about people in our Association.

Listen:: I am not going to tell anybody about this, but:: seeing the blokes from Newcastle made the effort to attend the meeting, I decided to appoint TAXI O'HARA to read the ODE at the beginning of the meeting, "not a problem," says TAXI, glancing down at the piece of paper I had given him. "No worries," he said.

A couple of minutes later we were ready to open the meeting and get proceedings underway so I called everybody to attention. "Would you read the ODE please Taxi?" No reply! I glance over towards the Newcastle Boys, a great gap in the group where TAXI was standing, but no TAXI. So I assumed he had moved to a better position to do his job. I called a bit louder over the mike, "ODE please TAXI". Of course the whole crowd was silently and solemnly waiting for you know who to respond. Finally there was a muffled call from the HEAD, something like <<<<<>>>>>>>> one of his mates came to his rescue as TAXI came rushing out zipping up. "Lets have another Beer," says Taxi!

Hope everyone, that is entitled, has received their VET entitlements [Service Pension Gold Card etc] Don't worry about Medals they will eventually arrive, I imagine it is a mammoth job organising and issuing same. People who have any doubts about what their entitlements are, contact an Advocate [Naval] of course, and discuss your problems with them. The South Aussie Boys under the guidance of Bill Jarman and Trevor Geyer are busy organizing the weekend 23-24-25 of FEB for a dedication of a Ships Anchor in a Park down that way in conjunction with the NAA. They need as many Naval type Bods to turn up as possible for that weekend. Also, they are getting organized for ANZAC Day 2001, as well as REUNION 2003. Let's support them 100%.

Maureen and I thank everyone for helping us to celebrate and remember our 50th Wedding Anniversary [16/12/1950-16/12/2000] at the Gold Coast Meeting. Maureen can't understand why I get a Medal and she doesn't!

Your Aye, Colin Wurtz