



Dave's Report on Current NMW Matters – 2nd November 2020

Beautiful rain and a green, green Walk. Thanks Mother Nature!



Hello all,

It has been a while since my last report but times have been busy and many jobs have either been completed or are well on the way. The sandstone garden is only awaiting the planting of Poinsettias when they arrive from Mexico as we have planted the Rosemary and have used existing cuttings and transplants with the Russelia (Firecracker) then it just a matter of top dressing and construction of a watering system for the project to be complete ready for dedication by 3 RAR.

We have submitted applications for grants under "Saluting Their Service" scheme for the concreting the paved area and the surrounds of the Contemplation Building. The Comd 7 Bde, Brigadier Justin Blaine. penned an exemplary supporting letter to add meaning to the importance of the Contemplation Building which encases our Memorial Honour Board which centers the Spiritual Home of the Regiment.

The front of the Contemplation Building has been sown with grass seed and has since been mown twice and is a marvelous patch of green on Lavarack Parade denoting a building of some import that drivers and passersby cannot but notice.

Dads Army at Work



This is our Lone Pine Tree bought by myself, Greg Decker and Barry Shipway from the Yarralumla Nursery. It is a child to the parent tree at Lone Pine and was planted in late February this year. The original height at planting is indicated by my hand: this shows that it has grown by at least 30cm, not only in height but girth as well.



Cec Zabielo is one of tireless Dads Army volunteers. He does the necessary cleaning out of the bins around the Walk on a weekly basis. This is a must do job as many people within Gallipoli Barracks use the Walk's facilities for smoko or lunch under our Diggers' Rest shelters.



Robert Cross I am sure is pointing at a weed and considering if it could grow into a tree and if so it is in the wrong spot.



Derek Nixon-Smith at work at the Contemplation Building. Behind him is the development of the 3 RARA's northern garden with its sandstone wall



As always Mick Van Brugh hard at work



It must be Spring as our friends, the Curlews, have come back.



The Memorial sign surrounded by big red geraniums and gardenias and in the background you can see the lawn at the front of the CB.

The Sick List

The sick list has a new member in yours truly. I have always had high Cholesterol but have managed it with Lipitor but I was talked in to having a CT guided Calcium Score scan and the result was rather alarming in that the Doc reckons I will have a fatal heart attack within 2 to 5 years if untreated. So, I am off to a Cardiologist for treatment and management. No doubt I will be eating nuts and grass and doing as I am told for a while. With all the advancements in heart care over recent years I feel pretty confident the problem can be successfully managed. I guess this diagnosis puts me in the same category as Bob Kyte who is finally out of hospital after treatment for something similar.

Marg and Norm Deveraux are struggling along. Norm is recovering after his operation and Marg has bought herself a new wig. She rejected the bottled blonde one for a more matronly brunette colour.

Ron Woodrow is still meandering along with the slow process of his hip replacement but Darryl Backwell is in the wars again with the return of Cellulites in his right leg but the left leg has developed bursitis in the knee and ankle joints. He is in the Brisbane Mater Private Hospital receiving good care.

Other Activities – Remembrance Day

We are in the process of preparing for McDowall State Primary School Senior Class visit to the Walk to commemorate Remembrance Day. This event tops off their year of study of Australian History particularly our involvement in all the wars our troops have fought. They are very keen students of this history and truly enjoy their visit. Remember people, as requested we need another five volunteers to help Ted and I guide the students around the Walk post ceremony. Over 120 students attend and the smaller the groups the more meaningful the experience for them: so please help. I can assure you of an individually wrapped bickie and a cup of Jubie Juice at morning tea with the children.

This brings me to the point that because of restrictions we will not hold a Remembrance Day Service at 1100 hours but anyone may attend this one with the School Class that starts at 0930.

I will finish off here and wish you are all well. Just in case you want to ask your Medical Practitioner about a Calcium Score, my reasoning for treatment is that I have 7 grandchildren with the eldest being 8 and my daughter is happily pregnant and is going to present her Dad with another one in early May. I want to be around as long as possible for them.

Take care and stay safe.

Dave

Manager NMW

