

Veteran's Health Week – 16 October to 24 October, 2021.

Get Moving (physical activity) will be the key focus for this year's Veterans' Health Week to be held from 16 October to 24 October 2021. Events can be held two weeks before and two weeks after these dates. DVA has provided some hints as to sort of event you could hold, you can see that [HERE](#) but this is not exclusive, if you can think of another physical activity, then apply for it.

Maximum funding for each event is \$750 – but you can apply for funds for more than one event.

Applications for VHW funding are now open, they will close 10 September 2021.

With COVID restrictions still a possibility, organisations are asked to consider the advice from their local State and Territory health departments regarding what restrictions apply for people getting together. Organisers are encouraged to avoid activities that require people to gather in close proximity, like bus or boat trips.



Eligible organisations.

Ex-service organisations (ESOs) or community organisations with established links to the veteran community are eligible to apply for VHW funding or to register an event on the VHW website, including unfunded events.

If your association wishes to hold an event, you can make an application for funding [HERE](#). So that you fill in the form correctly, there are guidelines [HERE](#).

The application form is in PDF format, you fill it in on-line. If it doesn't seem to work (Apple users might have trouble) download the Acrobat Reader from [HERE](#) then try again.

As you can imagine, there are a few requirements but they are not onerous.

- You must show the VHW Logo on all your promotional material – see [HERE](#). You can get a copy of the logo [HERE](#).
- If you take photos or video of your event, DVA would like copies. Before sending any media to DVA, you will need to get people included in the media to sign a consent form which you can get [HERE](#).
- Once you have received and used the funds, you must complete a Statutory Declaration funding acquittal form, you get that [HERE](#).

If you need further info, depending on where you are, contact DVA:

NSW/ACT: (02) 9213 7224



NT: (08) 8935 1426
QLD: (07) 3815 9505
SA: (08) 8290 0478
TAS: (03) 6221 6654
VIC: (03) 9284 6285
WA: (08) 9366 8591

Or you can email them here vhw@dva.gov.au

AVALON Airshow deferred a week - let's hope it's not cancelled as was the F1 Grand Prix

The Australian International Air Show at Avalon, Victoria, has been deferred for a week because of the rescheduled but now cancelled Melbourne Formula 1. (Click the pic below for a better look.)



The deferment means the Royal Australian Air Force can celebrate their Centenary for a week longer than scheduled. CEO for the air show organising company Ian Honnery said the recent rescheduling of the 2021 Melbourne Australian Formula One Grand Prix to the week before AVALON 2021 meant that two of Victoria's largest and most complex events could have been held in consecutive weeks.

"We have completed a review of the implications of any potential logistic confliction, to determine whether Avalon 2021 should proceed on its current schedule, or be deferred by one week and determined that Avalon 2021 will be deferred to new dates, 30 November to 5 December 2021.

This decision was taken in consultation with major stakeholder, the Royal Australian Air Force, reflecting the RAAF's commitment to what will be the major Airshow event of the RAAF Centenary year."

If you've never been to one, this one would be the one to go to. This one will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Air Force and will be a colossus, you will see and be able to get up close and



personal to some magnificent aircraft. Tickets will be on sale soon, keep an eye on the Airshow's web site. As well as being a spectator, the Airshow offers you the opportunity of being directly involved. The Airshow usually has spots for about 500 volunteers, there are a myriad of different 'jobs' available from Aircraft Ground Operations, tarmac duty, car parking, admin to visitor information. Volunteer registration is now open, the spots are limited in number, so if you want to be selected, get in now.

You can find more information on the Airshow web site [HERE](#).


Vietnam Vets Day, 18 August, 2021

The Vietnam Vets Association, Sunshine Coast Branch, is holding its annual ceremony at the Cotton Tree (Maroochydore) RSL Cenotaph on the 18th August.

Assembly is at 10.45am followed by a short march along the river to the Cenotaph. The service will start at 11.00am and finishes around midday, after which there will be a luncheon with some entertainment at the Maroochydore RSL Club. If you're a Vet, this event is very well organized and definitely worth attending - see [HERE](#) - and anyway a day on the Sunshine Coast is not to be sneezed at.

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UPDATE FOR VIETNAM VETERANS DAY WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST 2021 COTTON TREE CENOTAPH



Lunch tickets are now available from the Drop-In-Centre. Please get in early. This will assist in advising the Maroochy RSL of projected numbers. Names, email addresses and phone numbers are required for each person (COVID).

It is now possible to book a table of 10 instead of the limited number of 8 as mentioned in this space in the June edition of Biodice.

To book your table of 10 please notify John Cunningham on 54932513 (0415275969) or email hookin1947@gmail.com and arrange the bookings with him after you have purchased your tickets. Please note that free seating is also available.

Main Commemoration Ceremony

Assembly, 1045 hours at the swimming pool complex. The Eagleade, Cotton Tree. The short march to the Cotton Tree RSL Cenotaph commences at 1055 hours.

Service: 11.00 hours - 1200 hours.

Luncheon: Maroochy RSL following the service. Welcome to guests at 1230 hours. Event to finish no later than 1600 hours (4 p.m.).

Cost: \$40.00 for members and partners. Non-members price is \$50.00 per head. These prices represent the full amount for seats and reflect the increasing costs of hosting a function of this size. Lunch includes a supervised three course meal, some subsidised beer and wine, entertainment and raffle draws.

Transport: A bus will be provided to transport guests to and from the Caloundra RSL. Pick-up time will be 1000 hours. The bus will leave the Maroochy RSL at 1630 hours. Guests in the Maroochy area can avail themselves of the Maroochy RSL courtesy bus.

Special dietary requirements: Leave a message with the duty officer at the Drop-In-Centre or contact John Cunningham on 54932513, or email hookin1947@gmail.com

Vietnam Veterans Day Raffle: Raffle tickets have been sent out. Please rush back your ticket stubs and money ASAP. The proceeds from the raffle assist in subsidising the costs of the luncheon.

NOTE: The annual service at the National Dog Memorial, Alexandra Headland, to start Vietnam Veterans' Day commemorations is not being held this year because of council works in the area.

OUR MISSION To assist all veterans and their dependants in all matters relating to their health, welfare and not being

Numbers, which are filling rapidly, are limited by the number that will fit into the RSL conference room, so if you would like to come, we suggest you get in early. Click the pic at right for further information. If you can't get to the Coast to get tickets, you can ring and transfer funds via the inter-web.

Costs are: Members and their partners \$40.00 Non-Members \$50.00 which includes your lunch, subsidized beer and wine, entertainment and entry into a few raffles.

If you live in the southern area of the Sunshine Coast, there will be a bus provided which you can catch at the Caloundra RSL. It will leave at 10.00am

New Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

On the 2nd July 2021, the Hon Andrew Gee MP was sworn in as the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Minister Gee has held previous roles as the Assistant Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister from 25 January 2019 to 6 February 2020; Minister for Decentralisation and Regional Education from 6 February 2020 to 2 July 2021 and Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Investment from 6 February 2020 to 2 July 2021.





Minister Gee is the Member for Calare in New South Wales (Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst etc) and was first elected to Federal Parliament in 2016 and re-elected in 2019.

Since September 2013, when Tony Abbot and the LNP won office from the Rudd Labor Government, there have been 6 different Ministers for Vet Affairs, that's an average of a bit less than one every 1½ years. They were:

Michael Ronaldson	Sept 2013 – Sept 2015	733 days
Stuart Robert	Sept 2015 – Feb 2016	150 days
Dan Tehan	Feb 2016 – Dec 2017	670 days
Michael McCormack	Dec 2017 – Mar 2018	68 days
Darren Chester	Mar 2018 – July 2021	1214 days
Andrew Gee	July 2021 –	

No wonder it's a bloody shambles.

