



The Partners of Veterans Association
South Australian Branch Inc.



SA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

*This edition of the PVA SA Newsletter has been printed by courtesy of Cressida O'Hanlon MP,
Member for Dunstan SA, 90-94 The Parade at Norwood SA 5067*

From the PVA SA President to Members

Hi Everyone,

The State Management Board met in January for a planning Day and there are some exciting things on offer for 2026. The Planning for our Veterans Family Day, to be held May 17th, is well underway – there is information on Page 5 of the newsletter. Please encourage your family and friends to attend.

I have received from National Board, information re a campaign being the main focus for 2026. **Honouring Hidden Service**. Here in South Australia, we are going to hold a **High Tea Event** most probably around June. We will also have an information table for Partners at the Veterans Family Day available. In October there will be an event in Canberra which will include a Forum & Seminar to be held at the War Memorial, with a wreath laying ceremony, Morning Tea and AGM and a Last Post Ceremony. **This is open for all PVA members to attend**. We desperately need expressions of interest so we can have some idea of who would like to attend, and then we can work out the how's and when's, and costs and organise to travel together.

I would like to say THANK YOU to our Board members, and the many other ordinary members, who are working together to make these functions run so smoothly

Kind regards.

Chris Goodfellow OAM

“IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS”

THERE ARE SOME INCORRECT DATES IN YOUR NATIONAL 2026 PVA CALENDAR

We have been advised by PVA National that there are date errors in the 2026 PVA Calendar that was sent to you in December: The errors are as follows:

1. **February 2026:** The dates of 23rd - 28th February have been duplicated, showing 34 days in February instead of 28 days!
2. **Therefore:** The DVA Pension dates are incorrect from the beginning of March through to December 2026. The DVA Payment date should have shown as 5th March (NOT 12th), and payments every four weeks thereafter.
3. **Easter:** The dates are incorrectly listed as 17th-20th April instead of Good Friday 3rd and Easter Sunday 5th April and Easter Monday 6th April.

“HEADS UP - WATCH THIS SPACE!”

We are in the planning stages of an exciting new event:

**A HIGH TEA IN THE
AYERS HOUSE BALLROOM
288 North Tce. Adelaide**



**THE THEME IS
“HONOURING THE HIDDEN SERVICE”**

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER, your annual invoice for membership fees owing on 30/6. Payment can be made online to: Beyond Bank, A/c Name: Partners of Veterans Association of Australia - SA Branch Inc BSB: 325 185 A/c Number: 03603892

PVASA Member's 2025 Xmas Lunch in the RSL Memorial Hall 25/11/2025

It was a unanimous that the lunch was a great day, entertained by Santa and "Lady Petunia!"
 Lady Petunia is in the care of Pauline Cameron (SA Board Member and PVA National Director).



**Lady
 "Petunia at
 the PVASA
 Members
 Xmas Lunch
 2026**



PVA SA Members with Santa



**Our
 Xmas
 Raffle
 Draw
 Winner**

**Paul B
 Our much
 appreciated
 PVASA
 Tech Guy**



**Santa's
 Xmas Gift -
 From the
 PVASA
 Board**



Highbury Primary School Remembrance Assembly 2025 Operation Unity - Instigator of School Art Competition

Trevor & Colleen Harvey were invited to the Highbury Primary School Remembrance Assembly in December 2025 and submitted the following article for the PVA SA Newsletter

On entering the hall, we saw artworks on display called **“Remember, Reflect”** which grabbed our attention. The students from room 16, welcomed & escorted us to our seats.

The activity room was packed with all the school students, teachers and a few parents. The assembly commenced with the **“Honouring of Soldiers”** from the **Highbury Hope Valley** area who sacrificed so much in 1915—1918 war. All in attendance stood for the **“Ode”** the students then laid their wreaths. The Last Post was played; a minute’s silence was observed then the Rouse.

Mr. Bill Bates from Operation Unity announced the winners of the Art Competition. The combined senior & junior choirs sang a couple of songs and closed the remembrance assembly with the National Anthem.

It was a delightful, meaningful tribute to our service men and women, demonstrating their appreciation of our forebears.



**Board Members
- Pauline and
Linda at the
Repat
Remembrance
Day Service
November 2025**

Welcome

**To our newest PVA SA Members
from Oct.2025**

**Rebecca Luke of Elizabeth SA
Frances Seychell of Surrey Downs SA**



Veteran's Health Week celebrated on 12/2/2026 at the Modbury Plaza Hotel
PVA SA represented by members; Joy Biddle (North Eastern Communities Coordinator)
and Claudia Cream OAM

On Thursday the 12th of February the PVASA members celebrated Veteran's Health Week at the Modbury Hotel Conference Centre. This Event was possible with a successful Grant Application from DVA and was very much appreciated.

Our first guest speaker was Claire McDonald from Fuel Your Life. Claire is a dietician specialising in health issues relating to the aging process and explained how simple changes to our diets can impact on helping our bodies cope with issues such as diabetes; heart disease; weight problems etc. This was very interesting and many questions were asked and well answered.

Our next speakers were Sarah Sellers who is a member of PVASA and Ashleigh from Lives Lived Well from the Veteran's and Families Well Being Hub. Sarah provided information of all the services and programs available through the Hub. These included how to get the support network to assist the family member. This may be with housing; employment advocacy; transitioning after a new posting. All of these issues affect the family and therefore our health and wellbeing.

Each speaker was presented with a copy of the book "Like Shadows in the Corner" by Helen Austin. These were very much appreciated as the book was compiled with stories from wives of Vietnam Veterans, some who are members of PVA.

A great day was had by everyone.

A big thankyou to the twenty-nine ladies who were able to attend.

BANKA DAY 84TH ANNIVERSARY – Story submitted by Joy Biddle, SA Board Member. PVA SA represented by Mrs Claudia Cream OAM, and Joy Biddle(pictured).

On Sunday the 12th of February I was honoured to represent The Partners of Veterans Australia SA Branch, at the Banka Day 84th Anniversary Memorial Service at the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields. This was in honour of the SA Nursing Sisters massacred at Banka Island on the 16th Feb 1942.

The service was attended by her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC Governor of South Australia, Steve Larkins, OAM, MBA, FAICD, Colone-(retired), and many other dignitaries and members of organisations who presented tributes.

Steve Larkins, OAM, MBA, FAICD, Colonel-(retired) gave a moving speech of the events that had taken place and of the Nurses themselves.

The SA Women's Memorial Playing Guild Trust Inc. and organisers put together a memorable ceremony and luncheon was enjoyed by everyone.





VETERANS' FAMILIES DAY

— Hosted by the South Australian Branch of —

★ FREE! ★



The Partners of Veterans
Association of Australia Inc

★ FREE! ★

DENISON CENTRE / MOBARA PARK OVAL
14 Garden Terrace, Mawson Lakes

SUNDAY, 17TH MAY, 2026 | 10am — 4pm

We invite all Defence Force members, past and present and their families.
Let's celebrate with many exciting activities for young and old. FREE!



- Outdoor Games
- Wildlife
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Military Vehicles
- Prizes
- Lucky Dip
- Art & Craft Tables

- Face Painting
- Balloon Making
- Poppy Steps
- Veterans Gaming
- Prizes
- Sporting Celebrities
- Lots of Free Gifts



— ★ FREE Sausage Sizzle & Refreshments ★ —



Be a part of the festivities! Don't miss out!

[Veterans Family Day - 17th May 2026](#)

Contact: Angela Portakiewicz - M: 0416 221 328



Coffee and Chat Groups

NORTH EASTERN, MODBURY:

- 2nd Thursday each month, 10.00am
- The Modbury Plaza Hotel
- 989 North East Rd, Modbury
- Contact Joy B. M:0411 244 852

SOUTHERN SUBURBS, REYNELLA

- 2nd Thursday each month, 10.30am
- at Café Buongiorno
- 93 Main South Rd, O'Halloran Hill
- Contact Margaret C. Hm:08 8326 8577
- Contact Margaret E. M:0439 142 221

CLARE

- Various times and venues for either coffee/chat or lunch
- Contact Wendy L. M:0417 823 558

SOUTHERN FLEURIEU

- Various times and venues
- Contact Rosemary P. M:0418 422 183
- Contact Kathie V. M:0438 877 709

HEALTH AND HARMONY

- 4th Thursday each month, 10.30am to 1.30pm
- RSL Memorial Hall
- Torrens Parade Ground, Adelaide.
- Contact Anne H. Hm:08 8262 3974

A Nationwide support network for partners of past and present members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and their allies.

P.V.A. believes it is imperative that no partner should ever feel deserted, defeated or most of all, totally isolated and/or alone.

- **Aged Rights Advocacy Services (ARAS)**
Advocates are available at the Strathalbyn Library on the 1st Tuesday of each month, answering questions on aged rights. Services are free, confidential, and culturally safe. No need to book, simply attend the Strathalbyn Library at 1 Colman Tce between 10.00am to 12.00pm. <https://www.facebook.com/photo/>

Real Estate

Debbie Glastonbury is a PVA SA member that contributes to the cause of supporting partners of veterans through her work in real estate.

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS, CALL DEBBIE TODAY!


Thinking of Selling?

With over 50 years of trusted results and local expertise, we're here to help you make confident, informed decisions.

Contact Debbie today for your no-obligation market appraisal.

DEBBIE GLASTONBURY
0432 209 355
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MAGAIN
MA222382



Murray Bridge JP Services:

- Melanie Bassham, JP for South Australia
- Flexible with times and places to meet.
- Ph: 0401 552 250



Seniors Card Fuel Discount

You can receive a 4c p/ltr discount on your fuel purchase with United Petroleum service stations if you hold a [Seniors Card](#). To register online for a digital or physical United Petroleum fuel discount card go to [United Petroleum](#) or call the United Customer Solutions team on 1300 383 587.

PVA Support Line: 1300 553 835

Your nationwide link to support, friendship, information and understanding.

***Local call cost from landline.** Mobile call costs according to your mobile phone provider rates.

Legacy: 08 8231 9812 or 1800 534 229.

Legacy offers Financial Hardship, Social Connection, and Developmental (Educational) Opportunities programs to the families of Australian Defence Force men and women who have lost their lives or their health as a result of their service.

Website: www.legacy.com.au

Email: reception@legacysa.org.au

