



THE MISSION

Everyman's Ministry to the 8th/9th Battalion
the Royal Australian Regiment

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As we prepare to say goodbye to 2018, I thought I would send out a short newsletter to close out the year. I must say that 2018 has been a tough year regarding the ministry with 8/9 RAR and it has been possibly the most challenging for me personally. The fact that the Battalion was so busy overseas and on sea-going exercises has made it difficult and it is easy to get discouraged with the lack of 'action'. Added with that it has been hard to get the unit to even keep me informed of its movements and activities. This year wasn't a loss though, many exciting things have been taking place outside of the work with the Battalion and the work, as I previously have mentioned, with the veterans is starting to take shape. It seems that the Lord has much work to be done in this area and I really need your prayers because it is a big task and I know that can only be done in the strength that comes from the Lord.

REMEMBRANCE DAY



I was honoured to be asked to return to the Woongoolba Bowls Club to share the address for the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. After having been earlier this year for Anzac Day and enjoying that experience, I received an email requesting my attendance again to the small German farming community about 30 mins from our place. The organisers have a big emphasis on including the younger generations into the service as a way to pass on the importance of learning about our nation's history. In my speech as always, I like to take the opportunity to include at least a reference to Christ or the Bible as this may be the only time some people will hear such a thing. The service went well, and we hung around after for a lunch which was provided by the bowls club. We also spent time with Ron (pictured) who is a resident at Claudia's work place and also a WW2 veteran.



42 FOR 42



Last year I was invited to participate in an event called '42 for 42' that was organised by veterans that were raising money for their charity. They are aiming to build a memorial at Suncorp Stadium for the fallen from the war in Afghanistan. This year was the 3rd year running for the event and I was invited to set up a stall for their family day event that took place during the course of the weekend. The number 42 comes from the 41 soldiers killed in Afghanistan with the 42nd being for all the suicides that have occurred as a result of PTSD after coming back from the war. Teams are put together and they take turns in walking around the stadium over the 42 hour period sharing a load of 42 kg. This year I brought Mason Eagleton who is in the process of joining the Everyman's

team. We set up the truck and gave out some Bibles and tracts and had a few conversations about the Lord, we even had a visit from my wife and our Barbara and her son Thomas who enjoyed some of the entertainment.



ON THE HOME FRONT

Claudia and I will travel to Adelaide this year to spend Christmas with my family. We will be away for a week which is shorter than what we normally go for, but we are saving money because we have been praying and thinking of going to Uganda next year and help our close brother and sister in the Lord – Petri and Katja, if it's God's will. They have been looking after a couple of orphanages and recently built a church in a village. We are praying for the Lord's direction for our involvement with this project and it may be something that we are involved with and supporting for some time to come. Petri served in the Finnish army in his youth and is going to be a part of the Everyman's Veterans project as well. One possibility in the future is to raise up a team of veterans to go and help the poor community in Uganda. This would serve two purposes as a way of getting help in those poverty-stricken places and the veterans themselves gain a purpose back.

Claudia's Corner

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we have a wonderful God who knows all of our weaknesses and yet is able to strengthen us. Sometimes we might feel so overwhelmed with the works that God calls us to do and yet what a great time to know Him more, what a great opportunity to remember the words of our God and draw near to Him. When changes remind us that we are being transformed from glory to glory into HIS image (2 Corinthians 3:18)! When we remember that our trials are being turned into gold which is imperishable and undefiled (1 Peter 1:3-9) and that our momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison (2 Cor 4:17). Oh dear brothers and sisters, may we draw near to our God in time of need that we may receive mercy and strength to keep His good work, for what a merciful and compassionate God have we! God bless you all and may you have a wonderful time with family, church and friends.

"To those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life" (Romans 2:7)



Have a lovely and restful holidays and we hope that you will be refreshed and ready for another year serving our Lord!



EVERYMAN'S WELFARE SERVICE
Serving the Australian Defence Force