



Capital Chit-Chat

Newsletter of the Defence Force Welfare Association -



March 2017

SEEKING THE SERVICES OF AN “IT WIZ”

The National Office of the DFWA, which the ACT Branch also uses, has a number of computers, a printer and has (wifi) internet access.

Occasionally gremlins cause disruption to the network – whether it be something with the software, a broken internet connection, or similar.

Unfortunately the current users of the Office are limited in their IT abilities and so when an occasional problem occurs we need the help of an IT expert.

Can you help ?

We are seeking the help of a DFWA member or anyone else willing to volunteer his or her services to be “on call” when the cry for help goes out.

If you would like to offer your services please give Les a call on 0411 444248. Les will arrange on on-site inspection for you to get acquainted with the Office.

CONCESSION TRAVEL FOR ACT SENIORS CARD HOLDERS ON THE NSW OPAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK

Concession travel on the NSW Opal public transport network is now a whole lot easier for ACT Seniors Card holders. Transport Canberra has partnered with Transport NSW to automatically validate ACT seniors' eligibility for concession travel in NSW. Transport NSW has also removed the 60-day expiry on ACT seniors' Gold Opal Cards.

Seniors with an early ACT Seniors Card (i.e. one that has six numbers, as opposed to nine in the current cards) will need to apply for a card upgrade in order to apply for an Opal Card. ACT Seniors Cards are available from ACT Libraries and Access Canberra shopfronts.

If you are over 60, a permanent resident of the ACT and working 20 hours or less each week, you are eligible for an ACT Seniors Card and a Gold Opal card, giving you concession travel capped at \$2.50 a day* across Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Hunter, Illawarra and Southern Highlands.

*Excludes Sydney Airport Station access fee.

FREE OFF PEAK BUS TRAVEL FOR ACT SENIOR & CONCESSION CARDHOLDERS

From Saturday 14 January 2017, Transport Canberra provides free off peak travel on ACTION buses for senior and concession MyWay card holders (excludes student and tertiary card holders) as part of a 12 month trial.

Eligible senior and concession holders who travel using MyWay will be able to take advantage of this initiative during stated Transport Canberra off peak travel times which are: between 9am – 4.30pm and after 6pm weekdays and all day Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

THE SOUTH CANBERRA VETERANS SHED

A meeting place where veterans, regardless of gender, can socialise, discuss issues with like-minded mates, enjoy themselves, learn new skills, work on projects together and get involved in activities to support our shed and the community.

The Veterans' Shed concept is based on the well-known 'Men's Shed' (the Australian Mens Shed Association [AMSA] Sheds) and will offer membership and peer-to-peer support to all current and ex-serving servicemen and women, from Australia and her Allies, their families and likeminded persons.

Date and Time: every Wednesday, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Where: Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts Hall, Mortimer Lewis Drive, Greenway.
Cost: Visitors free. Members - there is a joining fee and an annual fee.
More Information: Ph: 0490 043 158 or 0490 013 462 or email scveteransshed@gmail.com or
Web: <http://mensshed.org/profile/AMSA101255/>

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS – PENSION / WELFARE OFFICERS

As with other Ex Service Organisations, the DFWA has a small group of voluntary pension and welfare officers who assist those needed to make claims on the DVA or who need welfare assistance. The work is both rewarding and, unfortunately, necessary. DFWA pension and welfare officers receive full training, mentoring from other experienced officers, and are reimbursed for out of pocket expenses.

If you would like to know more, please give the President (Les) a call on 0411 444248. Your call will be in confidence and with no obligation.

BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dates for Committee meetings for 2017 are published on the ACT Branch page of the DFWA website. Members are always invited to attend... if possible, drop us a line prior to confirm.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **1030hrs Tuesday 11 April 2017 at The Burns Club.**

