



**ANZROC
VICTORIA**

May 2026

President's Report



Paul Tovey

president@anzroc.net.au

Welcome to the May edition of the ANZROC newsletter.

Fifty five of our members enjoyed a great lunch at the Mail Exchange Hotel in Bourke Street Melbourne. John Fairbairn and his daughter Louise drove down from Yarrowonga for the lunch and Joe Busuttill drove up from Inverloch. Member, Mary-Vee Gage and new members Wayne and Giovanna Greer, shared some of their ANZ history with the group. A very pleasant time was had by all with a large contingent staying on after lunch to continue catching up.

Our first Vic "Country" lunch for a while will be held at the RSL in Wangaratta from midday on Wednesday 27/5/26. It's looking like a great turnout with ANZROC members (and partners) attending from all over NE VIC including Wangaratta, Yarrowonga, Bright and Euroa. All members (and partners) are welcome to attend the lunch. See the "Next ANZROC Events" section of this newsletter for more information. Future "country" lunches are planned for Central Victoria (Bendigo at the Golden Vine Hotel on Wednesday 17/6/26) and Gippsland so keep an eye out for notices.

Our next Melbourne lunch will be held from midday on Thursday 11/6/26 at Angliss Restaurant in Melbourne's CBD. This lunch traditionally has a Salvation Army theme, and Major Brendan Nottle has once again accepted our invitation to speak at the lunch. The Club makes a donation to the Red Shield appeal on behalf of members, and envelopes will be available if guests would also like to make a personal donation. See the "Next ANZROC Events" section of this newsletter for more information and to book for lunch.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce the Art Centre has confirmed our booking for the Club's Christmas lunch. If you are able to attend please save the date in your calendar. Lunch will commence from 11.30 am on Thursday 10/12/26.

Keep well everyone.

Paul

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Photos from Recent Events

Go to the website to see more photos from this event <https://www.anzroc.net.au/past-events>



Wayne, Bernadette, David, Julia, Maria, Linda



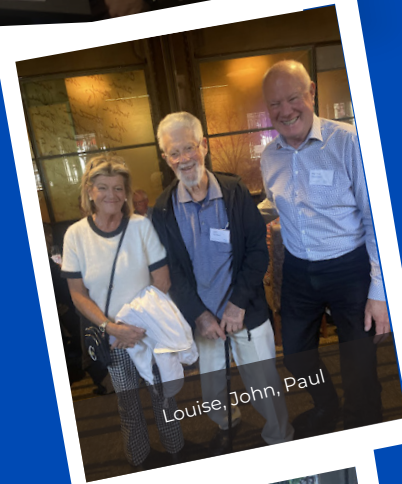
Norris, Deb, Steve, Geoff, Leanne, John



Tina, Jill, Frances, Sheryl, Mary, Carol, Vicky, Joan



Rob, John, Dom, George, Joe, John



Louise, John, Paul



Janet, Jennie, Jane, Meredith, Glen, Jeanette, Mary-Vee



John, Louise, Andrew, Wayne, Giovanna, Kevin, Jill, Ken



Mike, Noel, Owen, Gail, John



Eamon, Anne, Martin, Ray, Dinesh, Dan, Angelo

This Month's Lunch apologies

Graeme and Sandra King, Julie Wilkins, Vern Knuiksis,
Peter Saville

Membership



John Stapleton

membership@anzroc.net.au

New Members

We welcome the following new
members to the club:

Jackie Walters

Member Welfare Report

Our Welfare Officers Joan Nathan and Jill
Kassan are here to help you where they
can. Let us know if there are any concerns
you have which you think ANZROC might
be able to help you with or refer you to
someone who can.



Joan Nathan

wellbeing@anzroc.net.au



Jill Kassan

wellbeing@anzroc.net.au

Other States and UK Retired Staff Clubs

Reports on activities of the ANZROC
clubs in other Australian States, New
Zealand and the United Kingdom
are periodically updated on our
website as newsletters are received.
The link to the most recent
newsletters received is:
[https://www.anzroc.net.au/external
-links](https://www.anzroc.net.au/external-links)

Bereavements



BRENNAN TERRY
05/05/2026 86 YEARS

Gordon Paulett has advised that Terry Brennan died on the 5th May 2026 following a short stay in Box Hill Hospital.

Owing to declining health for himself and his wife Helene, they moved to Regis Age Care in Blackburn 3 years ago. Sadly, Terry had multiple health issues from which he did not recover. His funeral will be a Private family affair. A Celebration gathering is planned for some later date.

Terry joined the Bank in Horsham and had a 40 plus years career. He will be particularly remembered by those within the "Lending" sector where he worked in latter years. He had Bank transfers to Sydney, Wellington NZ, Adelaide and of course Melbourne.

He was a very good sportsman, playing tennis at a "High Grade" level and a winner of a number of tournaments. After tennis, he turned to golf and became a member of Huntingdale Golf Club where he again performed well, almost winning the B Grade Club championship one year. Among his regular playing partners were fellow ANZers Dick Chegwin, Bob Bell (deceased), Brian Kirk and myself. Terry endeared himself to all he associated with and was a reliable and great friend to many. He will be sadly missed. Vale Terry



LA FAUCI CONCETTO
13/04/2026 78 YEARS

Reny Frighetto and Ken Patterson advised of the sad news of Cons passing.

Con joined ANZ Bank in the late 60's (in 1967 he was 20). He started as a teller and moved up to be a branch manager working in Highett and Mentone for a large part of his working life. He later moved to the Mulgrave office where he became a mobile home loan manager (which his kids loved because he had a free car and the original Motorola (brick) mobile phone). This was his last role at ANZ where he was offered a redundancy and retired from the bank. (This was late 90s, he said he worked for the bank for 32 years so I would say 1999).

Con was a Life member of ANZROC Victoria and held the role of Vice President in 2018/19. He was on the Committee for many years and will be missed by his many colleagues. Con was also a 40 year member of Cheltenham golf club and won the ANZROC golf trophy when we played there in 2017 and 2019.

Our condolences are extended to Con's family.



**WESTAWAY PETER
17/04/2026 86 YEARS**

Neil Westaway (Son) advised "It is with regret to inform you of the passing of our loved father, Peter Westaway.

Peter passed away Friday 17th April in the care of Cooina Lodge and family. Our mother, my sister and myself have all had years of service with ANZ at different times in our lives. Also Dads brother and nephews were officers too."

Wow I'm wondering what the total years of service would add up too ??? Thank you for kind thoughts at this time it means a lot to us." Our condolences are extended to Peter's family.

**LETTER OF THANKS FROM
FAMILY**

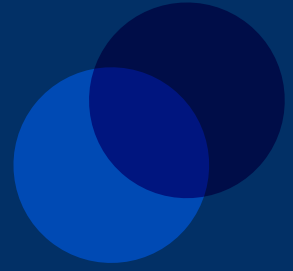
PEARSON N. G. (NEVILLE - "BIRDIE") 81 YEARS 14/09/2025. Respected Honorary Member, Life Member of ANZROC and Past President of ANZROC.

Cheryl Pearson emailed "Many thanks for the tributes from members of ANZROC on the passing of my husband Neville Pearson.

My sons Michael, Jeremy, Todd, their families & myself are very grateful for the stories that Neville's colleagues have shared. These stories will add to the great memories we have of him. Neville would be overwhelmed by your showing of love & support.

Thank you also to those who travelled so far to be with us at Neville's funeral. Regards, Cheryl Pearson"

Honorary Members Birthdays



Ron ADAMS (88)

Darryl BARTLETT (85)

Maurie BENSON (81)

Anne BLASHKI (80)

Robert BOTWOOD (85)

Leonie CHUBB (80)

Mike COOPER (82)

Brian DAY (89)

Norm DIBBIN (93)

Kelvin DICKINSON (81)

Jim DUSTING (80)

Terry EARLE (80)

Bob EDGAR (AM) (80)

Graeme FINDLAY (85)

Mike GEORGE (88)

Val GOLDSWORTHY (92)

Teddy HANRAHAN (81)

Graeme IRVING (82)

Des JOHNSON (83)

Bill LANIGAN (88)

Neville LEWIS (93)

Alan LEWIS (80)

Don MAGUIRE (85)

Brian MCGANNON (87)

Geoff MENOGUE (92)

Geoff MURRELL (87)

Mike NICKELL (82)

Ron O'CONNELL (84)

Allan RICHARDSON (86)

Barry ROGERS (88)

John SAFFERY (83)

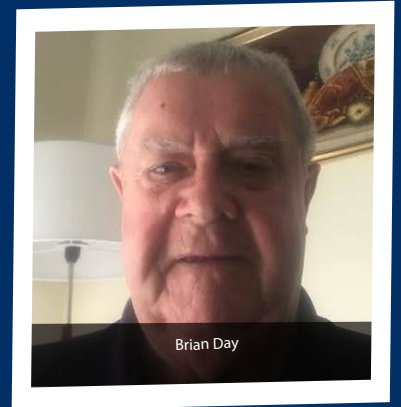
Robert SMITH (83)

Malcolm STEVENS (85)

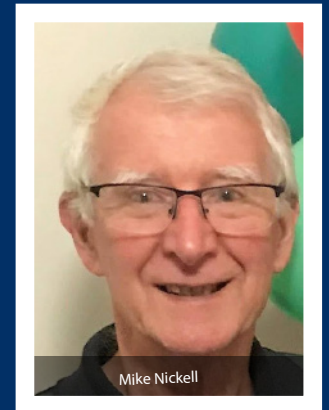
Lyn STEVENS (87)

George THOMAS (81)

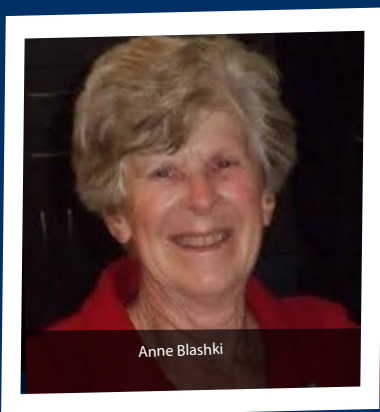
Peter WOOD (83)



Brian Day



Mike Nickell



Anne Blashki



Leonie Chubb



Val Goldsworthy



Letters from Members

APRIL / MAY LETTERS

Malcom Algie emailed “Hi Anita. Many thanks for your timely birthday wishes reminding me that I have survived another year. Here's hoping I will still be around next year. Cheers, Malcolm Algie”

David Beardsley emailed “Thank you Anita for my birthday card and best wishes. Very much appreciated. Best wishes, David Beardsley.”

Ron Browne emailed “Thank you for the birthday wishes, as we get older it is nice to know that we are still remembered. Regards to all involved.”

A letter was received from Luigi Bucello “Dear Paul. Thank you and your team for the wonderful job you do. Good health to all members and keep up the good work. Thanks, Eamon, for the lovely birthday card which for the first time arrived late due to Aust Post. I received it and other mail, post marked 3 weeks prior. Life is getting more hectic, getting plans drawn up for a new house in Kooweerup which needs to accommodate special needs for my intellectual handicapped brother. Everything must be wheelchair friendly. Building designer has now lodged plans with the Shire for approval. Awaiting the outcome. Yours faithfully, Luigi Bucello”

Jenny Cooke emailed “ Dear Anita. Many thanks for the bright and cheerful birthday greeting last month – this time received while holidaying in hot and steamy Singapore. Thank you to the committee for your hard work in arranging lunches, keeping in touch with ailing members and for producing such an interesting newsletter. I am still golfing twice a week, collecting towels and blankets for the RSPCA and researching school history as historian at my old school. Best wishes to all members. Jenny Cooke.”



Jenny Cooke

Len Chitty emailed “Thank you kindly for the best wishes regarding my 75th birthday. Very much appreciated, Len Chitty.”

Leonie Chubb emailed “Many thanks to the committee for my 80th birthday wishes it was much appreciated. I had a wonderful day and a long meal with my family. Leonie Chubb

Wolfgang Damschitz emailed “Thank you very much for your email. I will try to attend more lunches, but having an old Victorian home there is always something to fix or repair.”

Barry Kilmartin emailed “I would like to say thank you to Anita for emailing my birthday wishes. I have now reached my 90th year and in reasonable health, for which I am grateful. Judith and I have been residing in Independent Living for 3 good years. With best wishes to all, Barry Kilmartin.”

Graeme King emailed "Thanks Anita for my recent birthday wishes.

Not quite to the big 80 yet, but enjoyed a nice day with all our family in attendance.

Sandra and I are planning a trip to Perth early in May and will catch up with some family and friends while there, plus enjoy some time exploring Margaret River and surrounds. Regards Graeme King."



Graeme King

George Lawson emailed "Thanks Anita for the Birthday wishes- it definitely brought some joyful thoughts to mind after what had been a tough 6 months. During that period not only did my wife Eileen pass away, but I also lost 4 close mates, Neville Pearson, Peter Trealeaven, Graham Morgan and Bevyn Ranford. But anyway, we've got to get on with life and make the most of the time ahead - my Oncologist has predicted I've got another 2 Hawthorn Premierships in me. I'm off to the UK in June to bring some Aussie humour to a couple of Pommie grandsons. Cheers George."

Joan Nathan, ANZROC committee member and Welfare Officer recently attended a fundraiser for the Mount Macedon Memorial Cross. Joan advised

"The 21 metre tall Cross is the second most significant war memorial in Victoria. The Management Committee is raising funds to complete safety, restoration and access works to the Cross and the precinct. ANZROC honorary member **Roger Watkins** was also a guest at the fundraiser. Roger's Father was the caretaker at Cameron Lodge, a substantial Mt Macedon Property at the time. The property owner, in conversation with Roger's father said he wanted to give something substantial to the community and asked Roger's father who suggested he build a Cross on the summit of the Mount to Commemorate those lost in the 1914-1918 War. So, in 1935, the Cross was erected. Roger is 95 years of age and a longtime member of ANZROC. Roger is also a regular attendee of the ANZROC Christmas lunch."



Roger Watkins



Paul Perri emailed "I just opened the latest Newsletter and read that some emails went to junk and found my Birthday Card. I would like to thank Anita for the Birthday wishes received last month. I still enjoy reading the monthly newsletter to see the names that I recognise from my working days. It seems like only yesterday, but I left ANZ in 1998 after 30 years service. Then I spent 3 years with a Share Registry and 14 years with NAB. I've now been retired for 11 years and enjoy looking after grandchildren a couple days a week. Regards Paul Perri."

Peter Pritchard emailed “Many thanks for the birthday email. Maree and I have just returned from Singapore where I celebrated my 75th Birthday with 12 family members. We also went on a 4-night cruise with 12 in our party and had my birthday dinner on the newest Disney Cruise line ship "Disney Adventure". I will never forget the trip. Family members came from Brisbane, Singleton, Melbourne and Adelaide. We all had a great time including my three granddaughters (7, 5 and 4). We packed a lot into the 10 days we were away. Too much food and late nights. Glad to be back home. Peter Pritchard”



Peter Pritchard

Tony Pompilio emailed “Dear Anita. Many thanks for your email including my birthday wishes. Please pass on my thanks to ANZROC Committee. Kind regards Tony Pompilio.”

Mike Vallence emailed “Greetings, Anita. Thank you most sincerely for my birthday wishes, very much appreciated. Please pass on my thanks to the President and Committee for their best wishes. In 2015 my wife Dorothy (Dorothy (Hobbs) Vallence who worked in both ES&A and ANZ Bank) had a major medical episode. As a result, I am her fulltime Carer which occupies all my time. Some of my stories follow.

When I moved to Wangaratta as Manager Operations in 1980, I had the pleasure of working with Jim Ruffle, Noel Joseph, Ian Bell, Jack Grant, Dick Auhl and many others at the regional headquarters and associated branches. Jim Ruffle Regional Manager was an interesting character to say the least; he was unlike other Regional Managers I had met previously. For example, he religiously washed the Bank car every morning at 6.00am. In 1982 there were severe water restrictions including no washing of cars. However, this didn't deter Jim, he got up even earlier and washed the car behind the shrubbery. On our trips around the branches Jim would suddenly announce that the car was over-heating, and we would have to pull over. This usually occurred as we were approaching a remote hotel such as the Happy Valley Hotel in the Ovens Valley, The Plough Hotel at Tarrawingee, Waaia Hotel between Numurkah and Nathalia, Koetong Hotel between Tallangatta and Corryong. Every month we had a manager meeting at the Wesley Hall in Wangaratta. Jim would send out letters of invitation. When addressing the Manager Strathmerton, his friend Ted Matthews, known as 'The Fireman', the letter would be addressed to Ted and Nipper. Nipper being Ted's Fox Terrier Dog would duly accompany Ted to the meeting. On one of my branch visits along the Murray River, I stopped at a well-known viewing point along the way to take a photograph and place a take-away coffee cup in the rubbish bin. As I looked in the bin I was surprised to find a bundle of Set-Off sheets belonging to a nearby branch. Upon enquiry I was advised that the sheets, which hadn't been updated for some time, had mysteriously gone missing just prior to a branch audit.

One day Noel Joseph, Manager Lending, had to conduct a difficult interview with an irate Italian tobacco farmer who was behind in his loan repayments. Noel asked me if I would attend the interview as moral support. Everything was going well until Noel mentioned the consequences of non-payment. In a fit of anger, the customer banged his fist on the desk and quickly stood up. Noel reacted quickly and pushed his chair back to stand up, but in so doing the chair went from beneath him, and Noel crashed to the floor. The customer looked at me in bewilderment and then quickly exited the room. Regards Mike Vallence”

Keith Weybury emailed “Hi Anita and thanks to you and the ANZROC team for my Birthday wishes. Cheers, Keith Weybury”

Next ANZROC Event

Lunch at the RSL Wangaratta

A lunch will be held at the Wangaratta RSL on Wednesday 27th May 2026 commencing at midday. While the lunch has been mainly organised for members in NE Victoria, any member prepared to make the trip will be very welcome to attend. Partners are also welcome. Guests will order and pay for meals on the day and plenty of parking is available on site.

Please click on the Trybooking link below to let us know you are coming.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DLVXQ>

Lunch at the William Angliss restaurant

Our monthly lunch will be held on Thursday 11th June 2026 commencing at midday and will include a guest speaker: Brendan Nottle from the "Salvos". This very popular venue is located on the ground floor at 550 Little Lonsdale Street Melbourne and is a short walk from both Flagstaff and Southern Cross railway stations. Cost is \$39.50 and will include a 2-course meal and a glass of beer, wine or soft drink as well as tea or coffee. Envelopes will be available should you wish to donate to the Salvation Army appeal.

Click on the link below which will take you to the Trybooking ticketing site to book and pay for lunch. Please note that **acceptances close Thursday 4th June 2026** so we can meet the venue's requirement for advice of our final numbers.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DMHBS>

If you find you need to cancel lunch or have any questions, please contact Joan Nathan 0432 197 454 or jknathan@bigpond.net.au.

Lunch acceptances are published on the ANZROC website. If you prefer not to have your name published, please let Joan know.

ANZROC Events for the Remainder of the Year

**Check upcoming newsletters for details
of these events:**

May Wednesday 27th

Lunch at Wangaratta RSL

June Thursday 11th

**Lunch at Angliss Restaurant -
Salvation Army Appeal**

July Thursday 9th

**Lunch at Aagaman Nepalese/ Indian
restaurant**

August Thursday 13th

Lunch - Venue to be confirmed

September Wednesday 16th

**Lunch at Angliss Restaurant – ES&A
theme**

October Thursday 8th

Lunch at Victoria Hotel Woodend

November Monday 9th

Golf Day at Keysborough Golf Club

November 12th (Date TBC)

**Annual General Meeting and lunch at
ANZ 833 Collins St.**

December Thursday 10th

**Christmas lunch at the Arts Centre
Melbourne**

Contact Us

Contact us by either:

- clicking on this website “contact us” link - <https://www.anzroc.net.au/contactus>
- Emailing the appropriate committee member direct.



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