

**MCC MILITARY VETERANS' GROUP
CHAIR REPORT FOR 2026 AGM**

The MCC MVG has had a productive and positive twelve months since the 2025 AGM. During this period there has been a successful Christmas cocktails function for members and partners, which continues to grow in popularity since its introduction post pandemic. We have also had three very successful and well attended luncheons with a variety of outstanding guest speakers. The October 2026 luncheon, with the Repatriation Commissioner speaking is no exception. We continue to deliver our primary objective of fostering comradeship and positive connection between our members through enjoyable and accessible social activities within the superb facilities of the MCC.

Membership continues to grow steadily with the Group exceeding 400 members for the first time this year. The sad but inevitable passing of older members has been mitigated by a membership that is steadily reflecting a greater mix of all three services, men and women and contemporary operational service. The MVG financials are strong with a recent modest increase in luncheon and cocktail party charges for members and their guests deemed necessary by the Committee to align with increased catering charges and to sustain the ability of the Group to subsidise key Veteran Group events and support other related initiatives.

The Anzac Day and Anzac Eve catered functions for MCC Veterans and their mates were well conducted and supported. As Chair I had the honour of accompanying the MCC President, MCC CEO and this year the US Consul General and a US Marine Corps representative, in laying wreaths at the Memorials inside Gate 2 on Anzac Eve. The Veterans Group is well supported by the MCC Committee and our liaison representative James Cain is a consistent attendee at our events and a strong supporter of our objectives. We are also very grateful for the efforts of all MCC staff in making our activities a success, especially Elissa Cohen and her team. In the last year we have received strong support from both our own membership and the MCC Committee in progressing the installation of a new Memorial Plaque to recognise the service and sacrifice of MCC Members in the armed forces in the post-1945 period. The plaque will be placed alongside the WW1 and WW2 plaques inside Gate 2 and we look forward to seeing this important project completed by the end of 2026 with a dedication target date of 8 December.

Some small changes to the format of our luncheons have been well received, particularly the inclusion of pipers and remembering four MCC members' names from the WW1/WW2 Honour Rolls at the commencement of the lunch, prior to the Ode being recited. I would like to thank all current members of the Committee for their hard work and support of the wider Group in the last year, particularly our Secretary Peter Osbourne, Treasurer Ivo Sist and Deputy Chair Stewart Robertson. Finally, my thanks to the membership for your support of the Committee's endeavours.

M. Annett CSC

Chair