

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 29 August 2017

Vietnam Veterans commemorated



Above: Coorong District Council Mayor Neville Jaensch (left) accepts a gift commemorating Australian Vietnam Veterans from Ted Saltmarsh (right), with Vietnam vet Peter Verrall (far right).

On 17 August 2017, former Tailem Bend resident Ted Saltmarsh, now living in Victoria, travelled 450km to present a commemorative framed collage of the Vietnam War as a gift to the Coorong District Council in memory of his father Wally Saltmarsh.

Mr Wally Saltmarsh JP worked as the Health and Building Surveyor at the District Council of Meningie between 1969 and 1977.

“I was fortunate enough to win this framed commemorative poster of Australian Soldiers in Vietnam when I entered a fundraising raffle supporting cancer research,” Mr Ted Saltmarsh said.

“I thought it depicted a period which is very important to our history and believe it should be displayed in an appropriate place.”

Mr Saltmarsh, a former Tailem Bend resident, who served in the Australian Army for 20 years, contacted local Vietnam veteran and Tailem Bend resident Peter Verrall to find an appropriate location, and was put in touch with Mayor Neville Jaensch.

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Coorong Civic Centre

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Phone: 1300 785 277
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Meningie Information Hub

49 Princes Highway
MENINGIE SA 5264

Tintinara Customer Service Centre

37 Becker Terrace
TINTINARA SA 5266



Ironically, the central picture of the collage was taken in Vietnam on 24 August 1967, nearby to where Mr Verrall was injured.

Mayor Jaensch said he was delighted to accept the gift on behalf of Coorong District Council.

“It’s a wonderful gesture for the community,” he said.

Mayor Jaensch said he had known Mr Wally Saltmarsh and his family during their time in Tailem Bend.

“Wally was dedicated to the community and I have always had the greatest respect for him and his work for the Council.”

The frame will housed for display at the Coorong Civic Centre and Gallery, Tailem Bend, for members of the community to view.

- ENDS -

Contact

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