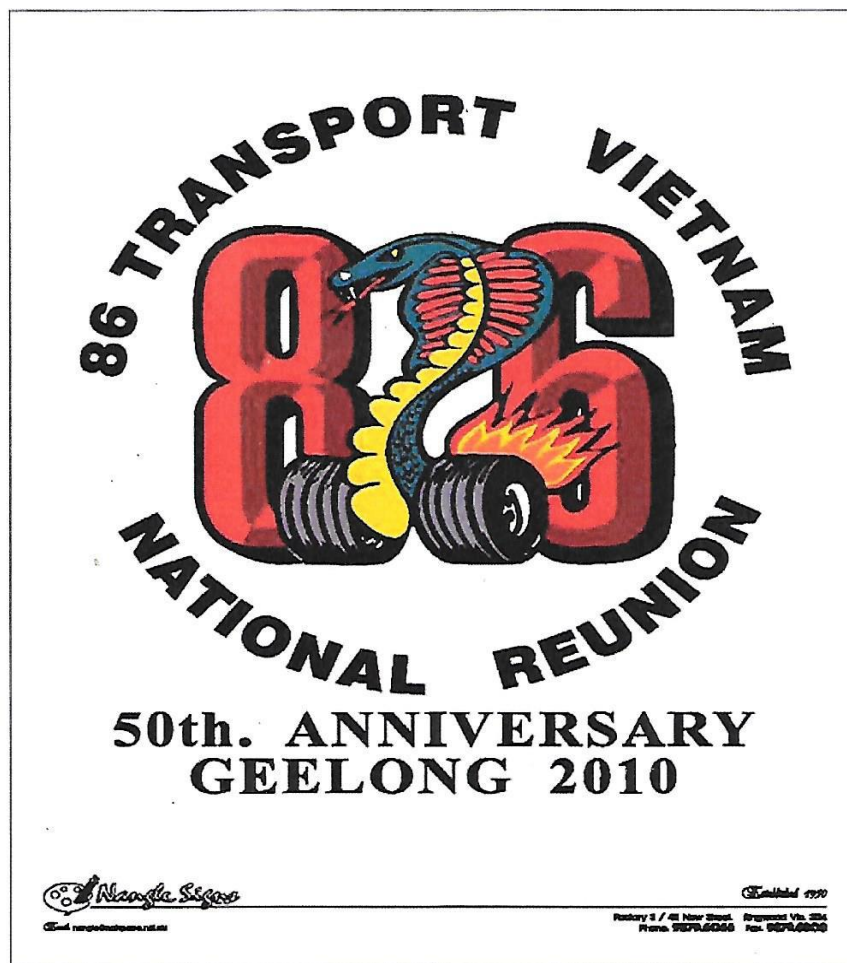


**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM  
ASSOCIATION INC  
5<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL REUNION REPORT  
30 NOVEMBER 2010**



**Report from  
2010 Reunion Committee  
on the 5<sup>th</sup> National Reunion  
held in Geelong from  
22 to 26 April 2010**

**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INC**  
**2010 REUNION - GEELONG**

**Context of the 2010 Reunion**

86 Transport Platoon was raised in Bandiana in 1960 under the command of Headquarters 1 Company RAASC. The first OC of the Platoon was Second Lieutenant Ron Kelly who held the post from 6 February 1960 to 24 May 1961.

On 25 May 1961, the new OC was Lieutenant Brian Fitzgerald who held the position of OC until 24 August 1962.

During Kelly and Fitzgerald's time as OCs of 86 Transport Platoon the unit was a domestic transport platoon of 33 soldiers equipped with commercial line vehicles, semi-trailers, 3 ton vehicles, utilities and staff cars. The drivers' tasks were local and to Melbourne and the platoon operated as the transport arm of 1 Central Ordnance Depot – Bandiana and functioned as the Albury Transport Unit.

Private Bill Tonkin and Private Keith Trapp who were later to become Platoon Sergeants in 86 Transport Platoon in Vietnam were both posted to 86 Transport Platoon as drivers during this time.

During the early 60s, the Federal Government was very focussed on the South East Asia Treaty Organisation (SEATO) and the Australian, New Zealand and United States Security Treaty (ANZUS) as part of Australia's defence strategy. Australia had a small army with a big commitment to these treaties and very little in the way of field force logistic units. To cope with these commitments, the Australian Army invented a system of loan back and shadow postings. This was all about base units such as 86 Transport Platoon having personnel who could quickly become field force soldiers on major exercises and then return after the exercise to their normal duties when the platoon operated as a domestic transport unit. According to Ted Love who took over command of 86 Transport Platoon on 23 July 1962, "the system of loan back and shadow postings looked good on paper but on the ground was meaningless to junior officers and soldiers, so we basically ignored the whole thing except on major exercises when we did have a Headquarters to report to which in the case of 86 was Headquarters 28 Company RAASC."

This reunion celebrates and acknowledges the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the raising of the platoon at Bandiana in February 1960 and also celebrates the remarkable achievement just 7 years later when Detachment 86 Transport Platoon was deployed to Vietnam on 22 April 1967. With extra drivers deployed to Detachment in early 1968, 86 became a full strength Platoon from the beginning of 1968 and remained in Vietnam until the closing of 1 ALSG on 29 February 1972 and the last elements of 86 Transport Platoon in Vietnam embarking on the HMAS Sydney on the same day.

On 18 September 2008 the Association Committee met and established the 2010 Reunion Committee comprising Peter Price, Wendy Price, Alan Watt, Liz Watt, Rob Bradbery, Karen Bradbery, John Allsop, Michelle Allsop, Noel Kerlin, Hans DeKaste, Richard DeKaste and David Carne as a sub-committee of the Association. The Committee also determined that the 2010 Reunion Committee would be delegated the responsibility of organising the 2010 reunion in Geelong for Association members and their families around Anzac Day 2010 and authorized to open an account with an appropriate financial institution in order to manage the financial arrangements concerning the 2010 reunion.

The 86 logo which is on the front cover of this reunion report has been modernised by Barrie Chong particularly for this reunion.

**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INC**  
**2010 REUNION - GEELONG**

**Features of the Reunion**

These included

- The introduction of electronic banking and credit cards for reunion participants to pay their registration fees and other costs.
- The engagement of Cathy Hosking as an events coordinator. We thank Cathy for the many voluntary hours she put in to organise events that were part of the 2010 reunion.
- The special Dawn Service for 86 Reunion participants with John Hoare as guest speaker reporting on 86 Transport Platoon's involvement in Vietnam
- 218 participants in the 2010 reunion, 101 were accommodated in motels, 60 in cabins in the 2 caravan parks and 57 on caravan sites in the 2 caravan parks.
- The introduction of the PowerPoint Tribute at the Gala Dinner for our departed comrades
- The erection of the 86 stand for the Anzac Day March in Melbourne for our partners and friends. It was special to see them all together in one location cheering for us at the march.
- The Mayor's cooked breakfast for 86 reunion members after the dawn service on Anzac Day fully funded by the Geelong City Council.
- Current members of 86 Transport Troop including the current OC Captain David Hosie joining us to be part of the 2010 reunion
- The banner erected by the Geelong City Council on an overpass on the road into Geelong welcoming us to the 2010 Geelong Reunion.
- The generous \$2,691 donated by those attending the reunion to assist with the running of the reunion.
- The generous \$3,500 provided by corporate sponsors to assist with the running of the reunion.
- Corporate and personal donations contributed to 13% of the costs incurred for running the 2010 Reunion.
- The seed funding of \$5,850 provided by the 2008 Reunion Committee after organising the very successful reunion in Fremantle.
- The 126 former members of 86 Transport Platoon and Detachment 86 Transport Platoon in Vietnam marching and participating under the 86 banner in the Melbourne March on Anzac Day 2010.
- The Bellarine Peninsula day trip on 23 April 2010 featuring the train trip.
- The Gala Dinner on 26 April with Normie Rowe and the Playboys and Denise Drysdale as the entertainers.
- The exceptional amount of time and effort put in by Peter Price, Wendy Price, Alan Watt, Liz Watt, Rob Bradbery, Karen Bradbery, John Allsop, Michelle Allsop, Noel Kerlin, Hans DeKaste, Richard DeKaste and David Carne to attend meetings and organise the 2010 reunion in Geelong.

**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INC**  
**2010 REUNION - GEELONG**

**Financial Report**

Association Secretary's Certification

I have examined the accounts kept by the 2010 Reunion Committee for the period 1 September 2008 to 30 September 2010 and report that the banking records and receipts for the income and expenditure and balance sheet is in accordance with those records.



Bill Hignett  
18 Wattlebury Road  
LOWER MITCHAM SA 5062  
17 November 2010

**Statement by Peter Price, Convenor, 2010 Reunion Committee**

In my opinion –

- (a) the accompanying financial report is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the 2010 Reunion Committee as at 30 September 2010;
- (b) the accounts of the 2010 Reunion Committee have been properly prepared and are in accordance with the books of account of the Association; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the 2010 Reunion Committee has paid its debts as and when they fell due.

I confirm as follows:

- (a) The name of each committee member of the association during the relevant financial reporting period were: Peter Price, Wendy Price, Alan Watt, Liz Watt, Rob Bradbery, John Allsop, Michelle Allsop, Noel Kerlin, Hans DeKaste, Richard DeKaste and David Carne.
- (b) The principal activities of the 2010 Reunion Committee during the relevant reporting period were: organising the 2010 reunion in Geelong for Association members and their families around Anzac Day 2010.
- (c) The net profit of the 2010 Reunion Committee for the relevant reporting period was \$5,160. Of this \$5,000 was allocated and transferred to the 2012 Reunion Committee's account as seed funding for the Association's 2012 Reunion at Nelson Bay in New South Wales. \$100 was donated to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal and \$50 to the Vietnamese Orphanage in Baria, Vietnam.



14/10/2010

**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INC**  
**2010 REUNION - GEELONG**

**Financial Statement – 1 September 2008 to 30 September 2010**

**Profit and Loss Statement**

Income

Seed Funding	\$ 5,850.00	
Interest	\$ 1,550.00	
Registrations	\$38,152.00	
Donations	\$ 2,691.00	
Raffles	\$ 505.00	
Sponsor Donations	\$ 3,500.00	
		\$52,248.00

Expenditure

Port and Wine	\$ 1,112.50	
Grandstand Hire (Anzac Day)	\$ 3,000.00	
Bus Hire	\$ 3,792.00	
Gala Dinner	\$ 5,050.00	
Band & Entertainers	\$ 7,000.00	
Memorabilia & Merchandise	\$16,010.00	
Belarine Rail	\$ 3,250.00	
Anzac Day (Lunch)	\$ 2,500.00	
Printing & Postage	\$ 1,835.00	
Wind Up Dinner	\$ 1,434.00	
Registration Refunds	\$ 1,050.00	
Sundries	\$ 1,054.50	
		\$47,088.00

<b>Cash operating surplus for this period</b>	<b>\$5,160.00</b>
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**Balance Sheet**

Funds

Account opened 1/9/2008	\$ NIL	
Plus Cash operating surplus	\$ 5,160.00	
		<b>\$5,160.00</b>

Liabilities

Total Liabilities	\$ 00.00
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<b>Net Assets and members' funds as of 30/09/2010</b>	<b>\$5,160.00</b>
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**Notes:**

1. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the South Australian Associations Incorporation Act 1985.
2. The Association is not registered for GST. Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised inclusive of GST.
3. The \$5,160 surplus has been distributed to the 2012 Reunion Committee (\$5,000 seed funding), Victorian Bushfire Appeal (\$100), the Baria Vietnamese Orphanage (\$50).

**86 TRANSPORT VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INC**  
**2010 REUNION - GEELONG**

**Past and Present OCs of 86 Transport Platoon RAASC and 86 Transport Troop RACT**

Attending this reunion were John Hoare the 5<sup>th</sup> OC of 86 Transport Platoon RAASC who was posted to the Platoon then based in Puckapunyal on 2 July 1965. On 22 April 1967 John travelled with Detachment 86 Transport Platoon to Vietnam and was deployed as the OC of the Detachment based in Vung Tau until 7 January 1968. Bill Denny was posted to 86 Transport Platoon RAASC in Vietnam on 29 January 1971 and as the Platoon Acting OC from 14 December 1971 to 12 March 1972 was responsible for finalising the arrangements for 86 Transport Platoon's return to Australia on 12 March 1972. David Hosie is the current OC of 86 Transport Troop RACT.



*50th Anniversary - Geelong*  
*26th April, 2010*

***Past & Present Officers***

***John Hoare   David Hosie   Bill Denny***



2010 National Reunion & 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations  
22nd—26th April, 2010  
Geelong, Victoria

# REGISTRATION BROCHURE

# Welcome from the 2010 Reunion Committee

The President & Committee for Geelong 2010 would like to extend a welcome and thanks to all 86 Transport Platoon Vietnam members, wives, widows, associates and family for sharing in this Reunion in 2010. We believe that this Reunion has special significance to everyone because of the formation of the original 86 Transport Platoon at Puckapunyal in 1960. This was the beginning of our family of members.

We would like to thank everyone who submitted their expression of interest forms and officially introduce our 2010 registration brochure. You will find this brochure provides a comprehensive overview of all aspects in the lead up to the reunion, including an outline of the program, suggested accommodation, merchandise available for purchase and the all important registration form!

Therefore, 2010 is the 50th Anniversary of the formation of our Army unit in which we all share a common bond. Over the period from 1967 to 1972, many of us spent a year of our lives together and that year saw many friendships develop that remain to this day.

Because so many of us were young and raw, it also resulted in the development of our character and resolve when we were exposed to dangers and discipline in a war zone such as South Vietnam. It was character building and the memories of that year in South Vietnam have remained with us today, mostly good and some not so good.

We should also remember those 86 Transport Platoon members who are not with us today. They too were part of those memories that we share and are not to be forgotten, nor should their widows who remain. They are as important to our organisation as their husbands.

So too are the wives, families and partners of today's members, for the support and understanding shown by them to us over many years. I know many of us would not be in great shape without that support and understanding and we thank them enormously for that.

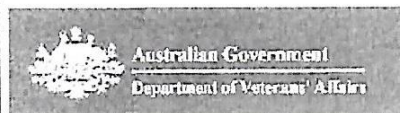
And finally, the spirit of 86 Transport Platoon still exists in the Australian Army today in the form of the current members of 86 Transport Troop. Members of 86 Transport Troop will have recently returned from active service in Afghanistan and we welcome those members too on a job well done. We all know that recognition and gratitude should be part of the rewards for serving your country and from our own experiences that does not always happen. So, on behalf of this 86 Transport Vietnam Reunion Geelong 2010, Welcome Home and a bloody good job well done!

**For the first time we are introducing online registrations via credit card. By logging on to the internet, you can register for the reunion, make donations and even purchase merchandise. Simply log onto our event managers website ([www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com)) and follow the link to 86 Transport Reunion. Of course, manual registrations and cheques/ bank deposits are still available and can be made using the form at the rear of this brochure.**

Please remember to include a valid email address when registering – this will ensure you receive up to date correspondence from us. If you do not have an email address it may be worth investigating the possibility of using a friend or relatives email system.

From the entire 2010 reunion committee, we look forward to welcoming you to Victoria and providing you with a reunion you won't forget.

## Thank You to our Sponsors



TRARALGON 3D EMBROIDERY



The Loan Professionals (VIC) Pty Ltd  
469 Latrobe Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

ZOLTAN POOL  
SUPPLIES

John Redman & Associates  
Psychologists



SA & NT



Cathy Hosking  
Events



# General Information

## Venue:

The Sphinx Hotel  
2 Thompsons Road  
North Geelong, VIC  
**Phone** 03 5278 2911  
**Web** [www.sphinxhotel.com.au](http://www.sphinxhotel.com.au)

## Accommodation:

Our preferred accommodation venues are as follows :

- Barwon Valley Lodge (☆☆☆☆)  
Ph. 03 5244 2111  
Web. [www.barwonvalleylodge.com.au](http://www.barwonvalleylodge.com.au)
- Sphinx Hotel (☆☆☆)  
Ph. 03 5848 6525  
Web. [www.sphinxhotel.com.au](http://www.sphinxhotel.com.au)
- Riverglen Holiday Park (☆☆☆☆)  
Ph. 03 5423 5505  
Web. [www.riverglenhp.com.au](http://www.riverglenhp.com.au)
- Riverview Tourist Park (Big 4) (☆☆☆☆)  
Ph. 03 5243 6225  
Web. [www.aspenparks.com.au](http://www.aspenparks.com.au)
- Eldorado Tourist Park (☆☆☆☆)  
Ph. 03 5276 1386  
Web. [www.eldoradotp.com.au](http://www.eldoradotp.com.au)

*For a comprehensive accommodation list, please see attached or log onto [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com) and follow the link to 86 Reunion.*

## Climate:

Geelong's climate during April sits between 10°C and 25°C and can rain on average for 10 days out of the month. Please bear in mind however, that you are visiting Melbourne, which is famous for it's 4 seasons in 1 day so pack carefully!

## Anzac Day Services:

We will be attending the dawn service held in Johnstone Park, Geelong which will be followed by our traditional gunfire breakfast held back at the Sphinx Hotel. 86 Platoon will also be marching in the Melbourne parade which concludes at the Shrine in St Kilda Road, Melbourne. Transport will be provided from Geelong into Melbourne and return. Following the march, a light lunch will be provided at the Transport Bar located in Federation Square opposite Flinders St Station .

## Getting to Geelong:

**AIR:** Jetstar flies to Avalon Airport daily which is only a 20 minute drive from Geelong. All major airlines (including Jetstar) fly direct to Melbourne's Tullamarine Airport on a daily basis. Tullamarine airport is just over 1 hour's drive from Geelong and Shuttle Buses operate daily.

**ROAD:** Geelong is an easy one hour drive from Melbourne straight down the Princes Freeway. All major car rental companies operate out of Tullamarine Airport.

**RAIL:** Vline train services operate from Melbourne (Southern Cross Station on Spencer Street) and take passengers into the heart of Geelong. This trip takes approximately 1 hour and costs under \$10.00 for pensioners. Services operate daily. A Skybus operates to take passengers from Tullamarine Airport to Southern Cross Railway Station.

## Useful Geelong Links & Contacts:

- Gull Airport Service (provides transport from Tullamarine airport to Geelong.)  
**Phone** 03 5222 4966  
**Web** [www.gull.com.au](http://www.gull.com.au)
- Skybus (shuttle bus from Tullamarine Airport to Southern Cross Railway Station)  
**Phone** 03 9335 2811  
**Web** [www.skybus.com.au](http://www.skybus.com.au)
- Geelong Visitor Information Centre (provide information on Geelong and surroundings )  
**Phone** 1800 620 888  
**Web** [www.visitgeelong.org](http://www.visitgeelong.org)

## Event Contacts:

Pete (Chuckles) Price

President

86 Transport Reunion Committee

03 9337 1430

0404 731 515

[victorian86.reunion2010@gmail.com](mailto:victorian86.reunion2010@gmail.com)

Cathy Hosking

Event Manager

Cathy Hosking Events

0432 221 585

[info@cathyhoskingevents.com](mailto:info@cathyhoskingevents.com)

[www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com)

# Program

**Thursday 22nd April**

## **REGISTRATION**

**The Sphinx Hotel**

Arrive in Geelong, get settled in at your chosen accommodation and then come along to the Sphinx Hotel for registration. Collect your reunion goodie bag, catch up on all the news and have a quiet drink or two. Registration will be held at the Sphinx Hotel from 5pm. A buffet dinner will be served from 6.30pm and cash bar facilities will be available.

**Friday 23rd April**

## **DAY TRIP**

**The Bellarine Peninsula**

Be collected from your chosen accommodation venue by bus and enjoy a coach transfer to the scenic town of Drysdale. Once famous for its potato and onion farms, however now more notable for its mineral springs and quaint farming community. From Drysdale, board the Bellarine Tourist train which traverses Victoria's beautiful Bellarine Peninsula between Drysdale and the historic coastal town of Queenscliff. The railway hugs the water around scenic Swan Bay providing breathtaking views, of both the ocean and the rolling hills of the peninsula. Upon arrival at Queenscliff, a spit roast luncheon will be provided and then you are encouraged to explore the historical town of Queenscliff before the coaches arrive to return you to your accommodation.

**Saturday 24th April**

## **DAY AT YOUR LEISURE**

You are encouraged to use today to explore Geelong and its surrounding regions at your own leisure. A selection of recommended activities will be made available to you upon registration (including Geelong's Maritime Museum, Geelong Waterfront, Local wineries, the Vietnam War Memorial museum at Phillip Island, Sovereign Hill at Ballarat and the Werribee Open Range Zoo). For those keen to plan in advance jump onto [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com) for a list of suggested activities.

**Sunday 25th April**

## **ANZAC SERVICES**

**Geelong & Melbourne**

The dawn service to be held at Johnstone Park in Geelong, followed by the traditional gunfire breakfast back at the Sphinx Hotel. After breakfast board a special charter train to Melbourne to participate in the Melbourne Anzac Day March at the Shrine. Special seating is allocated for partners & widows of 86 Platoon. A light lunch will be provided at the Transport Hotel and the afternoon is at your leisure to explore Melbourne or return for a relaxing afternoon in Geelong. (A special charter train is scheduled for return to Geelong departing Flinders Street Station. Regular scheduled services to Geelong will run and depart Southern Cross station).

**Monday 26th April**

## **GALA DINNER**

**The Sphinx Hotel Ballroom**

Get dressed up to the 9's for the annual Reunion Gala Dinner, featuring a live band, delectable food and wine and superb company. Don't forget to bring your dancing shoes!

**Tuesday 27th April**

## **DEPARTURE**

Bid farewell to your friends and comrades until next time.

**Please note detailed timings will be provided upon registration on Thursday 22nd April, 2010.**

## Merchandise for Sale

Please use the order form which can be found on the Registration Page or  
order online at [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com)  
Full colour images are also available at [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com)



**Description:** UNISEX POLO SHIRT  
**Colour:** NAVY  
**Sizes:** S—XXL  
**Price:** \$25.00



**Description:** POLARFLEECE JACKET  
**Colour:** NAVY  
**Size:** S—XXL  
**Price:** \$40.00

**IMAGE NOT  
AVAILABLE**

(Vest is same as  
POLARFLEECE JACKET only  
sleeveless)

**Description:** SLEEVELESS POLARFLEECE  
VEST  
**Colour:** NAVY  
**Size:** S—XXL  
**Price** \$30.00

**IMAGE NOT  
AVAILABLE**

(Features ribbon colours with  
86 logo on one end)

**Description:** BAR RUNNER  
**Colour:** NAVY  
**Size:** 900mm x 250mm  
**Price** \$50.00

**Pease Note:** All clothing measurements are based  
on MENS sizes.

# Registration Form



Please note you can now register online! Visit [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com) and follow the link to 86 Transport Reunion. Alternatively complete the form below.

Registration Fees for the 2010 Reunion are as follows:

- Full Reunion (22nd—26th April including gala dinner) \$200.00 per person
- Gala Dinner Only \$100.00 per person

Please register me for the following:

86 Transport Platoon Reunion (incl. Gala Dinner) Qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plus optional activities as below:**

- Day Trip Qty: \_\_\_\_\_  Gunn Fire Breakfast Qty: \_\_\_\_\_
- Anzac Day Lunch Qty: \_\_\_\_\_  Gala Dinner Only (\$100.00) Qty: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order the following merchandise: (Attach a separate piece of paper if required)

DESCRIPTION	SIZE (please circle)	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Polo Shirt	S M L XL XXL	\$25.00		
Sleeveless Polar fleece Vest	S M L XL XXL	\$30.00		
Polar fleece Jacket	S M L XL XXL	\$40.00		
Bar Runner	900mm x 250mm	\$50.00		

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the 86 Transport Platoon Reunion.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
(partner)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please supply a valid email address for future correspondence

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requirements (dietary/disability or other): \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

**ABN: 21 339 754 641**

(This document will be a TAX INVOICE upon payment. Please retain a copy for your records)

Amount Payable \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (TOTAL— Registration Fees, Merchandise & Donations)

- Cheque Made payable to 86 Transport Vietnam Association
- Bank Deposit BSB: 063 230 Account: 1019 0721  
 Bank: Commonwealth Name: 86 Transport Vietnam Association  
 Date deposited: \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card Please log onto [www.cathyhoskingevents.com](http://www.cathyhoskingevents.com) and follow the links to 86 Transport Reunion. Please note a 2.4% surcharge is incurred.  
 (There is no need to return this form if registering online)

**Return this form with payment no later than Friday 14th August 2009 to:**

Wendy Price—Treasurer  
 86 Transport Platoon Reunion Committee  
 10 Intervale Drive, Avondale Heights VIC 3034 ~ Email. [info@cathyhoskingevents.com](mailto:info@cathyhoskingevents.com)

