

# **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**



For those who actually went to Vietnam in the late 1960's and early 1970's, the RFPA Committee of Management acknowledges the relevance of today, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Australian withdrawal from SVN. This was a turbulent time in our history, with various groups and individuals protesting our involvement in the frightening conflict, which claimed so many lives, as war does. Our young men were compulsorily subjected to a military ballot, which would be unthinkable today.

There are many former police who were caught up in this conflict; service was either in National Service or the Regular Army or Regular Army Supplement or all across the Defence Forces, with the Royal Australian Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force, as well as others whose part time Military service turned into a full time commitment. We note that women were not subject to call-up, but many served there in specialist roles, well represented in the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps and allied fields.

Those who were already police before being called up were recently listed on a magnificent plaque in the foyer of the Sydney Police Centre. The NSW Police RSL Sub Branch, and particularly our Member Bruce HOWE, played a lead role in the unique recognition of their service.

Others have recently been asked to take part in various formal events, showcasing the formal recognition now being afforded all of those young men and women who experienced the horrors of war and thereby served our country.



# **THE RETIRED AND FORMER POLICE ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR PATRIOTIC SERVICE**