



PETER BARNES SECRETARY

Peter Barnes was born in Moonee Ponds in 1950, and spent most of his childhood there, attending St Mary's Primary school, and Niddrie Technical college before moving to Fitzroy where he attended the Prahran Institute of Technology.

Peter was drafted to National Service in 1970 at the age of 20 and served as a Trooper in the A and B squadron third cavalry regiment stationed at Nui Dat during the Vietnam War from 1971 until the ADF left in 1972.

He was involved in Operation Ivanhoe and the Battle of Nui Le in September 1972, the last major offensive operation in Australia's decade-long involvement in the Vietnam War, where Australian and New Zealand soldiers, supported by United States aircraft and helicopters from No. 9 Squadron RAAF, were engaged in intense on ground fighting with the 33rd North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Regiment to prevent them gaining a foothold in Phuoc Tuy Province.

His squadron (Det A Sqn Cav Regt) were among the last Australian combat troops to leave Vietnam, remaining to act as a Ready Reaction Force in the event of an attack by the Viet Cong and to provide security for the logistics area in the port town of Vung Tau.

They set sail on the HMAS Sydney in February 1972, stopping in Townsville on the 9th of March before finally arriving in Sydney on the 12th March. Peter was later discharged from the Military on April 29th, 1972.



He met his wife Lynette while working at Walton's in 1970, and they were married at St Vincents in Strathmore in 1975. They have 3 children, David, Nicole and Kate.

After the military, Peter embarked on a career in Real Estate working for the likes of JJ Casey in Fitzroy, and McGee O'Callaghan Gill; a commercial Real Estate company in Melbourne's CBD. Peter then started his own business Bartlett & Barnes in Richmond in 1980 and later Nelson Alexander in Carlton and Fitzroy.

He is a life member of the Fitzroy Tennis club, where he has been an active member for over 20 years and was a board member of the Latrobe Golf Club for three years.

Peter has been a member of the RSL for over 40 years, initially at the Ivanhoe RSL in 1980 before moving to Tramways East Melbourne in 2010 and then onto the Camberwell RSL in 2022, commencing his position as club Secretary in 2023. He loves a party and is known to enjoy a good dance at every club function. Peter's motto is to 'be the best at whatever you do,' and he brings this energy to everything he does.

As Club Secretary, Peter recognises the importance of maintaining a welcoming environment for all service and ex serving personnel and providing support and help for all those who have experienced trauma either through war or their involvement as first responders.