

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INC

PATRON MAJ GEN J C HUGHES AO DSO MC

Winter Issue 2015 - Inside this edition

President's Address



I hope you enjoy the new look "Listening Post" with the new format. The idea for change to Listening Post was an obvious one; we are a National Association so our newsletter should reflect that.

We want all members around Australia to be able to read and see what fellow members in other states are doing. Whilst you may have a local state newsletter your fellow members in other states would like to know what you are up to.

In the Listening Post (aside from each state contribution) there is a section for "Where are you now"? You can submit names of mates you had served with but have lost contact with. They may now be in another state; again by all members reading your search request you have a better chance of finding your mate.

This is your newsletter so please give your state secretary all the pictures and stories you feel other members may like to know about. It does not have to be of your service period, it may be an event in your local area which is of interest. It is up to you.

Each quarter we will produce a copy of the Listening Post. All information should be sent to Doug Prendergast (our man in charge of preparing the information for each edition. This will all then be sent to the Producer/Editor of our newsletter.

I personally feel it has been an amazing year for our Association. We have come a long way in the past twelve months, we now have a fine tuned recruiting program and new members are coming on board.

There are of course more to be found but the trend is an upward one and that goes well for the future. There are many events we should remember that occurred during 2014/15. In Victoria we held 'The Thomas Carr' Memorial Service prior to Anzac Day, then the actual 'Anzac Day' Service in all states.

We then held our 'National Day' on August 31 in all States, and continued planning of the proposed trip to Malaysia organized by South Australia. Additionally there was the unveiling of a new memorial to the fallen in Knox City, Melbourne.

You will read about all these events and more in this edition of Listening Post. Please remember to let others know of events in your area which you participate in that bring credit and acknowledgement to the Malay & Borneo Veterans Association. One such event took place in Queensland this year and has brought great credit to the members who did it and our Association overall. I was so moved by what they did. I write of the members who organized the "trip to the bush' to help those in need. What a wonderful thing to do and so much appreciated by those who are doing it tough in the bush.

I know from my own background that when times are tough in the bush they are really touched and at times city folk just don't know that.

To illustrate what great work was done with this events I received an email from one of the recipients of the generosity, the most significant words were' "a big thanks to an organization I did not know existed".

You can read the full story of what your fellow members did in this edition. If you have been doing similar things in your area, let us know. There are so many things happening within NMBVAA Inc I could write on but we should therefore think of others and reflect on what we stand for and remember those who are no longer with us now. Go that extra mile and make contact with people who you know would like to hear from someone who cares.

Let me close by wishing you all the very best. I look forward to the remainder of 2015 and all the good work we will do during that time.

Regards

Owen Marshall



VICTORIAN BRANCH



Ebony Hunter

25 April at 19:52 - Berwick - 18

Wow what an incredible day! Marching with my grandad wearing replicas of his service medals. He served for our beautiful country which he takes so much pride in. Also getting a chance to March alongside veterans like Lory. Lory has 17 service medals for his dedication to Australia. Then to top of the day watching my Grandad do the lap of honour before the big game. Such a privilege to not only march but on the Anzac Centenary and seeing first hand how valued these amazing people who put their lives on the line for us! Amazing to see the support all the way up to the shrine of remembrance. Had and awesome time and I would like to thank my Grandad and all the other men and women who made such great sacrifices and risks to protect our country, truly amazing people. May the ones who lost their lives never be forgotten!

Lest We Forget. W - with Sue Hunter and Tracey Bain.



VICTORIAN BRANCH

Dear John,

We would like to thank you for accepting the walking stick that my Dad (Chris Briggs) handmade.

We got your name when we met you but we forgot to introduce ourselves.

It was my daughter Arianah Purton who chose you to give the walking stick to, my son Alex who you shared his lollipop with, my Mum Lena and myself Colleen.

Arianah was walking in the parade with her Girl Guides group that day, she was so proud to be marching.

We had been telling her about her Great Grand Poppy (Thomas Henry Williams) and she was sad because she never got to meet him. He passed 8 months before she was born.

When she spotted you she knew you were the one she wanted to meet, she was over the moon.

"He is a real soldier Mum, a hero", I held back the tears. My Poppy would have been so proud of her.

You have made the image of my Poppy a little more real for her and I thank you for that.

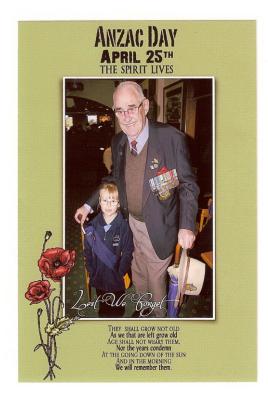
Thank you for taking the time to talk to us that day, it really means more than you can imagine.

Kind Regards

Colleen & Arianah Purton.

PO Box 8454, Tarneit

3029



2015 Anzac Day - Melbourne

As the most important day on our calender there is a high level of anticipation on the day. As we form up to march there is a lot of conversation amongst Veterans and families.

The call to march heightens the anticipation as we move forward to all the well wishes of the crowd. What we remember is those that are no longer with us either through war or who have passed on since.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

As we approach the shrine and the end of the march all eyes are to the right as we pass the eternal flame. Well done all. We then retire to the Batman Hill Hotel for a great lunch and a chance to talk about things now and things past.











Service of Remembrance

Photo of our National President Owen Marshall with our patron, Major General J.C.Hughes AO DSO MC and fellow Veterans at the Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day Service Melbourne held on August 31 2015.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

Anzac Day Parade' at the MCG

Each Anzac Day, the NMBVAA Melbourne is invited to participate in the 'Lap of Honor' prior to the Collingwood V's Essendon Anzac Day match at the MCG.

The NMBVAA have two people each year who go to the MCG as guests and are driven around the oval and entertained by the VFL.

This year it was Vern Joseph and Rex Bain, both described the experience as a great day and said it was an honour to represent the Association on such a memorable occasion.









Thomas Carr College

Many years ago Thomas Carr College adopted the Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association plus fellow Veterans out of respect for those who made the ultimate sacrifice and those who served.

They planted trees and erected a memorial in the College grounds to honour those who died. Each year they hold a service in May to honour and remember all those who served. The service is attended by Veterans, local and state politicians and an invited guest speaker from the Association it is greatly appreciated by NMBVAA.









'Big Huey' Nostalgia Lunch





"It was felt a social event at no cost to members and their partners was an opportunity to give all a great day out and time to catch up.

Owen Marshall was impressed by what lain Hewitson had established in his new restaurant all decked out in the 60s style complete with Juke Box.

Owen sorted out a sponsor for the day amongst his contact base and was able to obtain sponsorship from Beazley Insurance Underwriting.

The food was great, good wine, great company and many old songs from the era were played on the juke box.

We intend to do this two or three time a year money permitting".

Regards

Owen Marshall





Commemorative Plaque

The plaque pictured above was as a result of work done by our Patron Major General Jim Hughes. It was placed in Church Of The Holy Trinity, East Melbourne. Fr Grant Edgcumbe Vicar, Officiant The Right Reverend John Bayton AM GCSt CMLJ Reserve Chaplain RAAChD (Ret.)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



National Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Association Australia Inc South Australia & Northern Territory Branch 73 Berrima Rd, Sheidow Park SA 5158

ABN 31 340 936 038

National Patron Maj Gen J C Hughes AO DSC MC

sa rresident: Brian Selby www.nmbvaa.org.au Vice President: Don Cameron

Ph: 08 8387 1672 E: oneoneecho111@gmail.com Ph: 08 8264 2858 E: wildcanyon@adam.com.au



2015, 100th Anniversary of ANZAC

WARNING ORDER

AUGUST 2016 MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CEASE FIRE AND DECLARATION OF THE END OF THE INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION WITH MALAYSIA

Plans are now being developed to conduct a 50th Anniversary Tour to Kuching, Sarawak with the intention of marking this significant Anniversary by unveiling a Memorial to all Australian Armed Forces personnel who paid the supreme sacrifice and who served during this undeclared war, regardless of the Area of Operations of deployment.

It is intended that attempts will be made to contact, and invite, the NOK and families of the Australian casualties wherever possible.

It is believed that this significant Anniversary is in keeping with the spirit of the Centenary of ANZAC.

A bronze Memorial plaque and black granite plinth will be unveiled on 26 August, 2016, in the War Memorial Gardens at Kuching, Sarawak.

Members of the surviving Sarawak Malayasian Rangers and Iban Trackers Association and Malaysian Army members, Sarawak dignatories and Malaysian government representatives will be in attendance.

Comprehensive Itinerary, accommodation and International travel details will be available as details are confirmed. A draft document will be published to allow consideration of the tour.

Tour dates are; 24 August to 1 September 2016.

Please advise your family and those who you served with.....

Ubique

Brian Selby

Winter Issue 2015 - Inside this edition

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



2016 TOUR ITINERARY

KUCHING SARAWAK

24TH AUGUST - 1st SEPTEMBER 2016

FROM HOME PORTS TO KUCHING via KUALA LUMPUR with Malaysian Airline Systems (MAS)

Wednesday 24 August 2016

ADELAIDE 1430 hrs - 2350 hrs MH138 and MH2534 BRISBANE 2320 hrs - 1000 hrs MH134 and MH2564 MELBOURNE 0805 hrs - 2115 hrs MH128 and MH2564 PERTH 0125 hrs - 1000 hrs MH126 and MH2504 SYDNEY 0725 hrs - 1745 hrs MH142 and MH2528

Based on current trends, Economy return air fares may be around AUD\$850.00 - \$950.00 pp

FROM KUCHING TO HOME PORTS via KUALA LUMPUR with Malaysian Airline Systems (MAS)

Tuesday 1 September 2016

ADELAIDE MH2529 and MH139
BRISBANE MH2547 and MH135
MELBOURNE MH2517 and MH149
PERTH MH2521 and MH127
SYDNEY MH2517 and MH143

NMBVAA MEMORIAL UNVEILING

The NMBVAA Memorial will be unveiled on Friday, 26th August 2016 in the Kuching War Memorial Gardens at 0930 hrs.

FREE TIME

There will be ample free time for sightseeing and shopping during the week.

A informal lunch and a farewell dinner will also be arranged to include our Kuching friends.

It is suggested that we have a lunch at a local Kuching restaurant that is not western style and the more formal dinner at one of the chain hotels.

KUCHING ACCOMMODATION

The choices available range from budget to international chains.

Rates are per suite per night and most include breakfast in the price.

Some suggestions will be advised with rates and proximity to the Kuching CBD.

Rates range from AUD\$85.00 - \$150.00 per night for 3, 4, 5 star.

Members may wish to travel before and after the above scheduled dates to visit Kota Kinabalu, Balikpapan and other places in Sabah, Sarawak and the Peninsula.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

17 June 2015

Mr Dipak Dhamala Honorary Consul for Nepal South Australia 133 Portrush Rd EVANDALE SA 5069

Dear Dipak, subha ratri.....

On behalf of the Committee and Members of the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch, I would like you accept a cheque for AUD\$400.00 to assist in a small way towards aid for the crisis caused by the recent earthquakes in Nepal.

As you know, we have a strong bond with our former comrades in the Gurkha Army and at this horrific time, we wish to also offer our prayers for all in Nepal....

Hami bhula lest.

Yours faithfully,

Brian Selby President SA & NT Branch



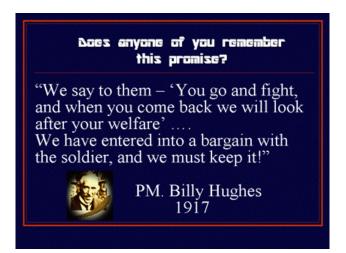
Disaster Appeal

Don Cameron and I presented a cheque for AUD\$400.00 to the Nepal Consul here on 17 June as a donation on behalf of the SA & NT Branch to the Disaster Appeal set up by the King of Nepal.

Regards Brian Selby

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GALLIPOLI 25TH APRIL 2015







SOUTH AUSTRALIA WAR MEMORIAL NORTH TCE ADELAIDE CITY OF WEST TORRENS WAR MEMORIAL



AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE SOLDIER

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GALLIPOLI 25

APRIL 2015 ANZAC DAY



Allan Davies and Bill Hanson



The Cameron Brothers



"Digger "Digance, Joe Kelly, Don Cameron, Sgt Nathan Price RAA, Clive Dubois and Dennis Price.....



"Digger" Digance and Joe Kelly

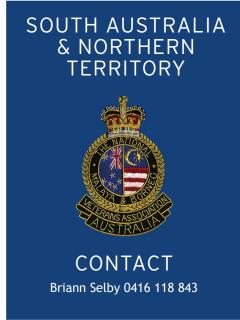


King William Rd downhill....



Selamat tinggal mengawan..... Sehingga kita bertemu lagi....





2015 Anzac Day - Adelaide

These pics will form part of the album being compiled for distribution with the next newsletter and for our contacts in Penang, Malacca and Sarawak, the JOM magazine and the Association web site.

Commemoration Weekend



On behalf of all who were able to attend the Commemoration weekend, thank you. It was a long time coming, (only took 50 years though).

To meet some of the surviving sailors who were in the ship's company for that voyage, and particularly, the skipper of HMAS Sydney, CAPT John Stevenson RAN, was a great experience.

As you know, there are not many pics and even less documentation publicly available from that period, and none that I know of with any 16 Mine Sweeper Sqn RAN ships depicted.

In the future, I hope that there will be other less formal occasions that some of us may be able to get together at, and now that we have a proper line of comminication, any functions for the groups can be publicised in association news letters and calendars, RSL news papers and Vet Affairs papers for references.

The assistance and cooperation given by the designated members from HMAS Kuttabul made the end result a memorable event.

2016 Tour Kuching Sarawak

Ladies and Gentlemen, Some may have received the previous notice that a tour to Sarawak was being planned for late August 2015.

The decision to reschedule this tour was made because of a couple of factors, some of which include the time for members to decide was too short and contacting NOK is a task within the tasks. So, the tour has been rescheduled to take place from 24 Aug - 1 Sept 2016.

The 50th Anniversary of the Cease Fire and Declaration of the End of the Indonesian Confrontation is a significant anniversary both for the Malaysian Armed Forces and the Australian Armed Forces deployed from 1962-1966. The commemoration will be conducted in the Sarawak War Memorial Gardens at Kuching on 26 August, 2016 at 0930 hrs. The attached information is an overview of the planning so far.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

"CHAMPIONS OF THE BUSH"

THE NATIONAL MALAYA AND BORNEO VETERANS ASSOC.

My name is David Brewer. Ex Navy and Far East veteran. I have been a member of our club for several years, and am extremely proud that we have been recognised as Champions of the bush for our efforts and donations towards helping the severely drought stricken farmers out west.

It all started about 4 months ago, when a friend of mine, Gary Fogarty the well known bush poet, sent my wife and I a new poem he had just written called "Still we bleed". It was full of experience and compassion about the terrible plight of our country folk in the South West corner of our great state. Gary himself lives out there, so obviously his words came from the heart.

I read the poem out to our members at one of our meetings, and also at a meeting of Calamvale National Seniors. Of which my wife and I are also members. The reaction from both clubs was inspirational. Although most members are in their late 60s and 70s, offers to help and donate poured in. Obviously many had read in the papers about how bad the drought was, but here was the emotional side of it, written with sincere feeling.

Being an old bushie myself, I also knew, and decided to do something about it.

I came up with the idea of taking a truck load of non perishable foodstuffs and things like toiletries and clothing. Entertainment items and toys out there, and delivering them personally.

Both clubs thought it was a great idea, and the donations started pouring in.

I approached AVIS RENT- A –CAR about a truck, and they gave me one free of charge, with no limitations on kilometres.

In two weeks, it was full of goods. After many hours of sorting and packing we were ready to go. The generosity of people was incredible. Our Malaya & Borneo vets gave very generous amounts of money. As did Calamvale seniors members. People from the Salvation army, led by a small dynamo named Marjorie Hayes were wonderful. Several councillors and state politicians gave generous donations. In fact when we were ready to go, we not only had a mountain of goods. We also had several thousand dollars in cash.

With myself at the wheel, and a co driver named Corny van Eldik from the Calamvale seniors, we set of at 5-30 am on a Thursday morning for the small town of St. George, in the Balonne shire. About 550 ks from Brisbane. We had planned to use this for our base to deliver our goods. We had already contacted a very special lady there named Robyn Fuhrmeister, who seemed to be the president of everything except the U.S.A. She had an iteninary mapped out for us, with properties to visit and people in need generally.

After a seven hour drive with 2 smoko stops. We arrived in St. George. There we unloaded half our load into a building called CARE BALONNE. This was a place set up for the desperate and the suicidal. There have been several since last Xmas. We unloaded and again sorted our stuff into rows of boxes for the folks to help themselves. What we saw that first day will live with me for a long time. At first many were too embarrassed to come into the hall whilst we were there. They finally

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

came in singly and would not look us in the face. After a lot of effort and attempts at humour, we won some of them over.

We met a lady of 87 who was trying to keep her farm going by herself. Her husband had died 2 years ago. So she would not have any smell about her when she came into town, she would boil the flowers of weeds to sprinkle on herself. Another lady would only take half a box of food saying she would not take too much because there were so many people to come in, and she did not want us to run out.

There were many awful stories told to us in the Care Balonne Hall. So many in fact it was hard to believe we were in Australia.

The following morning, we spread the cash we had among the towns shops for vouchers to give away to the neediest. This not only helped the farmers to get food and supplies. It also helped the shop owners, who employed townsfolk.

The third day we took off into the bush looking for properties in trouble. They all were. One we dropped stuff at was run by a woman who twice a day knocked down Mulga trees with a small clapped out tractor, for the cattle to eat the leaves. She did this while her dementia stricken mother was strapped in a chair in front of the TV in the house. This is only one of many tragic stories we encountered.

The town of St. George is okay for water because of the system they set up years ago regarding the Balonne river, that runs almost through the town itself. They built a dam across the part of it adjoining the town. This therefore gives them a supply when the river itself is dry. Which is two thirds of the year. Drinking water is of course from a bore. However the river water is pumped through a pump station and used for toilet flushing, garden watering and just about everything else. This is a great idea. It is also used for irrigating farms close to the town. This all sounds good. And it is. But 2 Kilometers out into the shire it is a different scenario. After 3 years drought. Two years flood, then 3 years drought again the country is dead. When visiting the properties, the desperation and hopelessness we were witness to made us feel ashamed in a way. These are Aussies like us. And they need help badly. Our government gives Billions to foreign countries. Some that don't even like us very much. They spend more billions on prettying up cities for G20 two day events, while the heart of our country is withering away. What happened to priorities?

I have just returned from our second run out to the Balonne shire. Our two clubs have now been joined by the Forest lake Seniors, and we have adopted the Balonne shire. We will continue taking help out there in the new year, and help our fellow Aussies all we can. I am very proud of our NM&BVAA. For a small club, they did gigantic things. Also Calamvale and Forest Lake seniors more that stepped up to the mark.

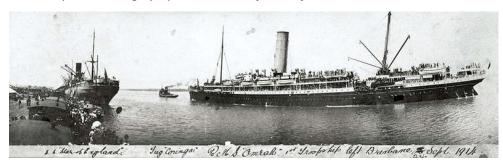
Is it not strange, that it takes a bunch of old codgers like us to come up with an idea such as this. How good would it be if clubs of younger folks could send convoys of trucks out there, and show the good country folk they are not forgotten. By the ordinary bloke in the street anyway. Believe me. The welcome and appreciation will bring a lump to your throat.

This is just a shortened version of the happenings that occurred in the last few months of our ventures out there. Believe me, volumes could be written.

Footnote. Avis were great. On both trips we hit three roo's. 2 pigs and 1 goat. Avis wore the cost of damage. How good is that.

A Century since Australia sent troops to WW1

HMS Omrah leaving the Queensland Port of Pinkenba on 24 September 2014. Troops travelled by train to the Pinkenba Railway Station. At the wharf is the "Star of England" taking on Troops. She soon followed HMS Omrah. Both vessels travelled to Perth where they were part of the first flotilla to leave Australia for overseas ports. *Photograph from John Oxley Library Collection*.





Peter's Recipes

Rich Homemade Ricotta

Makes about 1 generous cup of ricotta.... so I usually double (or triple) up on quantities.

3 cups whole milk, 1 cup heavy cream, 1/2 teaspoon coarse sea salt,

3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice

Method:

Pour the milk, cream and salt into a large nonreactive saucepan. Attach a candy or deep-fry thermometer. Heat the milk to 190°F, stirring it occasionally to keep it from scorching on the bottom (basically bring it to the just starting to bubble stage). Remove from heat and add the lemon juice, then stir it once or twice, gently and slowly. Let the pot sit undisturbed for 5 minutes.

Line a colander with a few layers of cheesecloth and place it over a large bowl (to catch the whey). Pour the curds and whey into the colander and let the curds strain for at least an hour. At an hour, you'll have a tender, spreadable ricotta. At two hours, it will be spreadable but a bit firmer, almost like cream cheese. (It will firm as it cools, so do not judge its final texture by what you have in your cheesecloth.) Discard the whey, or, if you're one of those crafty people who use it for other things, of course, save it. Eat the ricotta right away or transfer it to an airtight container and refrigerate until ready to use.

<u>Serve</u>: On 1/2-inch slices of baguette that have been toasted until lightly bronzed. Serve it simply with honey and a pinch of flaky sea salt, or a couple grinds of black pepper, pinch of salt and drizzle of olive oil, and/or a few droplets of an aged balsamic.

Ricotta Pancakes Makes 8

Ingredients: 3/4 cup all-purpose flour, 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1 tablespoon plus 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar, Pinch of coarse salt, 1 cup fresh ricotta cheese, plus more for serving, 3/4 cup milk, 3 large eggs, yolks and whites separated, 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract, Zest of 1 lemon, 1 teaspoon poppy seeds, Unsalted butter, softened, for cooking, Honey Syrup, for serving Directions

- 1. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, sugar, and salt. In a large bowl, mix together ricotta, milk, egg yolks, and vanilla. Add the flour mixture to the cheese mixture and mix until batter is just combined. Stir in lemon zest and poppy seeds.
- 2. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the whisk attachment, beat egg whites until stiff. Gently fold egg whites into batter.
- 3. Heat a griddle or large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat; brush surface with butter. Working in batches, ladle 1/3 cup batter for each pancake on griddle, leaving space as they will spread. Cook until golden and top begins to bubble, 3 to 4 minutes. Gently turn and continue cooking until bottoms are light brown, 3 to 4 minutes more. Serve immediately with ricotta and honey syrup.

Non-Liability Health Care

Non-liability health care (NLHC) allows former and current ADF personnel, depending on their eligibility, to receive treatment for the following conditions:

- Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm)
- Pulmonary Tuberculosis
- · Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- · Depressive Disorder
- Anxiety Disorder
- · Alcohol Use Disorder; and
- · Substance Use Disorder.

There is no need to establish that these conditions were caused by your service. The specific conditions for which you may be eligible to receive treatment depend on the period in which you served or, in some cases, the nature of your service (e.g. service on operational deployments). More information on eligibility for NLHC can be found in Factsheet HSV109 Non-Liability Health Care.

To apply for NLHC you should fill out application form D9213 Application for Health Care for Certain Mental Health Conditions or D9215 Application for Health Care for Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm) and Tuberculosis and return it to DVA using the directions provided on the form. You may need to provide proof of identity, and your service records will be examined to check your service eligibility. A diagnosis by an appropriately qualified health professional is also required as part of the application process. This diagnosis must confirm that you have one of the specified conditions for which you are entitled to claim (depending on which eligibility group you belong to). Diagnosis of cancer (malignant neoplasm) or pulmonary tuberculosis can be made by your treating medical practitioner. For mental health conditions, a diagnosis can be made by a psychiatrist, a vocationally registered general practitioner (GP) or a clinical psychologist.

A range of treatments may be available to you.

If you are found to be eligible you will be issued with a DVA Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White Card). More information on the treatment available can be found in Factsheet HSV61 DVA Health Card - For Specific Conditions (White).

Non-liability health care entitlements are entirely separate to the process of claiming compensation. NLHC treatment is provided regardless of the cause of your condition. This means that if you claim compensation for a condition for which you are also eligible to receive treatment under non-liability health care and the compensation claim is not accepted, you may continue to be eligible for non-liability health care.

To see if you are eligible please call DVA on 133254 (metro callers) or 1800 555 254 (regional callers). Our staff will discuss your eligibility based on the type and period of your service.



2015 Anzac Day - Hobart



This is our banner getting ready for the Anzac Day parade. The students were fantastic and enjoyed the experience despite the inclement conditions.





'50th Anniversary of Nashos'





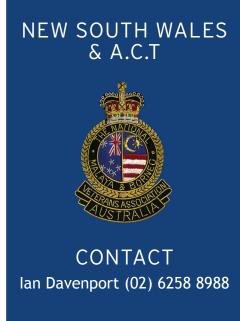
These photos are of veterans of the veterans of the Indonesian Confrontation. They have been supplied by Ian Davenport.

They show Ian with Jihn Blackett who was the first Nasho of the 2nd scheme to serve in a war zone.



He served with 21 Construction Squadron RAE (Puckapunyal) in Sabah Malaysia in the first half of 1966.

Ian went to the same place in the second half of 1966 with 22 Construction Squadron (Perth, WA). It is interesting to note 'The GG' was there as well.





Remembering Sandakan 70th Anniversary

The people around the Memorial are predominately members of my family or associated with men who perished at Sandakan, either on the death marches or at Ranau.





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EVENTS SCHEDULE

VICTORIAN BRANCH

FEBRUARY

2nd General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

MARCH

3rd General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

APRIL

7th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

19th Sunday Service at Watton Street Werribee: 1350HRS Afterwards at Werribee RSL

23rd Memorial Service at Repat Hospital Heidelberg: 1030HRS

25th ANZAC Day March Melbourne Afterwards Reunion at Batman Hotel

MAY

5th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

11th Thomas Carr Memorial Service Tarneit

JUNE

2nd General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

JULY

7th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS11th Mid Year BBQ at Bunnings

AUGUST

4th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

31st Veterans Day at Shrine Afterwards Reunion at Batman Hotel

SEPTEMBER

1st General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

OCTOBER

6th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

NOVEMBER

1st Knox City WW1 Commemoration Service

9th Springvale Memorial Service Springvale

10th General Meeting - Batman Hotel Richmond: 1030HRS

11th Remembrance Day - Shrine Melbourne: 1100HRS

DECEMBER

1st Xmas Fair at Batman Hotel Richmond:1130 HRS

S.A/N.T BRANCH

FEBRUARY

20th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

MARCH

20th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

APRIL

17th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

25th ANZAC Day March Adelaide Commences with a Dawn Service at Hilton RSL.

MAY

15th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

JUNE

19th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

JULY

17th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

AUGUST

15th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

21st SA & NT AGM / Branch Meeting Hilton RSL, Adelaide 1100HRS Followed by lunch

29th Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day Commemorated in the War Memorial Gardens at Hilton Commences at 1100HRS.

SEPTEMBER

18th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

OCTOBER

16th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

NOVEMBER

20th Branch Meeting - Hilton RSL Adelaide 1100HRS

DECEMBER

The traditional Christmas lunch for members, families and friends.

Throughout the year there are several invitations received from kindred ESOs which include the annual Korea Memorial service, the A&TSI Memorial service and the annual RAR SA Dinner. Fund Raiser bbq's are a bi-monthly event and are held at Bunnings Warehouse Modbury.

FEBRUARY

24th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

MARCH

24th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

ΔPRI

25th ANZAC Day March Brisbane Anzac Day Luncheon at New Farm Bowls Club

28th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

MAY

26th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

JUNE

24th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

JULY

28th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

AUGUST

25th Queensland AGM / Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL, Wynnum: 1100HRS Followed by lunch

29th Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day Commemoration Day

SEPTEMBER

22nd Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

OCTOBER

27th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

NOVEMBER

11th Remembrance Day

24th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

DECEMBER

12th Xmas Party

NSW/ACT BRANCH

JUNE

30th National Service 50th Anniversary Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra 1030HRS

AUGUST

There will not be a ceremony 31 August in the ACT due to constraints imposed by the Australian War Memorial.

SEPTEMBER

13th Branch AGM

DIGGERS

The Squatter's son, the Jack-a-roo the city boy and the shearer too they heard a call to make them one to leave the land of the southern sun

They landed upon a foreign shore and did what they had come there for they fought a war with all they had without so much as a "Well done lad"

They showed the world courage true as they strived to be "True Blue"

Their mateship was beyond compare even amongst this death and despair

They were feared by some, respected by all "She'll be right mate" you'd hear them call for quitting was something they wouldn't do

If they started something they wouldn't do

If they started something they saw it through

We have so much to learn, from our Soldiers past

Life is short and the years run fast

Think of them all and remember them well

for they saved the land in which we dwell

Bernice



This section is dedicated to asking the question "Where are you now"? You can submit names of mates you had served with but have lost contact with. They may now be in another state; again by all members reading this newsletter, your search request you have a better chance of finding your mate!

Webmaster



Hello, my name is Dave. I was born and raised in London, I spent many years as an active member of the ATC and

tried to join the reconnaissance wing of the RAF when I was 18, but was turned down because of a visual impairment.

I then enrolled to complete a few years with the Army Reservists, but Britain was between wars at that time. I am a social member of the NMBVAA and can claim no "real" military service. My first involvement with computers was back in 1974, when I built my first machine from a kit of parts and a soldering iron.

When I moved to Tasmania in 1988 I went freelance as consultant designing, developing and programming industrial/ commercial/medical control and/or data capture systems.

Progressively I have switched to concentrate on web development. During that time I built up a fairly respectable clientele across Australia, most of which I still support today.

I look forward to completing the new website for the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia.

STATE CONTACTS

National - HQ Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Victoria - Melbourne Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Gippsland Ray Wilson (03) 5135 6742

Bendigo Peter Dodd (03) 5443 4803

South Australia / **Northern Territory** Briann Selby 0416 118 843

Queensland Allen Edwards (07) 3396 6705

NSW/ACT lan Davenport (02) 6258 8988

Tasmania Mike Priest (03) 6228 5034

Western Australia Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623