



VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

THE LISTENING POST

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2011

PATRON MAJ GEN JC HUGHES AO DSO MC

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

VALE
WILL CLOUGH SA NT

RAP

HOSPITAL

BRANCH MEETING
CALENDARS.

PALM OIL V
NATURE.

DVA NOTES.
ANZAC DAY IN NZ.

NMBVAA INC AIMS.
ON THIS DAY.....

LETTERS TO THE
EDITOR.

BRANCH CONTACTS.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Palm Oil
- Malaya Borneo Veterans Day 2011
- Branch Meetings
- ANZAC DAY Australia
- Do You Know Why ?
- **NEW WEB SITE.**
- **Liaison Duties.**

INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION 45TH

LEST WE FORGET

August 2011, is an auspicious date. It marks the 45th anniversary of the cessation of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia. It will not be remembered by the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, UK, or Malaysia, with any particular events or recognition.

It took till March 2010 for the last two remaining Australian MIAs, SAS soldiers, to be acknowledged and repatriated to Australia.

Our casualty lists have never been published and there are several omissions to the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

The Minister for Veteran's Affairs has denied the need to officially record the Nominal Rolls for the Malaya Emergency from 1948–1960, and for the Indonesian Confrontation from 1962–1966.

The (lack of) recorded details for these two “Undeclared Wars” is disgraceful. The lack of details provided when the Australian Military involvements, post WW2, are published, and verbalized by most “spokesmen for”, and so called “historians”, is the classic “not knowing the product” syndrome that is so pervasive in today's society. Our education system has not taught Australian Military history for decades...why not Minister ? The Australian War Memorial exhibits for these two wars is scant in dialogue and items. The title of “The Forgotten War” has now literally been handed on by the Korean War veterans to us, the men and women who were in the Australian Army, Navy and Air Force at that time and place.

The Australian Army soldiers KIA graves at Taiping are from the Malayan Emergency. The editor, with great help from Fathol Bukhari and Yunus Ali in Ipoh, found them in June 2008. The graves of men from 2RAR KIA, DOW, DOI, and some dependents, have now been restored and listed with the OAWG.

This is a Chinese Christian Cemetery on Kamunting Rd, Taiping. Why were these graves forgotten in the first place, and not placed in the magnificent WW2 cemetery about 3 miles away ?

The NMBVAA Inc is planning a national Day of Remembrance on 31 August for all those who fell, and for those who served post WW2 in the prescribed Areas of Operations. All State Branches will follow a similar ceremony to that of ANZAC Day at State Cenotaphs where possible. Can you help ?

MALAYA BORNEO VETERANS DAY

For the first time, on 31 August the NMBVAA Inc will commemorate Malaya Borneo Veterans Day nationally as a official event on the association calendar. Branches with a resident Malaysian Attache, or, Consul, will have the opportunity to engage with them, the wider ESO community and other VIPs to include Remembrance of those who fell and served Post WW2.

Ed.

ANZAC DAY

This year marks the 95th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings. As the article above says, 45 years is a long time for some, and for those who were there, it sometimes seems like yesterday. A major project under way is the building of a proper War Memorial for all who paid the supreme sacrifice and all those who served in the prescribed areas of war.

There are many NMBVAA Inc members who, for one reason, or, another, do not turn out on ANZAC Day. Others march with their former unit ,or, formation. These reasons are totally respected. What is asked for this year in particular, is that you not only turn out, but, form up with, and behind, the NMBVAA Inc Banner in your city. We have retaken the lost ground of the last two years. Let's hold on to it.

QUEENSLAND NOTES

Branch Meeting Schedule
Feb 22 Sherwood RSL
Mar 22 Green Bank RSL
Apr 25 ANZAC Day
 Merthyr Bowls Club
May 25 Wynnum RSL
Jun 28 Russell Island
Jul 26 Southern Cross Sport
AUG 23 AGM Wynnum RSL
Aug 31 Malaya Borneo Day
Sep 27 Geebung Zillmere
Oct 25 Southside Sports
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 22 Beenleigh RSL
Dec 17 Xmas Party TBA

SA & NT NOTES

Bi-Monthly Lunch at 1200 hrs
 Meeting at 1300 hrs.
Feb 18 Salisbury RSL
Apr 15 Murray Bridge RSL
Apr 25 ANZAC Day
Jun 17 Hilton RSL
Aug 20 AGM TPI House
Aug 28 Annual Dinner
Aug 31 Malaya Borneo Day
Oct 22 Largs Bay RSL
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Dec 10 Christmas Lunch
 Annual Dinner venue TBA

VICTORIA NOTES

Melbourne Sub-Branch
First Tuesday of the month from
Feb 1 except for Nov 2 all at the
 Stella Maris Centre Lt Collins St
Gippsland Sub-Branch.....
Feb 12 Morwell RSL
Mar 5 Veterans Centre, Sale
Apr 9 Morwell RSL
May 14 Briagalong RSL
Jun 4 Moe RSL
Jul 19 Vets Centre, Sale
Aug 13 Morwell RSL
Sep 10 Veterans Centre, Sale
Oct 8 Newborough Yallourn RSL
Nov 12 TBA

NOMINAL ROLLS UPDATE

The SA NT President, and Vice President, met with the Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator Hon. Michael Ronaldson in Adelaide, on 1st February, to discuss the decision by the Federal Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Hon Bruce Snowden MP, to *not* undertake the task of compiling the Nominal Rolls for all Australian service personnel who served in the prescribed areas. The original submis-

sion, plus additional details, were accepted by the Minister for further follow up and collating with info already on file. Degrees of difficulties are compounded by the recording procedures, in all Branches of the Armed Forces, some have not been altered since WW1. Some units did not record the names of the men, or, the women, on unit strength at certain times. !?

VICTORIA NOTES

Bendigo Sub-Branch meets at....
 Bendigo District RSL
 73-75 Havilah Rd Long Gully
Jan 14 Social meeting
Feb 11
Apr 8
Apr 25 ANZAC Day
Jun 10
Aug 12
Oct 14
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Dec 9 Xmas lunch
Ballarat is being formed .

PALM OIL PLANTATIONS v NATURE

The use of palm oil and its derivatives, including palm sugar, has become the subject of debate in many countries. The spread of this industry has created positive and negative effects for the countries where it is now a major source of income. Increased employment is not considered to be a reality. The destruction of the natural habitats of rain forests has a

knock on effect for the wildlife and human residents. Wholesale clearing has resulted in the displacement of the indigenous peoples, the extinction of some wildlife species, and the predicted extinction of the Orangutan within 20 years. The lack of remedial assistance provided by the particular countries, and the plantation owners, to counter these effects is

shameful. Logging and burning of the forests, as a clearing method, results in some of the world's worst pollution across SE Asia, particularly in Borneo, and Sumatra. The re-housing of the thousands of kampong people to blocks of multi story concrete towers is a far cry from the centuries old unique cultures that have, and, will also become casualties.



NATIONAL LIAISON DUTIES

Malaysia & UK—
 Ian Davenport.
 NZ—Brian Selby.
 FESR—Reg Poole.

WEB SITE DESIGN

Our web Master, Dave Barton, has commenced the task of reconfirming the **NMBVAA Inc** as the official ESO for the prescribed areas of service post WW2 and is delivering a very professional product that will remove any confusion caused by the fragments of information being touted as genuine by the lookalikes in some states. **Members are asked to contribute to the overall result by submitting ideas via your Branch asap.** Don't be shy !!



Advice has been received that the Memorial Bricks and Plaques, placed on Memorial Walk at the site of the **Museum of Artillery** on North Head, will be cared for when the Museum is removed to Puckapunyal.

ANZAC DAY 2011 IN NEW ZEALAND

ANZAC Day 2011 is now only 4 months away. This year marks the 95th anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings. Members will be aware of the fact that all ANZAC Day marches have been headed by the WW1 unit and particular formation markers only, for the last few years. In some cities, a commemorative formation of Light Horse re-enactment members is in place.

A package tour has been put together for any interested members and friends to go to **Rotorua** in 2011 and attend the services that are part of the Kiwi traditions for ANZAC Day. The primary tour is for a 5 day period, leaving from Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney by Emirates or Pacific Blue on **23 April** and arriving in Rotorua via Auckland same day. Staying at the Sudima Hotel.

Rates and Charges are:

Return Air Economy each :

ADL \$705 Emirates

BNE \$545 Pacific Blue

MEL \$442 Pacific Blue

SYD \$462 Pacific Blue

Sudima Hotel 4****

Twin share \$390.00 pp

Single \$640.00

Includes breakfasts.

Book directly with the travel agent: Rebecca Fernie in Brisbane 07 5443 1130 to reserve your space now.



NB : There are no costs from WA and TAS because there were no responses received. WA members could use ADL as a reference, TAS use MEL.

BACK O' BOURKE COMPUTER SPEAK

HARD DRIVE— Road home with no cold tinnies.

MONITOR— Keeping an eye on the barbie.

BYTE— What mozzies do.

MEGABYTE— What Port Pirie mozzies do.

CHIP— Bar snack.

MICROCHIP— What's left in the chip bag.

MOUSE— Small rodent that eats grain, roots and leaves.

THE OFFICIAL NMBVAA INC BANNER

THIS IS OUR BANNER. ALL OTHERS ARE NOT OFFICIAL



Nor are they recognised.



MALAYA VETS

Did you serve with Australian or Allied Armed Forces between 1948—1960 in the Malayan Emergency, or 1962—1966 in the Indonesian Confrontation or since then on the Peninsular, Ubon, Timor ?
Sign On Now
by contacting your nearest Branch. Details on pg 4.

DVA CONTACTS

General Enquiries 133 254

Counselling Service 24 hrs
1800 011 046

ADELAIDE 199 Grenfell St

BRISBANE 259 Queen St

CANBERRA 10 Moore St

DARWIN 2 Chung Wah Tce

HOBART 254 Liverpool St

MELBOURNE 300 La Trobe St

PERTH 140 St Georges Tce

DVA PAY DAYS

General Enquiries 133 254

January 13 and 27

February 10 and 24

March 10 and 24

April 7 and 21

May 5 and 19

June 2, 16 and 30

July 14 and 28

August 11 and 25

September 8 and 22

October 6 and 20

November 3 and 17

December 1, 15 and 29

WEB SITE

Members are advised that the lookalike web site , www.nmbvaa.com is no longer a valid web site.

A completely new site has been established for the NMBVAA Inc .
www.nmbvaa.org.au

THIS IS THE OFFICIAL WEB SITE FOR OUR ASSOCIATION

Banyak bagus !!

Ian Davenport



ARTILLERY

"Lends dignity to what would otherwise be a vulgar brawl"

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

The National Secretary
NMBVAA Inc
PO Box 670
Jamison Centre PO ACT 2614
Phone: 02 6258 8988
Fax: 02 6258 2593
E: davenpor@pcug.org.au



**THE NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS
ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ESTABLISHED JUNE 1995**

JANUARY

- 1901 Commonwealth of Australia proclaimed.
- 1917 Light Horse captures Rafa, Palestine.
- 1919 Treaty of Versailles signed to end WW1.
- 1941 Tobruk and Bardia captured by 6 Div AIF.
- 1942 9 Div AIF engages Japs at Gemas, Malaya.
- 1942 Rabual & North Borneo surrender to Japs.
- 1942 Allies withdraw to Singapore.
- 1942 Japs capture Lae.
- 1943 Buna, Gona and Sanananda captured by AIF.
- 1943 Germans surrender at Stalingrad.
- 1944 9 Div AIF captures Sio, destroys Jap 20 Div.
- 1945 Sandakan Death Marches begin.
- 1968 TET Offences begin in SVN.
- 1975 Office of Australian War Graves established.

ASSOCIATION AIMS

COMRADESHIP for those who served in Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, Ubon, the Thai-Malay Border, Brunei and Timor during WW2, the MALAYAN EMERGENCY and the INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION post WW2.

To ASSIST members in times of need.

To REMEMBER with Pride, Respect and Gratitude, those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty and to ensure those who fell are represented on ANZAC Day in Australia and Remembrance Day abroad.

To PROMOTE the Association and it's Aims.

To STRENGTHEN TIES with Malaysia and Singapore.

To Hold a Annual Reunion.

State Secretaries :

Queensland
Laraine Edwards
Ph : 07 3396 6705

ACT—NHQ
Maureen Davenport
Ph : 02 6258 8988

New South Wales
Maureen Davenport
Ph : 02 6258 8988

Victoria
Ben Thurlow
Ph : 03 5952 1794

Tasmania
Lyn Miller
Ph : 03 6229 6500

South Australia
Leonie Hughes
Ph : 08 8278 2112

Western Australia
Bill Adamson
Ph : 08 9295 5354

CONFUCIOUS SAY —
Women who go camping,
Must be aware of
Evil in tent.....
Foot Note

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RESEARCH NOW SHOWS

that EGGS do not adversely effect cholesterol levels and, in fact, contain less than 1.5 grams of saturated fat. Eating eggs regularly reduces the incidence of cataracts and macular degeneration. Eggs contain the most natural Vitamin D, B12 and Choline which is important to the brain, nervous system and cardiovascular system. One egg contains 6 grams of protein and all 9 essential amino acids. Eating eggs also promotes healthy hair and nails.

Leong Chee Woh

The comments from a few people around the traps concerning how to pay for certain events, and particular Remembrance services, is sometimes valid, and sometimes short on any ideas/suggestions to remove the perceived problems. Anyone who has been involved with planning and completing such functions, is aware of the need for a few like minded people to get in and do the job. The onlookers will always find faults, and provide few suggestions to achieve the goals, or, help actually.

For example, fund raising for the Malayan War Memorial is in need of a sustained, and positive set of activities to raise the funds. The request for ideas and actual doing is again put to members.....e.g.

Extra social functions at Branch level.....

Group garage sales.....

Trading tables at church and school fetes.....

Direct approach letters to local RSLs.....

Direct approach letters to Corporate bodies.....

And people to do things !!

DO YOU KNOW WHY?

Tarzan does not have a beard
You never hear Father-in-Law jokes

You press harder when the remote batteries are flat

How those bugs get into those enclosed light fittings

Plastic bags never open from the end you first try

No matter what colour bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white

Banks fine you for "insufficient funds" when they already know there is not enough money