



JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2012

# LISTENING POST

The only official News Letter of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc

PATRON MAJ GEN JC HUGHES AO DSO MC



## NOTICES

### VALE

Lofty Hayes RAA  
Pippa Nyman (RAA)  
Sandy McHutchison  
RAEME  
COL. BL Nyman RAA

### RAP

### HOSPITAL

John Smith RAF  
Ceduna SA  
Mal Digance RAR  
Adelaide

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### • CONVICT RELIES

### • GALLANTRY- AWARDS

### • HEINZ

•

### DO YOU KNOW WHY ?

## FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

A happy new year to you all.

As we move into 2012 we need to look to the future and how we can build the Association.

There are many ways to build externally but also to build via existing members, next time you are talking with a group of people not connected with us let them know about your membership, you will be surprised how many will say my friend so and so served in that area of operation, or just served, we want members from all the three services who meet our membership requirements.

Externally why not talk with your local news paper Editor and have them run a story on yourself or the Malayan Emergency or the Indonesian

Confrontation. Residents in your local area like to read stories about other locals. It builds a community bond and creates an opportunity to recruit.

One of the things that all states are doing is the Malaya & Borneo Veteran's Day in August. This adds awareness on a National level but grass roots level will always enhance the Association.

One of the things being done in Victoria this year is a stand at the Show; over 10 days the foot traffic through the pavilions creates an enormous opportunity to spread the word about the Association and gather names for follow up.

On a current member level

remember significant dates like birthdays, have members write something on their activities for the Listening Post or our web site.

All of these things ensure a feeling of belonging and sharing, this is what the Association stands for, mateship, remembrance and belonging. Not everyone is fortunate enough to have that in such a unique way as we do, so make the most of it  
Recruit if you can, Remember all your mates and Respect all veterans no matter where they are and above all enjoy. Till next time, much happiness from me.

Owen Marshall.

## ANNUAL SUBS

Members are reminded that all annual subs are due for renewal from 1st January. Payments can be sent directly to the Branch Treasurers. Amounts payable vary in each Branch. If you are unsure of the fee, contact your Branch Treasurer. Receipts will be issued as a matter of course.

## ANZAC CENTENARY

The immediate and "Ignore at Your Peril" reaction to the Federal Labor Govt sponsored ANZAC Centenary Committee canvassing, and expending of \$100K, to brand the sacred word ANZAC was overwhelming. The Minister has made a statement to the effect that there will not be any marketing pursued, but, a motif similar to the 50th

anniversary commemorations for the end of WW2 will be designed and distributed. Some members may be aware of the 1.8m concrete barriers that have been erected between the sea and the cliff face along the entire ANZAC Cove... to stop erosion by the tidal changes.. there has been no problem for over 100 years !! Why now ?

## SA NT NOTES

## AWARENESS OF THE NMBVAA INC

The first new member for 2012 is a former RAAF air crew member and Afghanistan veteran. Originally from South Africa. Welcome Johannes Hartzenberg. Married to Cassie and they have two children.

The Veterans' Advisory Committee is working closely with the Dept of Education and Children's Services, to develop a new on-line learning resource for students and teachers that will create a comprehensive electronic library of military info for the wider community also....

A Virtual War Memorial web site.

Bill Denny AM

From time to time, there is a well documented set of comments that are heard in some circles, confirming the lack of knowledge, not only in the our ex-services arena, but definitely in the public arena, e.g. "Never heard of you", "Who are you?", "What do you do?" Current members are aware of these comments, and one solution to this barrier is for members to provide ideas to recruit members of their former units to sign up, and also suggest to family members

that they could join as Branch Associate, Social and Junior members.

We also need to re-establish a NSW and WA Branch as a matter of Pride.

Contact details for this task can be forwarded to Owen Marshall.. [omarshallnpres@nmbvaa.org.au](mailto:omarshallnpres@nmbvaa.org.au) or, Phone: 03 5428 3623 .

Other local opportunities can be engaged by utilising the facilities of State RSL news papers, RSL Notice Boards and Community News Papers at little, or, no cost to place strategic adverts.

## NATIONAL LIAISON

UK— Owen Marshall

Malaysia— Brian Selby

NZ— Allen Edwards

FESR— Reg Poole.

AUSTRALIAN  
CONVICT HERITAGE

Approximately 169,000 people were transported to the new colonies under terrible conditions, by sea. The youngest was 9 years old and the oldest was 82 ! The average age was 26 and 80% had been convicted of larceny. Females made up 20% of the entire lot. The first female convict was Elizabeth Thackeray, she was sentenced to 75 years for stealing 5 handkerchiefs ! William Smith O'Brien, an Irish revolutionary was transported for leading a uprising in Tipperary. Red Kelly, father of Ned, was amongst the first ships. Margaret Dawson, a First Fleet convict became known as "The Founding Mother" of Australia.



## DVA NOTES

## TPI NOTES

## DO NOT CALL...

CPI indexation increases will be applied to Carer Allowance payments as from 1 January 2012, bringing the fortnightly amount to \$114.00, a \$4.00 increase.

The co-payment for prescriptions is now \$5.80 for all eligible DVA card holders.

The Safety Net is now set at \$348.00 for 2012.

Make sure you have a proper Prescription Record Card and attach the chemist supply strips.

Defence Service Homes Insurance is further improving its customer experience by releasing a pay-by-the-month option and a package of new insurance products. DSHI policyholders can now enjoy the convenience of paying premiums via automatic debit to their bank account. The renewal notices detail the monthly amount, with no fees. New products are exclusive to the veteran community.

Australian mobile phone numbers become public next month.

For some time private phone numbers have been able to be registered on the national "DO NOT CALL" data base to avoid unwanted, unsolicited sales and begging calls.....To apply the same blocking features for your mobile phones, you can register at ; [www.donotcall.gov.au/](http://www.donotcall.gov.au/)

Lawrie Wilson

## QLD NOTES

## UNCLAIMED GALLANTRY AWARDS

The crew in Brisbane are about to begin the tasks of organizing two of the three main public Remembrance Services for 2012..... ANZAC Day and the 2nd annual Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day. In addition to those tasks, a recruiting drive is being planned. The 2011 service was conducted at Enoggera Barracks with much assistance from the units and serving members. It was a great success.

Allen Edwards

Directorate of Honours and Awards has published the following list of Australian servicemen from WW2 who have been posthumously awarded the Commendation for Gallantry and which have not been claimed;

Pte Alexander John BELL  
Sgt Joseph Kenneth BELL  
Pte Joseph BELL  
Gnr Thomas Stephen CUMMING  
Sgt Clifford Edmund DANAHER  
Pte Victor Lawrence GALE

Gnr Alan William GLOVER  
Sig Howard Frederick HARVEY  
Sgt Caryle Benjamin JONES  
Maj Alan MULL  
WO2 Matthew Wallace  
QUITTENTON

Any family members are requested to make contact with the Directorate of Honours and Awards on the free call number 1800 111 321.

Dept of Defence

## A TALE OF TWO BROTHERS IN ARMS.....

It is the early 1950's and WW2 is now beginning to fade from main line memories.....the world is in the midst of rebuilding lives and recovering the physical destruction wreaked on so many countries.

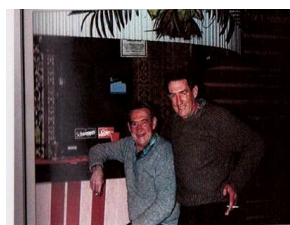
In Australia, wool is fetching a record One Pound per One Pound of weight.

The Korean War is well underway and MALAYA is beginning to cause much concern for the Commonwealth nations with the covert and hostile actions of the

Malayan communist terrorists.

Two Tassie boys say "We'll do our bit" and sign up to go to Malaya and stop the "commo hordes" from sweeping through all the countries in the region. These were the two Challenger boys, Tassie (Jim) and Col. I am sure many of you knew one, or, both from 2Bn RAR and 105 Fd Bty RAA. To quote Yunus Ali "They were there when we needed them, not feeding them".....

Tassie passed away some years ago and Col in 2011. **O. Marshall**



Jim "Tassie" and Col Challenger

*Lest We Forget*



ROYAL MALAY RANGER BADGE  
"RENJER MALAYSIA"



Ipoh 2008

LtCol Yunus Ali (Ret), Siva, LtCol Fathol Bukhari (Ret) and Raj. Great friends who host us when we visit Ipoh.

## NMBVAA INC OFFICIAL BANNER



The official banner of the NMBVAA Inc

This the official Banner of the NMBVAA Inc. It has been in effect since 2007/8. Every State Branch and Sub-Branch was advised that a special subsidised price was available to purchase through NHQ at the time in Canberra. The former banner is obsolete., and it should not be used.



### 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

Peninsula, Ubon, Timor ?

**Sign On Now**

by contacting your nearest

Branch. Details on pg 4.

## LOST ANOTHER ONE

**Heinz is a US** conglomerate that has shut down the tomato sauce manufacturing site at Girgarre in Victoria. It was closed as of Friday, 6th January 2012 and has sacked 150 workers, citing product supply and costs as the reasons. The plant is up for sale but there is a rider to this. **Dick Smith Foods** wants to buy the plant as a going concern to restart making genuine Australian tomato (content) sauce there. The Yanks are baulking at this.....

Why? Because the genuine Australian contents will then be in direct competition to the New Zealand based product !!! How many times do you buy tomato sauce? 3 or 4 times a year probably. Why does the \$0.20 difference between Dick Smith Foods tomato sauce and the foreign product create so much rubbish about cost..... It amounts to **\$0.80 PER YEAR** to buy this Australian product. That is \$0.0021917 per day !!

The same principle applies to DS jams and biscuits.....the all up annual cost variance is zero, nil, nada, zip when you take into account the facts that the products are genuine Australian items from the farm gate to the packaging....the profit stays here mate. No doubt, within a few short years, the manufacture of the now New Zealand tomato sauce will be transferred to China.....

**Stop the rot — buy Australian !!!**



### Gentlemen of Artillery.....

Fort Lytton Historical Assn is seeking photos of Arty Boards and Directors. If you are able to assist, you can contact either Peter Gore by phone 07 3357 7751 or, Maurie McGuire by phone 07 3399 3198.

Ubique.

**Reg Poole**



## ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

The Editor  
73 Berrima Rd  
SHEIDOW PARK SA 5158

Phone: 08 8387 1672  
Mob: 0416 118 843  
E: brian.selby@virginbroadband.com.au



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

2 1942 Japs commence Pt Moresby air attacks.  
2 1968 3Bn RAR recaptures Baria after TET loss.  
5 1917 Capt. HW Murray VC Stormy Trench France.  
8 1942 Japs invade Singapore.  
9 1943 Japs defeated on Guadalcanal.  
10 1944 Japs surrender on Huon Peninsula PNG.  
11 1951 Chinese launch 4th offensive in Korea.  
12 1900 Pink Hill Battle Cape Colony, South Africa.  
13 1965 First Australian SAS Sqn arrives in Borneo.  
14 1900 Relief of Kimberly, Orange Free State.  
14 1942 SS Vyner Brooke sunk. Banka Is massacre.  
15 1942 Fall of Singapore.  
19 1942 Jap air raids commence on Darwin NT.  
21 1916 Verdun battle commences. 1 million + KIA.  
21 1956 1 Sqn RAAF bombing raid wipes out main CT's jungle base at Kluang, Malaya.  
28 1991 First Gulf War ends in Kuwait.

## 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 its Aims.

To STRENGTHEN TIES with Malaysia and Singapore.

## State Contacts:

NHQ  
**Owen Marshall**  
Ph: 03 5428 3623

Queensland  
**Laraine Edwards**  
Ph: 07 3396 6705

ACT  
**Maureen Davenport**  
Ph: 02 6258 8988  
New South Wales  
**Maureen Davenport**  
Ph: 02 6258 8988

Victoria  
**Ben Thurlow**  
Ph: 0411 051 985

Tasmania  
**Lyn Miller**  
Ph: 03 6229 6500

South Australia  
**Don Cameron**  
Ph: 08 8264 2858

Western Australia  
**Owen Marshall**  
Ph: 03 5428 3623

*This news letter is printed with the good grace of Ross Vasta MP, member for Bonner in Qld.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**4/2466 Ron Brown** ex 1, 2, 3 and 4 Bn RAR is looking for former mates he served with.  
Phone: 0417 109 500

**The following prescription** and "over the counter" drugs have been banned, however, some can still be obtained overseas.

**Name: VICKS Action-500**  
Problem: Causes STROKE.

**Name: CIZA, SYSPRIDE**  
Problem: Causes IRREGULAR HEARTBEAT.

**Name: DROPEROL**  
Problem: Causes IRREGULAR HEARTBEAT.

**Name: NISA, NIMULID**  
Problem: Causes LIVER failure

**Name: AGAROL**  
Problem: Causes CANCERS.

**Name: PIPERAZINE**  
Problem: Causes NERVE DAMAGE.

**Name: FUROXONE, LOMOFEN**  
Problem: Causes CANCERS.

**Name: SIORIL**  
Problem: Causes BONE MARROW LOSS.

**Name: NOVALGIN**  
Problem: Causes BONE MARROW LOSS.

**Name: ENTEROQUINOL**  
Problem: Causes SIGHT DAMAGE

**Prof. Nicholas Saunders** has been appointed as the Chairman of the Repatriation Medical Authority, replacing Prof. Ken Donald who had held the position since 1994. **DVA.**

## Did YOU KNOW.....?!!

The Dept of Defence is about to spend \$00,000's to recruit FOREIGN NATIONALS into the ARMY and NAVY? What has caused this, and just what other "benefits" will be offered to them over and above the existing home grown members



Chee Woh

**Innovation and Enterprise !!**  
**A Townsville pub.**

**This could catch on !! It adds another dimension to the definition of Daddy Day Care !**