

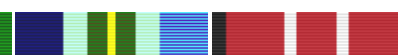


THE LISTENING POST
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2013

THE LISTENING POST

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

PATRON MAJ GEN J C HUGHES AO DSO MC



NOTICES

VALE

Gladys Walters 111.

Frank "Tug" Willson
1RAF Regt .

Francis "Kiwi" Thurston
RAA & SAS.
Geoff Henderson RAA.

Hospital.....

John Smith SA NT
Geoff Howard SA NT
Allan Davies JP SA NT

Welcome to.....

Paul Bayliss REME
Mark Dennis RAA

ROLLS OF HONOUR



Jangan Kita Lupa

All names of the personnel
who were KIA, DoW or, DoI
during the

Indonesian Confrontation
with Malaysia
between 1962 and 1966
have finally been listed.

The new panel was mounted
in the Galleries of the Rolls of
Honour at the Australian War
Memorial on 28 July 2013.

A "reunion" is being planned
to visit the AWM and anyone
interested can contact
Brian Selby to register. 11E



NATIONAL PRESIDENT

POINTS OF INTEREST

- WW 2 POW details
- Mental Health
- VC memorabilia
- Doors do it....
- **NATIONAL AGM**
- DFRB and DFRDB
- RN Op KILO
- Minus 90C
- WRAAC 65th Birthday

Selamat datang, the year has come to an end and what a year it was; we have come a long way on many fronts, all a positive nature. Branches have increased membership including Associates. We must be realistic and expect that this will be continue to be the case as the new group will ensure the continuation of the Association for future generations. Having said that, they are many people who are entitled to be Ordinary Members we need to seek out and sell them on joining us. Let's give it a big push in '14. We now have a good program of events in the Branches to raise the level of public profile and still

continue to honour those who gave their all. The association we have established with JOM has given us an opportunity to raise our public profile and build on our standing with the Malaysian community in Australia. During 2014, there are two major functions being organised by Brian from SA & NT. In May a 50th Anniversary Commemoration is being held in Sydney to mark the embarkation of units to Sabah and Butterworth onboard HMAS Sydney R17 and in August a tour to the Peninsula, Penang and Kuching for a reunion with Iban Trackers and Royal Malay Rangers **continued Page 3....**

The national AGM was held on Wednesday, 18 September, 2013 in the Batman Hotel Melbourne. The following members have been elected for the 2014 term.....
President **Owen Marshall**
Vice Pres **John Lynch**
Sec/Treasurer **Ben Thurlow**
Membership **Ben Thurlow**
Public Officer **Ian Davenport**
Merchandise **Ron Lees**
Committee members are the State Branch Presidents. Members are reminded that they do not have to be "on the committee" to assist with any projects . **Maj Gen Hughes** is the National Patron and the current auditors have been retained.....

DVA NOTES FOR POWs

National Archives has finished digitising 4,500 cards, handed over by the Japs, that record the details of WW2 Australian POW's. The original cards are very fragile and contain the Regt No, Rank, Name and Area of Capture of each soldier. Last year the cards of the POW's drowned when the *Montevideo Maru*, enroute to Japan, was sunk by a USN sub on 1 July 1942. Some of the cards contain details of camps, cause and place of death, and location of remains. Many families have

no information about their loved ones from the time of being told that it was believed they had been taken prisoner, especially if they never returned home.

"For the families, these cards are the time capsules to explain the lost years. It is the time Australian records stopped, and for many, no other information has ever been available"....."This ensures that families can finally connect with the last pieces of information ever written about their loved ones who risked everything for Australia"....

"We recognise that many families are anxious to have information on what happened during the war and who will value the opportunity to be able to finally examine this information". **Minister Snowdon**.

There were 22,000 Australian POW's of the Japs in WW2. Changi, Burma-Siam Railway, Sandakan, Japan, are some of the horrific sites that claimed 8,000 of these men between 1942 and 1945. Research is available on the NAA database at naa.gov.au

DVA.

How and WHY Is the Australian Government not vetoing the sale of the Australian Grain Corp to the US Grain group ??

Did you know Smiths Snack Foods is owned by PepsiCo???

China has taken 49% of shares in Rare Earths discovered in Australia.

The unemployment rate is an average of 5.7%.

BUT, when those not seeking work and those who have given up looking are really included, the actual figure is 12.9%...!! **Fido.**

Cooee....

Adelaide to Auckland direct by Jetstar now on

Pakistani carriers
No load restrictions here.....



MENTAL HEALTH NOTES

Contrary to a media report, Veterans' Home Care Services has **NOT** been axed. **DVA.**

Mental Health funding has been given new parameters to provide adequate funds for contemporary service members, i.e., they may have different needs and circumstances to their predecessors. The implementation of the new Veteran Mental Health Strategy will support the new Clinical

Reference Group lead by Dr Graham Killer AO. The package will include ;
\$14.6 Mil to existing services
\$1.1 Mil to post discharge GPs
\$6.4 Mil to Vets & Vets Family Counselling to include Peace Time service and Family counselling.
\$1.7 Mil to improve processing.
The current DVA Mental Health expenditure is \$165 Mil per year. The current suite of services that are provided by DVA include; Free counselling and group therapy,

Free treatment for diagnosed disorders including PTSD, anxiety and depression to eligible clients, self-help modules, and information about alcohol and healthy lifestyles.

"With the drawdown in Afghanistan, more service men and women will be returning home and we must ensure we are well positioned to provide them with the best possible support, should they need it". All details at www.at-ease.dva.gov.au

BRANCH NOTES

MELBOURNE Sub-Branch 2014

President Owen Marshall
Vice Pres John Lynch
Sec/Treasurer Ben Thurlow
Welfare Arthur Seddon
Schools John O'Regan

Committee Members

Lawrie Wilson, Alan Anderson and Graeme Edelsten.

Gippsland Sub-Branch 2014

President Rob McDonald
Vice Pres Ray Wilson
Secretary John Larkin
Treasurer Grizel Marke

ARMY COOKS



Graham Wilson is writing a book describing the art practiced by Army cooks. It would be ideal if members could provide details of the difficulties overcome in Malaya and Borneo and not just Vietnam. Contact : **G F Wilson PO Box 6021 Lanyon LPO CONDER ACT 2906**

BRANCH NOTES

VICTORIA Branch 2014

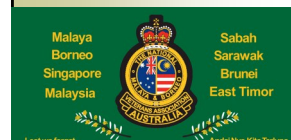
President John O'Regan
Vice Pres Arthur Seddon
Sec /Treasurer Ben Thurlow
Committee Members
Owen Marshall, Rob McDonald and Peter Dodd

Bendigo Sub-Branch 2014

President Peter Dodd
Vice Pres Helen Herrick
Sec/Treas Greta Balsillie

Please advise any corrections to The Editor asap.....

DID YOU SERVE with any Australian or, Allied Armed Forces, **post WW2**, during the **Malayan Emergency** from 1948–60 or, the **Indonesian Confrontation** from 1962–66, and since then with the **RAR Rifle Company at Butterworth ?** If so, you are very welcome and you are eligible to join the NMBVAA Inc. Branch details are shown on page 4 for all your enquiries.....



DFRB AND DFRDB

NATIONAL

ACT / NSW

Minister Warren Snowdon MP, announced that the DFRB and DFRDB superannuation schemes will be indexed in line with current CPI and the civilian pensioner living cost index, and paid to superannuants over 65, from 1 July 14. The estimated cost over 4 years is \$34 million. There are 56,500 members with 26,700 over 65. DFRB ceased in 1972 and DFRDB in 1991. All enquiries can be made at local DVA offices..... **DVA.**

Our web master, Dave Barton is undertaking a major upgrade to our web site which will not only make it more modern, but, more functional for members and visitors. Remember, it is only as good as we use it, so please contribute.....

I am again honoured to be the National President, and along with the new team we can build for the future...terima kasih...

Owen Marshall

President **Ian Davenport**
Vice Pres **Terry O'Brien**
Sec/Treas **Maureen Davenport**

Can You Help?

Royal Navy Operation

A UK family has requested information about "Op KILO" in the Indonesian Confrontation.

Any info to Brian Selby
Ph 0416 118 843 or E
oneoneecho111@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON

UK— Owen Marshall
Malaysia— Brian Selby
NZ— Allen Edwards



Indian train travel



The last Great Act of Defiance.....

Just Married



Poor Groom has a bad back....

MINUS 90C

MALAYA & BORNEO COMMEMORATION

In 1960 Capt Kittinger USAF was testing survival suits for pilots who had to eject at very high altitudes. One experiment was with a helium balloon and capsule that ascended to 30Km where there is no air resistance and a super cold temp of - 90c. He left the capsule and reached speeds of 1000k/h on the way down. The suit he was wearing did the job and variations are now in use as standard issue for all pilots who fly in and above the stratosphere. Ouch.....

NASA

ADELAIDE



MELBOURNE



50TH UPDATE

PENANG

WHERE WAS I?

The former Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Hon. Warren Snowdon MP, has granted funds to help defray the costs associated with the 2014 50th Anniversary of the embarkation on board HMAS Sydney R17, of 111 LAA Bty RAA, 7 Field Sqn RAE, 5 Sqn RAAF, 42 Tpt PI RAASC, and 32 Small Ship Sqn RAE, escorts HMAS Yarra and HMAS Parramatta, and 16 Mine Sweeper Sqn RAN. The service will be conducted in Sydney on Saturday, 24 May 2014

Ed.



This pic was taken on a recent trip to Malaysia by ex RAAF Barney Barnett. It is at the War Memorial site on Penang Island.

Note: The inscription also lists the post Confrontation era actions. **Ed.**

Doors have a subliminal effect that can be very unnerving as we get older.....Ever walk into a room and forget what for? Turns out doors are the cause of this strange memory lapse. Psychs at Uni of Notre Dame have discovered that walking through a door triggers a mini "event boundary". Your brain files away the thoughts from the previous room creating a blank slate for the next locale. So, it's NOT age, it's those bloody doors mate! **Chee Woh**



WW2 Army Ambo !!



Hedge trimming.....

**ALL
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TO**

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



ASSOCIATION AIMS

COMRADESHIP for those who served in Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, 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.

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*Proudly printed by the
office of
Andrew Southcott MP
Federal Member for Booth-
by SA*

Fido said..... "Blessed
are those who are cracked ,
For they are the one's who let
the light in "...

NEVER A WINNER

PICS AND NOTES

Afghanistan déjà vu.....It was always a **NO WIN engagement** whichever way it was put out by the spin doctors from any of the political parties and Defence. The multiple tours endured by some soldiers is not credible, what happened to the *Duty of Care* responsibilities....?Now, the spin has been turned to the decision to *negotiate* with the Taliban.....by the USA.....do you remember 1970 when the very same tactics were begun to make "a graceful withdrawal" from a country called Vietnam ? It was a **Retreat, not a win.....!!**



Mandarin Duck



Peking Duck



Now, *THAT'S* A DOG !!!
Tibetan Mastiff



LOOKING FOR
29480 GNR KEN L BRIGHT
101 Fd Bty RAA
Malaya 1957

Contact Owen Marshall
03 5428 3623

Did YOU KNOW.....?!!
China executes 1 million +
prisoners annually....
and harvests 350,000 human
organs for transplants ,but,
has over 500,000 waiting for
kidneys alone.....

DISCRIMINATION

Sign at the entrance to a
bar.....

MEN....No Shirt
NO SERVICE

WOMEN...No Shirt
FREE DRINKS