

President's Report for July 2013

Our last meeting was held on the 25/6/2013 at the Wynnum R.S.L. where I asked for a motion to be passed in regards to membership fees.

The motion reads that all joining fees be removed.

Members pay \$20.00. Associate members to pay \$10.00. Juniors to pay \$5.00.

This motion was seconded by Ken Wieland and passed. This will take effect on 1/9/2013.

Some of our members had a great time on Russel Island, thanks to Peter & Ruth who turned on one of the best lunches that I have attended. Four choices of curries, nice vegies and rice but the best of all was Peter's coconut jelly and two chocolate cakes that I think were made in heaven. Our goodbyes were said on the day, as they will soon leave our shores to start on their new adventures. Peter will still remain our Comms Officer & return from time to time to check up on us. God bless them both.

The 31/8/2013 will soon be with us so if you are going to attend our big day make sure to get your names and vehicle Rego numbers in to Ron Virgen & Allen so we can send them out to the guards at the gate otherwise you may have to go to the office to get a pass.

By the time you get the "CONTACT" you should have your voting slips for the A.G.M. on the 27/8/2013.

Look after each other.

Allen.

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA Inc.



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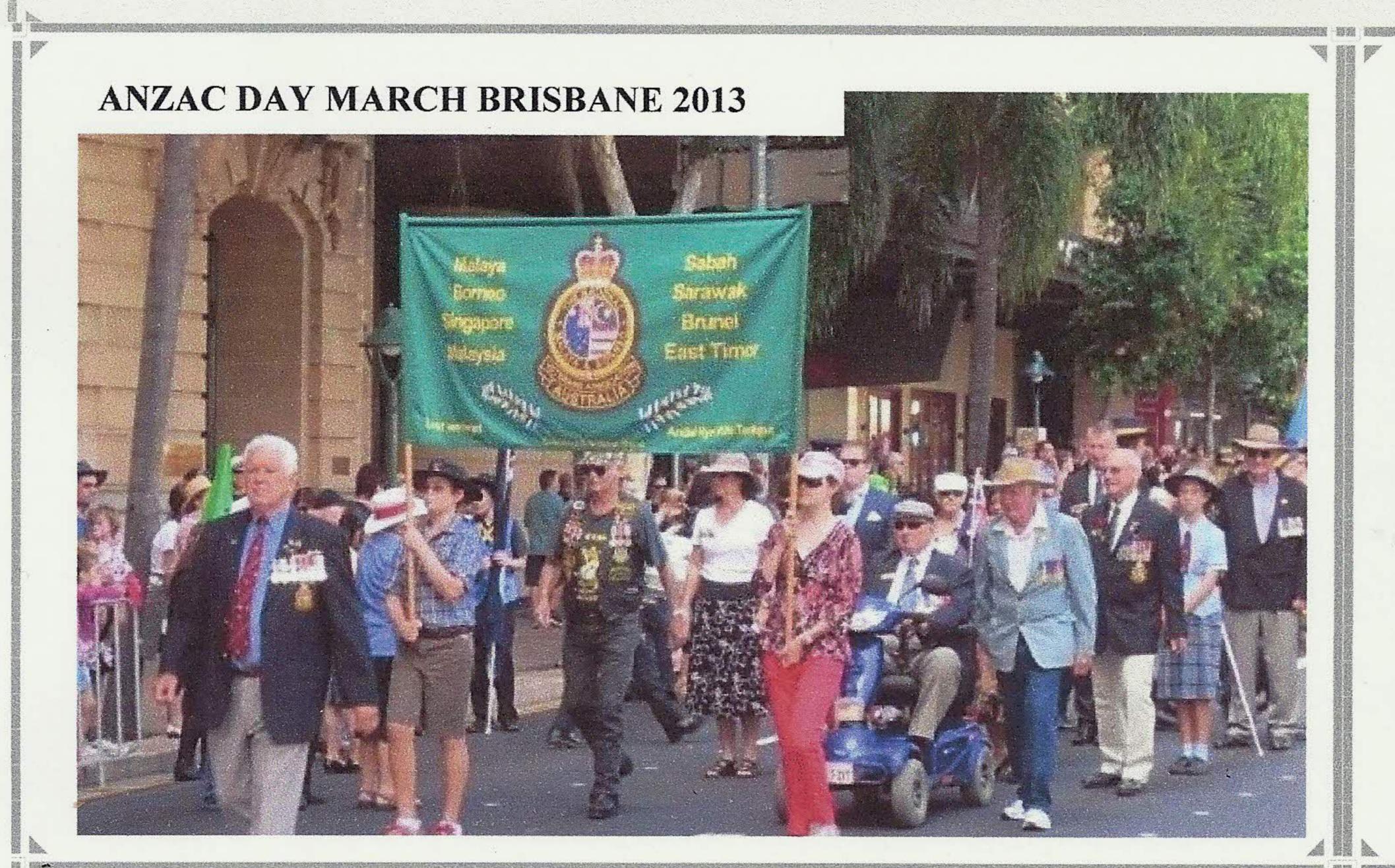
Mobile: 0408 431 590

The NMBVA was officially established in 1995 and is a self-funding, non-profit association which uses only unpaid volunteers.

Patron: Major-General J. C. Hughes AO DSO MC
ABN 31 340 936 038 http://www.nmbyaa.org.au/

ABN 31 340 936 038 http://www.nmbvaa.org.au/
"The Brisbane & Queensland Branch of the N.M.&B.V.A.A. Inc. is the only Nationally & Internationally recognized & affiliated Branch in Queensland of the worldwide N.M.&B.V.A.A."

MATES HELPING MATES



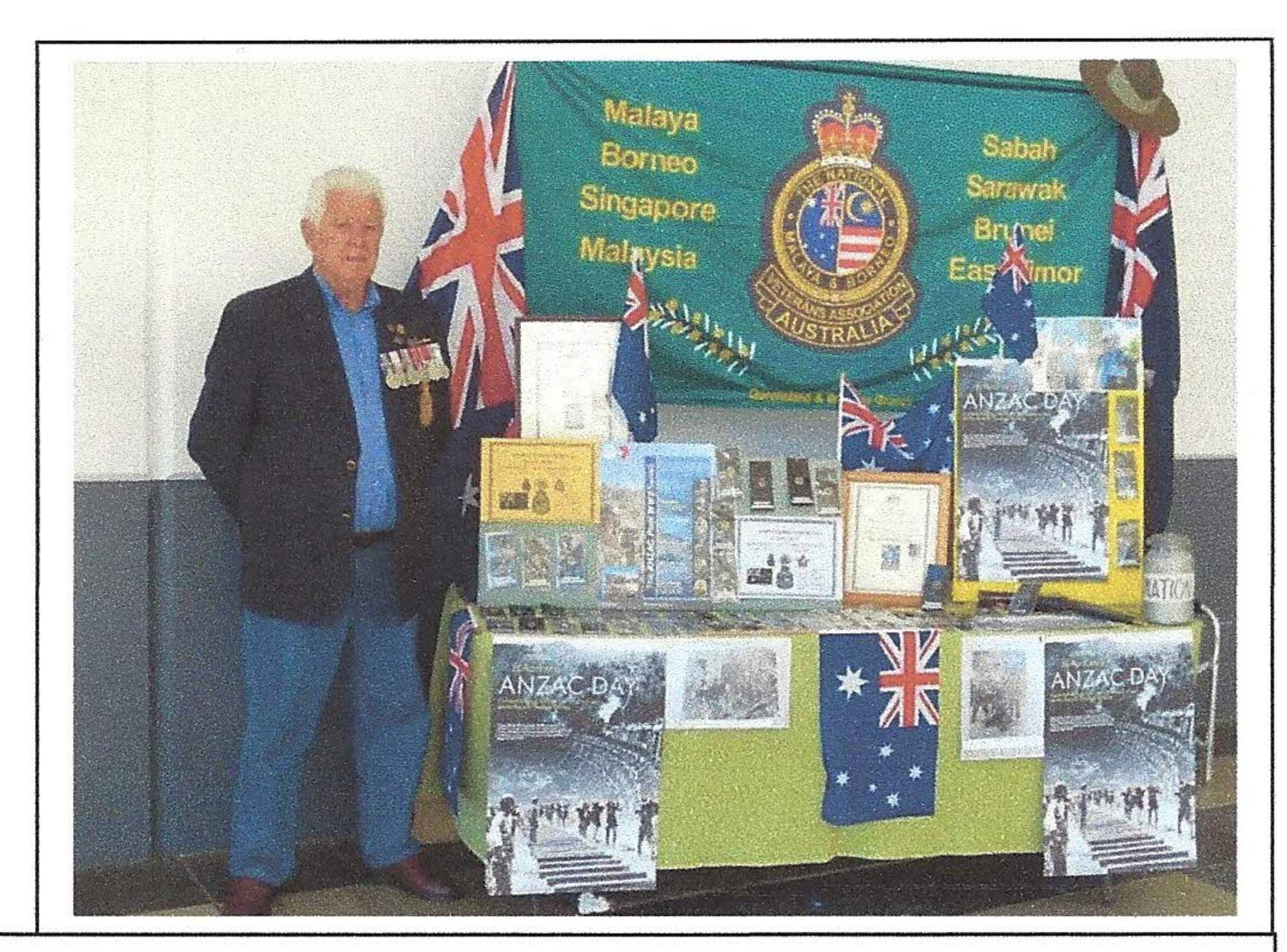


ALLEN EDWARDS AND RON VIRGEN OAM - ANZAC DAY





Monday, 13 May 2013



GALLIPOLI 2015 BALLOT

The Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of Anzac Warren Snowdon today provided further details on the ballot arrangements for Australians planning to attend Anzac Day commemorations in Gallipoli on 25 April 2015.

"A ballot is the fairest and most transparent approach to the allocation of attendance passes for the centenary commemorations at Gallipoli, within previously agreed and announced capacity of 10,500 places at the Anzac Commemorative Site," Mr Snowdon said. "My New Zealand counterpart, the Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, has made a similar announcement today."

Following the agreement of the Turkish Government, the Government had previously announced that the places will be shared between Australian and NZ (8,000 Australians, 2,000 New Zealanders) and up to 500 places have been set aside for official representatives and guests, including representatives of all countries that served in the Gallipoli campaign. Mr Snowdon said the Government had carefully considered options for the ballot, drawing on feedback received from members of the public, the veteran and Defence communities and tour operators as part of a public consultation undertaken in 2012.

Some of the places available to Australians will be reserved for special representatives including:

- Widows of Australian First World War veterans they do not need to participate in the ballot and will be included as part of Australia's official representatives, with a companion, if fit to travel.
- Five per cent of places allocated in the ballot will be reserved for Australian direct descendants of veterans of the Gallipoli campaign with preference being given to the sons and daughters of Gallipoli veterans.
- Five per cent of places in the ballot will be reserved for veterans who have qualifying service or who have deployed on any operations outside Australia, whether they are warlike, non-warlike or peacetime operations.
- Five per cent of places will be set aside outside the ballot process for representative secondary school children and their chaperones, to be allocated and managed through the states and territories.

The remaining places (3,000 double passes) will be available for all Australians. The following criteria will apply to the ballot:

- Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia to register, but do not need to be living in Australia at the time of registration.
- Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age on, or before, 25 April 2015 to register.
- Applicants can only register once.
- All passes will be issued as double passes the accompanying pass holder does not need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia.
- No additional passes will be provided to an individual that is successful in the ballot.
- Pass holders must make all arrangements for their travel and cover all costs including flights, accommodation, transport and travel insurance etc.

"The ballot is expected to be open for registrations on 1 November 2013 and close on 31 January 2014. Details on how to register will be available later in the year following the engagement of a provider to conduct the ballot," Mr Snowdon said.

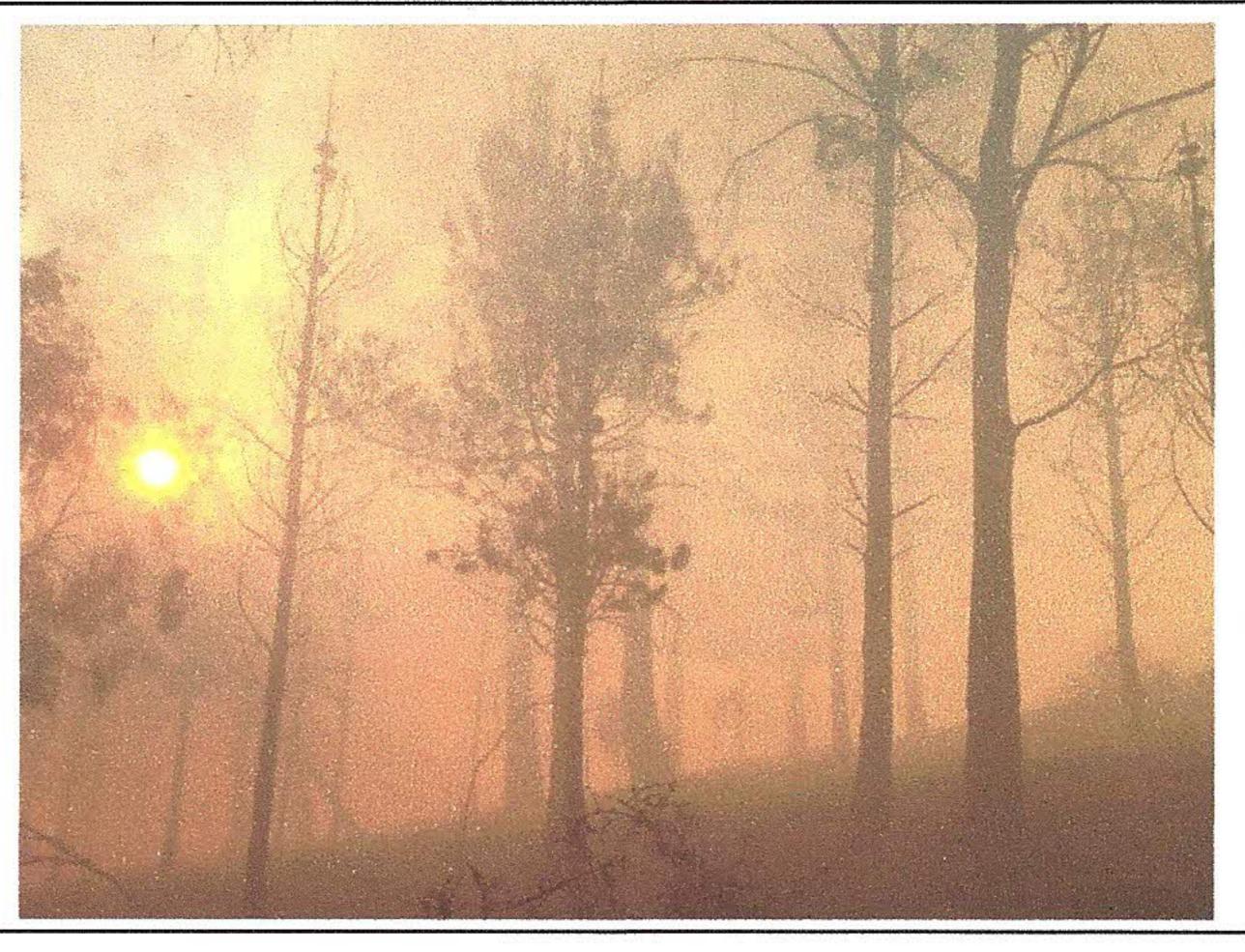
"Advice will be provided to individuals on the ballot outcome in March 2014, to ensure those successful have enough time to organise and pay for their trip. This will also allow tour operators to make specific arrangements with those travellers who have secured passed for the Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli." The Turkish Government has entrusted the Australian and New Zealand Governments to manage the events on 25 April 2015 which include the Dawn Service and subsequent services at Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair. Both governments wish to express their gratitude to the Turkish Government for the level of support that it has provided, and its commitment to the events associated with the Centenary of Anzac.

"The Gallipoli campaign lasted eight months from April to December 1915, and I encourage those who are thinking about applying for the ballot, and may not be eligible for a special representative place, to consider whether they want to visit Gallipoli at another time in 2015," he said.

For more information on ballot arrangements visit www.gallipoli2015.dva.gov.au

A host of activities and initiatives at a domestic and international level will occur from 2014 to 2018 to commemorate the Centenary of Australia's involvement in the First World War. For more information visit www.anzaccentenary.gov.au





Peter Lucas, our Comms Officer, has been down in Tasmania. He had just helped fight 3 fires.

TODAY'S HISTORY LESSON by John Balabouhin

A true story about 19 marines killed on an island (defending against the Japanese). They had to retreat, so asked the islanders to please bury them for us.

Years later, they checked and found a man who had been a teenager then and remembered where they were buried. They sent a C130 and an honor guard over there and found all 19 had been buried with their helmets on, their rifles in their hands, in perfect condition. The islanders had really done a wonderful job. As they were loading the bodies, a voice from out of nowhere started singing "The Marine Hymn"......gave everyone goose bumps. Turns out, the voice was from a man who spoke no English but remembered a song the Marines taught him when they landed. Very touching. They got all 19 and their photos are at the end. This of course was WW2!

IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THIS - BE SURE YOU'RE SITTING DOWN. THIS IS ONE OF THOSE GESTURES FOR WHICH THERE ARE NO WORDS. Click on link below!

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=C6f_FvZpm3g

LIPSTICK IN SCHOOL from John Balabouhin

Lipstick in School (You've got to love this Headmistress) According to a news report, a certain private school in Newcastle upon Tyne was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints. Every night the maintenance man would remove them and the next day the girls would put them back.

Finally the Headmistress decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night (you can just imagine the yawns from the little Geordie Princesses). To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required.

He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it.

Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror. There are teachers......and then there are educators.

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS IN AUSTRALIA THE BEGINNING OF A TRULY UNIQUE ASSOCIATION

This Association owes it's beginning to one man, Richard H Webber and by way of acknowledging his contribution, it is fitting that a very brief account of some of his life is shown here from information provided by Queensland and Tasmanian Branchs.

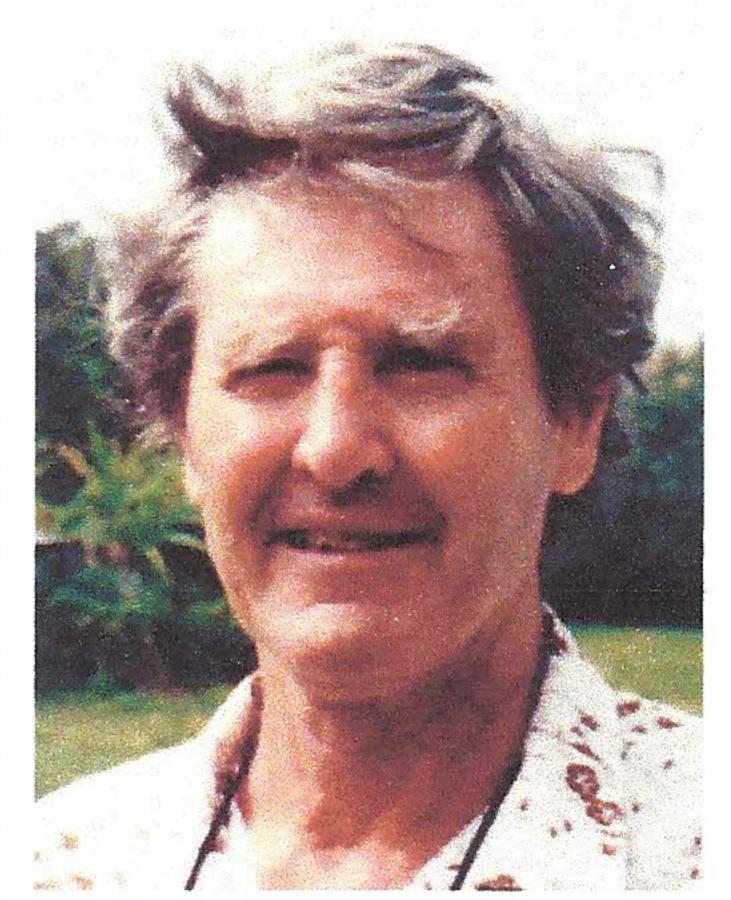
Richard Webber had an illustrious life, he served as an Argyll and Sutherland Highlander in their famous rear guard action at Grik on the Malay Peninsular, where heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy. He survived the battle of Slim River, where the charges to blow the Trolak Bridge failed to go off, with the Japanese tanks roaring down the main trunk road and breaking the defences. The Argylls suffered heavy casualties, only about a hundred men of the entire Battalion managed to escape. The Argylls were the last to withdraw onto Singapore Island witnessing demolition charges blowing a seventy yard gap in The Causeway which was not successful in stopping the Japanese advance. Richard was later captured and spent two and a half years as a POW on the infamous Burma Railroad. After the war he did further service in Malaya joining the Malay Regiment.. Richard emigrated to Australia in 1963 and in 1964 he was appointed Controller of Civil Defence in Darwin throughout the Indonesian Confrontation and served until 1969. A further mark of respect is the Richard Webber Trophy instigated by the Board of Management after Richard's passing, and in which Australia has a very good record on the winners list. It seems that this in itself shows the esteem in which our first National Chairman was held.

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia was originally a branch of the parent association in the United Kingdom (NMBVA) until 5th. January 1996 when Australia become its own incorporated association with the National Headquarters being registered in Queensland. The first Annual General Meeting was held at the RSL Geebung with the following office bearers elected.

INAUGURAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In early 1999 the founding chairman gave notice to "stand down" due to severe ill health, a short while later the association mourned his death. Richard surely must have been satisfied to see his efforts rewarded with branches and sub-branches in all States and Territories.

Article supplied by Allen Edwards



Richard H. WEBBER

OPERATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL

The Australian Operational Service Medal (OSM) was instituted on 22 May 2012. The OSM was established to provide recognition to Defence personnel (ADF and Civilian) involved in declared operations or other service that the Chief of the Defence Force deems to be worthy of recognition.

The OSM replaces the Australian Active Service Medal (AASM) and the Australian Service Medal (ASM). However, those operations currently recognised by these medals will continue to be recognised by the AASM or the ASM while the operations are active, for example Operation SLIPPER.

Australian Defence Force

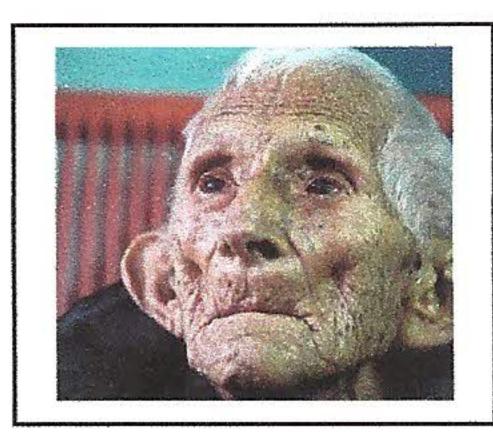
For ADF members, the OSM will be awarded as the standard medal with a unique ribbon for each operation. Provision also exists for the award of an accumulated service device to denote those who undertake multiple tours on a particular operation.



BEWARE: FAKE MEDALS: Replacement of originals with replicas.

Take care when having your medals mounted as a few unscrupulous businesses are substituting original medals with replicas and then mounting the replicas. Anyone needing work done by private businesses should: 1. Take clear close up photos of the originals so you can recognize a substitution, obtain a receipt detailing, individually, what medals you are presenting for work and that they are originals and what work is to be done. 2. Be prepared to explain why you require a receipt and what information is required on it (without making accusations) and be prepared to walk away if you don't get it. Medals are valuable especially to collectors and this scam is on the incease.

Remember this poem when you next meet an older person who you might brush aside without looking at the young soul within. Much love to you all, J.J. Cohen



CRANKY OLD MAN

What do you see nurses? What do you see? What are you thinking ... when you're looking at me? A cranky old man, not very wise, Uncertain of habit with faraway eyes? Who dribbles his food and makes no reply. When you say in a loud voice . .'I do wish you'd try!' Who seems not to notice...the things that you do. And forever is losing A sock or shoe? Who, resisting or not lets you do as you will, With bathing and feeding The long day to fill? Is that what you're thinking?. .Is that what you see? Then open your eyes, nurse .you're not looking at me. I'll tell you who I am As I sit here so still, As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will. I'm a small child of Ten. .with a father and mother, Brothers and sisters who love one another A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet Dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet. A groom soon at Twenty my heart gives a leap. Remembering, the vows that I promised to keep. At Twenty-Five, now I have young of my own. Who need me to guide . . . And a secure happy home. A man of Thirty My young now grown fast, Bound to each other . . . With ties that should last. At Forty, my young sons .. . have grown and are gone, But my woman is beside me.. to see I don't mourn. At Fifty, once more,Babies play 'round my knee, Again, we know children My loved one and me. Dark days are upon me My wife is now dead. I look at the future I shudder with dread. For my young are all rearing ... young of their own. And I think of the years . . . And the love that I've known.

I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.

It's jest to make old age look like a fool.

The body, it crumbles grace and vigour, depart.

There is now a stone . . . where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass . A young man still dwells,

And now and again my battered heart swells

I remember the joys I remember the pain.

And I'm loving and living life over again.

I think of the years, all too few gone too fast.

And accept the stark fact . . . that nothing can last.

So open your eyes, people open and see.

Not a cranky old man .

Look closer . . . see ME

Bull Allen

This short film tells the little-known story of Leslie 'Bull' Allen, brought up in hardship in Ballarat in regional Victoria, to become a courageous, complex war hero. Corporal Leslie 'Bull' Allen was a stretcher bearer in the Australian Army in World War II who showed extraordinary bravery in recovering wounded men during battle. Our micro-documentary tells the story behind the famous photograph of Allen carrying a wounded soldier over his back during the battle of Mt Tambu, New Guinea, in 1943. Allen was never officially recognised in Australia for his actions on that day.

We were commissioned by the RSL to tell Allen's story to raise awareness of this complex, almost-forgotten Ballarat war hero. The film is free to share, watch, copy, distribute and embed for non-commercial purposes under <u>Creative</u> Commons BY-ND-NC conditions.

If you would like to embed the film in your web site, visit the <u>YouTube version</u> of the film and follow the embed instructions under the 'share' tab. If you do embed or link to our film, please drop us an email to let us know. We love to hear about how our films are used!

Lucinda Horrocks

SAFE-DRIVING TIPS WHEN IT IS RAINING !!!

GOOD VISION IN A DOWNPOUR

Most of the motorists would turn on HIGH or FASTEST SPEED of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility in front of the windshield is still bad......

In the event you face such a situation, just put on your SUNGLASSES and miracles! All of a sudden, your visibility in

front of your windshield is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain.

NEVER DRIVE IN THE RAIN WITH YOUR CRUISE CONTROL ON.

She thought she was being cautious by setting the cruise control and maintaining a safe consistent speed in the rain... If the cruise control is on, your car will begin to hydro-plane when the tyres lose contact with the road, and your car will accelerate to a higher rate of speed making you take off like an aeroplane.

- <u>NEVER USETHE CRUISE CONTROL WHEN</u>
THE ROAD IS WET OR ICY.

NOTE: Some vehicles (like the Toyota Sienna Limited XLE) will not allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on.

HUMOUR!! from ALLEN EDWARDS A SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR BUSINESSMEN

An Airline introduced a special package for business men.

Buy your ticket; get your wife's ticket free.
After great success, the company sent letters to all the wives asking how the trip was.

All of them gave the same reply..."What trip?"

NEW SIM TO SURPRISE HER HUSBAND

Woman buys a new Sim Card. Puts it in her phone and decides to surprise her husband who is seated on the couch in the living room.

She goes to the kitchen, calls her husband with the new number: "Hello Darling."

The husband responds in a low tone: "Let me call you back later Honey, the stupid woman is in the kitchen.

COOL MESSAGE BY A WIFE

Dear Mother-in-law,

"Don't teach me how to handle my children, I'm living with one of yours & he needs a lot of improvement"

THROWING KNIVES AT WIFE'S PICTURE

Husband was throwing knives at his wife's picture. All were missing the target! Suddenly he received a call from her, "Hi, what are you doing?"

His honest reply, "MISSING YOU."

HABIT OF TALKING IN HIS SLEEP

A lady to doctor: My husband has a habit of talking in his sleep!

What should I give him to cure it?

Dr: Give him an opportunity to speak when he is awake.

NATURAL DISASTERS JUST HAPPEN

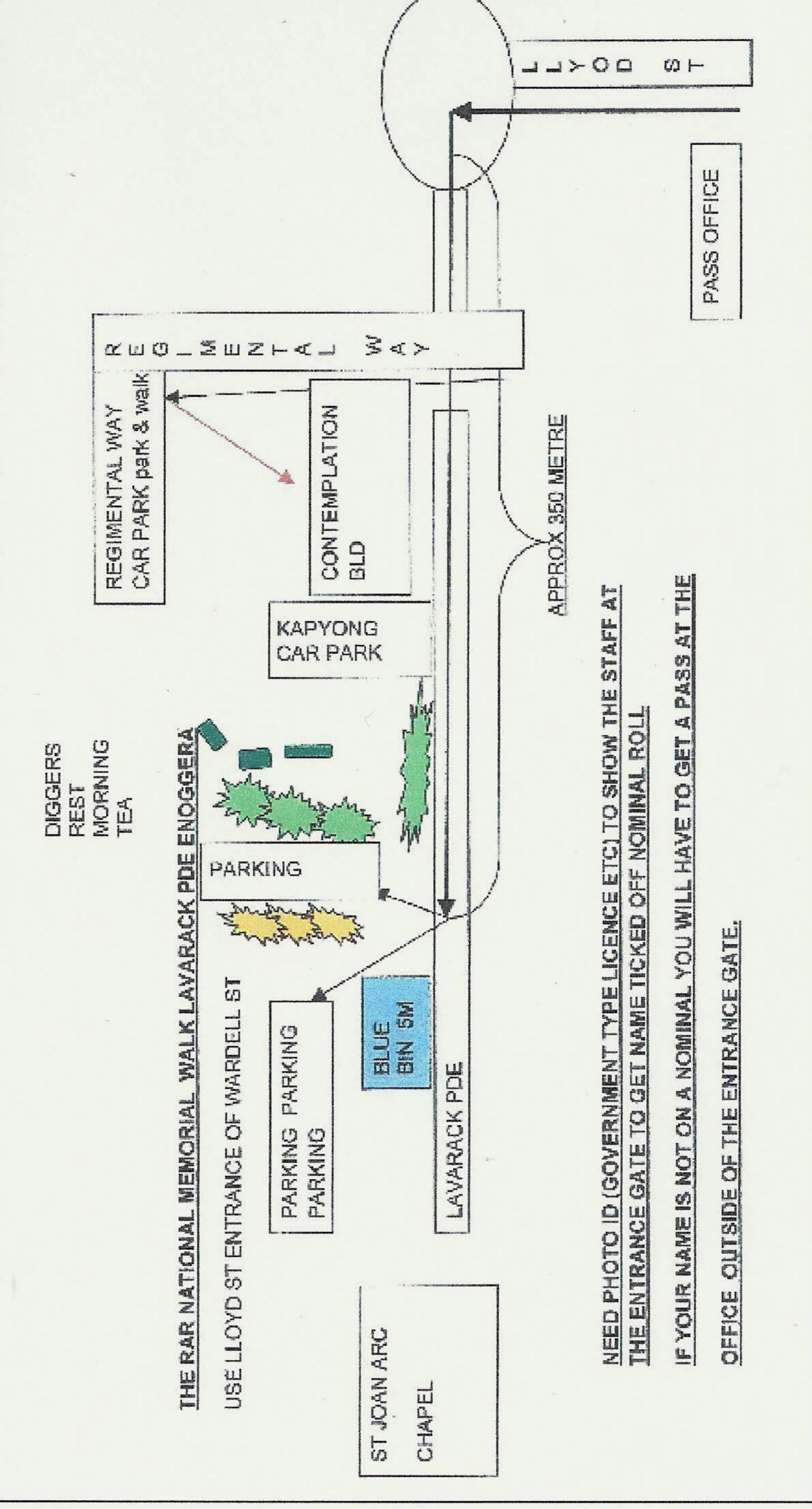
Nobody teaches volcanoes to erupt, tsunamis to devastate, hurricanes to swirl around & no one teaches a man how to choose a wife.

NATURAL DISASTERS JUST HAPPEN. YOUR HUSBAND NEEDS REST

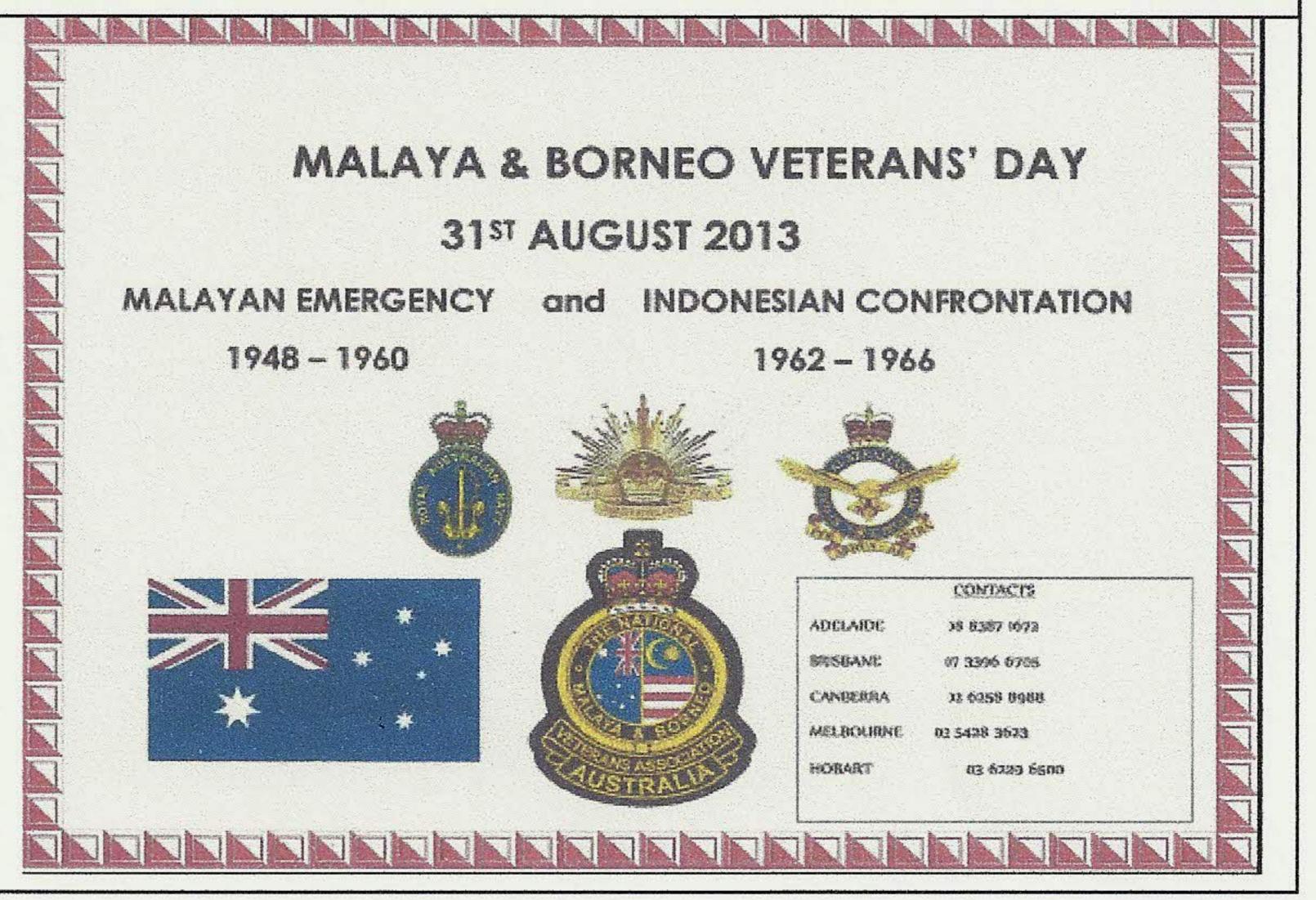
Doctor: Madam, your husband needs rest and peace, so here are some sleeping pills.
Wife: Doc, when should I give them to him?
Doctor: They are for you!

Carnival Australia (includes Carnival Cruise Lines, P&O Cruises and Princess Cruises) under a new program all Defence Force personnel, including discharged and retired servicemen will receive an onboard credit of \$250 when booking a cruise.

To receive this benefit, servicemen simply need to provide documentation at the time of booking, demonstrating their service in the Australian or New Zealand Defence Forces. Once you have made your booking, your name, booking number, ship and sailing date, with proof of eligibility should be emailed to defencebenefits@carnivalaustralia.com no later than two weeks prior to sailing.



Above is a plan showing parking areas for 31 August 2013. Service starts at 11.00am. Malaya/BorneoVeteran'smarch steps off at 10.30am. Suggested arrival time 10.00am. NB Give names of guests and vehicle registration to Ron Virgen 3267 0249 or Allen Edwards 3396 6705 for ease of entry to the Army complex.



From John Balabouhin An Aussie Poem

The sun was hot already - it was only 8 o'clock
The cocky took off in his Ute, to go and check his stock.
He drove around the paddocks checking wethers, ewes and
lambs,

The float valves in the water troughs, the windmills on the dams

He stopped and turned a windmill on to fill a water tank
And saw a ewe down in the dam, a few yards from the bank.
"Typical bloody sheep," he thought, "they've got no common sense,

"They won't go through a gateway but they'll jump a bloody fence."

The ewe was stuck down in the mud, he knew without a doubt She'd stay there 'til she carked it if he didn't get her out. But when he reached the water's edge, the startled ewe broke free

And in her haste to get away, began a swimming spree.

He reckoned once her fleece was wet, the weight would drag her down

If he didn't rescue her, the stupid sod would drown. Her style was unimpressive, her survival chances slim He saw no other option, he would have to take a swim.

He peeled his shirt and singlet off, his trousers, boots and socks

And as he couldn't stand wet clothes, he also shed his jocks.

He jumped into the water and away that cocky swam

He caught up with her somewhere near the middle of the dam.

The ewe was quite evasive, she kept giving him the slip
He tried to grab her sodden fleece but couldn't get a grip.
At last he got her to the bank and stopped to catch his breath
She showed him little gratitude for saving her from death.

She took off like a Bondi tram around the other side He swore next time he caught that ewe he'd hang her bloody hide

Then round and round the dam they ran, although he felt quite puffed

He still thought he could run her down, she must be nearly stuffed.

The local stock rep came along, to pay a call that day.

He knew this bloke was on his own, his wife had gone away,

He didn't really think he'd get fresh scones for morning tea

But neither was he ready for what he was soon to see.

He rubbed his eyes in disbelief at what came into view For running down the catchment came this frantic-looking ewe.

And on her heels in hot pursuit and wearing not a stitch The farmer yelling wildly, "Come back here, you lousy bitch!"

The stock rep didn't hang around, he took off in his car The cocky's reputation has been damaged near and far So bear in mind the Work Safe rule when next you check your flocks

Spot the hazard, assess the risk, and always wear your jocks!

Coconut Jelly

from Peter Lucas

Ingredients:

2 x400ml cans light coconut milk (I use coconut cream, or you can use coconut milk, or you can use a mix of both, if you want a lighter taste.)

1 1/2 tablespoons gelatine

1 cup caster sugar

Step 1;

Heat coconut milk in a saucepan over medium heat for 6 minutes or until hot (do not boil).

Remove from heat.

Step 2;

Pour 1 cup cold water into another saucepan. Sprinkle over gelatine.

Heat over medium heat for 3 to 4 minutes, stirring, or until gelatine has dissolved.

Pour into warm coconut milk.

Add sugar. Heat, stirring, for 3 minutes or until sugar has dissolved.

Remove from heat. Set aside to cool.

Step 3;

Pour jelly into a 4-cup jelly mould or four 1-cup jelly moulds, or ramekins, or even Tea/coffee cups. Refrigerate for 4 hours or until set. Invert onto serving plate.

Depending on how much you are making, and for how many people.... I usually use a baking tray, then just slice it into squares and lift out. Whatever you use, cover with some Gladwrap to stop anything dropping in, and to stop a skin forming on top.

You can also spoon over some (about 2/3 cup) passionfruit pulp, it gives a nice tang to the sweetness. I add the sugar to the milk/cream when I'm heating it up, to make it dissolve better/quicker.



Above: NMBVAA Qld & Brisbane Branch Malaya/Borneo Veteran's Day Committee :L-R: Major Gary Craig, Betty Brewer, David Brewer, Ron Virgen, Dell Shears, Laraine Edwards, Greg Decker and Allen Edwards (insert).

STOP PRESS

The Malaya Borneo AGM elections held on 27 Aug 2013 resulted in little change to the Committee. Betty Brewer will replace Ruth Grealy as Assistant Secretary.

Please Note: Wearing of medals on Malaya/Borneo Veteran's Day is to be in accordance with dress regulations. On this day, 31 August 2013, suggested arrival is 10.00am, the march will step off at 10.30 am. Service at 11am.

Message from the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association Issue 208 (17 May, 2013)

Selamat pagi ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to advise everyone I have been advised that after some 47 years since the Indonesian Confrontation was declared over, and around 10 years of submissions to the various Directors' of the AWM, the AWM is mounting a new Roll of Honour for the soldiers who were KIA, Died of Wounds, or, Died of Injuries, during the prescribed period of June 1962 - August 1966, The Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia.

Of great importance to the members from 111 LAA Bty RAA, is the confirmation that Gunner Stephen Danks and Bombardier Barry Algar are properly recorded. The unveiling ceremony will be conducted in approximately 15 weeks and it is understood that any, and all, interested former service personnel may attend the service.

The families of all those listed will be invited as a matter of course. I will inform you of the date when the AWM forwards the details.

Ubique, Brian 'Snowy' Selby.

LOST MEDAL

This medal has been found recently. It belongs to rifleman J Simpson 23960732, 3 Royal Green Jackets. Get posting and sharing folks, lets get this back to its recipient — maybe via contacts with the NMBVAA contacting their British Counterparts? (It's the British GSM 1962 with Malay Borneo Clasps) Regards N.E. PRICE Sergeant Instructor Motorised Combat Wing School of Artillery Puckapunyal Victoria 3662

