



The Listening Post

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc

Autumn Issue 2021

President's Address



2020 was a year to forget or really a year that will be remembered for all time.

So much has happened that one finds it hard to put into words, the many deaths caused by covid-19, the loss of incomes and business and the way we live will never be quite the same as before.

From the association point of view we have not, in some states, been able to meet for more than a year and this does have an effect on membership and how we move forward.

Hopefully soon all will be well.

Anzac Day yet again will not be

able to take place as we would wish it to, again in some states there will most likely not be a march of any significance.

We will all again remember in our own way those that were lost and those who have departed since.

In the last edition of Listening Post there was an article on George Douglas a member in Victoria who resided in country Kerang.

Sadly you will read in this edition that George died suddenly in January and there is more about George in this edition...

In August the South Australian Branch has organized a trip to Canberra to commemorate the 55th Anniversary of the end of the Indonesian Confrontation.

You will see the invitation to attend in this edition

As things get back to near normal we will be able to concentrate on increasing membership to ensure

our future and I put to you do we open up our membership to other groups of veterans who may not have a national organization like ours.

They may have seen service in other areas but would like to join as when it is all said and done a veteran needs a home and the opportunity to be involved.

I would like to hear from you with your suggestions if you agree this is something we should look at.

May you keep well and remember a lonely person you may know of would like to think they are thought of, give them a call.

All the Best.

Owen Marshall
National President

Merchandise available to order online www.nmbvaa.org.au

Support your association with the purchase of Bumper Stickers, badges, caps, shirts and other items. Detail online on our website.



"The Sakai"

In the year 2008 I attended a premedical assessment for surgery. The two doctors carrying out the assessment were from Malaya. I asked them if they knew the town of Ipoh in the Perak State, to which the reply was yes we have relatives who live there.

I told them that I had done my military service during the Malayan Emergency in the Perak State.

The reason for describing it as an emergency rather than a war, appear purely financial, because Lloyds of London would meet insurance claims on the grounds of civil commotion, but not those arising from acts of war. The conflict or war was to go on for 12 years.

During the conversation I asked about the "Sakai" and their answer was "Oh" there are very few of them left now, they are being enticed out of the jungle and being civilised.

I found this remark to be extremely irritating, and that these professional men should make such an audacious remark about these indigenous people.

The Sakai the true jungle-dwellers in Malaya consist of very scattered aboriginal tribes, who have their own culture, language, are hunter-gathers, and grow some crops, and have lived and survived in the jungle for centuries. These indigenous people were often intimidated, terrorised, or killed by the Communist Terrorists. If they did not supply food to the terrorists.

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The security forces then had the job to protect these tribe people, a task mainly carried out by the S.A.S. And through the Hearts and Minds strategy were able to win the Sakai over, and in return given priceless intelligence on the "CT". They were also recruited as trackers, and were a ~~valuable~~ valuable asset in the fight against the terrorists.

It is shame to hear what is happening to this indigenous population, and how much of their habitat is being logged, cleared, and cultivated for Palm Oil Plantations. And these dwindling tribes people will eventually be non ~~existent~~ existent.



ARTHUR SEDDON
OLD JUNGLE SOLDIER
NMBVAA, MELBOURNE
SUB-BRANCH.



MALAYA 1957
A SAKAI HUNTER



MALAYA 1957 THREE
GENERATIONS OF SAKAI
GRANDFATHER, SON, AND GRANDSON



THOMAS CARR
COLLEGE
TARNETT EST.1997

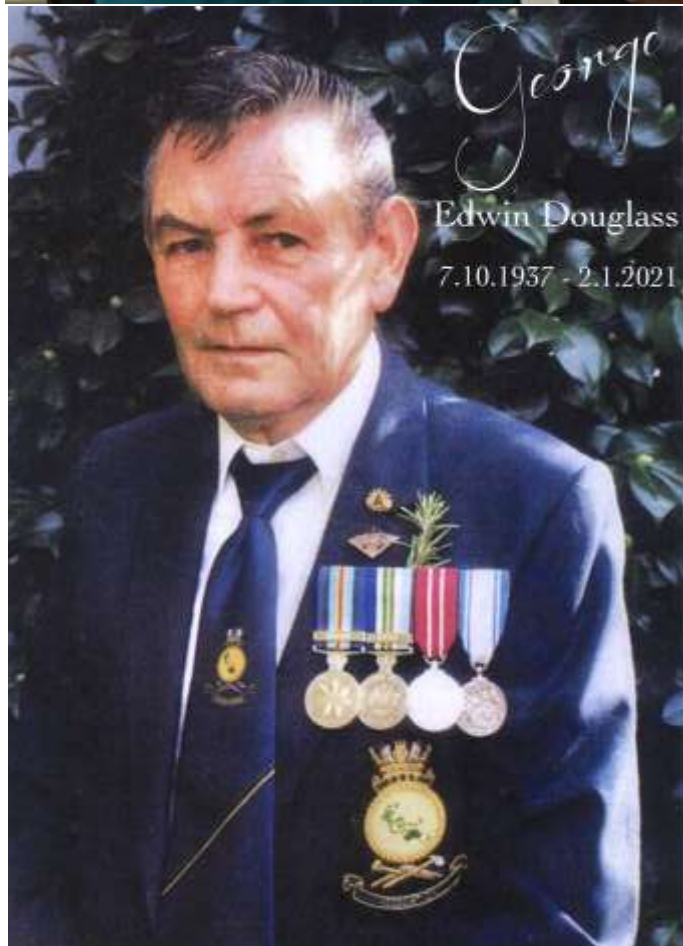
An ANZAC /
Malaya & Borneo
Remembrance
Service will be
held at the College
on April 27th at
11am.



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In recognition of their husbands long service to the association Certificate's of Appreciation were awarded to Owen Preece (accepted by his widow) and John O'Regan (accepted by Loretta O'Regan)



George Edwin Douglass (R51270, Late RAN) passed away suddenly on January 2nd, 2021, aged 83 years.

Fair wind and smooth seas. Lest We Forget.

A private service was held on Monday January 11, 2021. George's Funeral Service can be viewed via the Peter Tobin Funerals webpage.



Victoria



Contact

Owen Marshall 0414 238 698

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Article and photo's from the Borneo Post, article by Matthew Umpang. Dated August 30, 2019.

S.A & N.T BRANCH



S.A / N.T



Contact

Brian Selby 0416 118 843

THE BORNEO POST

BY MATTHEW UMPANG ON AUGUST 30, 2019

Veterans of Confrontation pay tribute to their fallen comrades

Matthew Umpang

KUCHING: Army veterans from Australia and New Zealand gathered at the Heroes' Cemetery, Jalan Taman Budaya here yesterday to remember their comrades who laid down their lives during the Confrontation with Indonesia.

They also placed a commemorative plaque listing the names of the fallen soldiers as a permanent tribute to their sacrifice.

"During the confrontation, nine soldiers died in Sarawak while five soldiers died in Sabah. The Australia and New Zealand contingents of veterans and families will honour all those who served, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice," an official of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Associations (NMBVA) of Australia and New Zealand said after the ceremony.

Between Dec 24, 1962 and Aug 11, 1966, the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia was an undeclared war fought following a series of cross-border raids by Indonesia into the then fledgling Malaysian territory.

Australian and New Zealand units fought in Borneo as part of a larger British and Commonwealth force under overall British command to thwart the Indonesian attempt to derail the formation of Malaysia.

The Malayan Emergency 1948 - 1960 was another event remembered by the veterans during the service as well, in which many of their comrades died in the war against communist insurgency in Malaya.

"Australia's commitment to both campaigns in Malaya fell within the context of its membership of the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve (BCFESR). In 2011, the Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs designated Aug 31 which is the date of Malayan Independence in



Veterans marching on the Colours at the end of the ceremony.

1957, as the official date of commemoration for the two campaigns (Malayan Emergency and Indonesian Confrontation)," said the official.

British-born Kim Hoskin who fought during the Indonesian Confrontation under the New Zealand flag shared his memories of the Confrontation before the commemorative ceremony yesterday.

Other veterans of the Confrontation responded to Hoskin's memories by sharing their experience 'during the conflict before they went on to place the wreath at the Heroes' Cemetery.

Australian and New Zealand army veterans observed a minute of silence, recited an ode to their fallen comrades and sounded the last post.

They also sang the national anthems of Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand and recited prayers before dispersing by Marching on the Colours.

Also present during the event were Minister of Transport Datuk Lee Kim Shin, High Commissioner of Australia



NMBVA army veterans placing wreaths at the Heroes Cemetery.

Andrew Goledzinowski, High Commissioner of New Zealand Hunter Nottage, Honorary Consul of Australia Datuk Dr Philip Ting, NMBVA Australia's Southern Australia and Northern Territory branch

president Brian Selby, Sarawak Tourism Federation Heritage Development Committee chairman Dato Lim Kian Hock, local officials, various army officials and a number of retired Malaysian army veterans.



INVITATION

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH
OF THE NATIONAL MALAY & BORNEO VETERANS' ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INC
REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF THE ATTENDANCE OF

**ALL MEMBERS,
FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

AT THE
2021 COMMEMORATION SERVICE FOR THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CEASE FIRE AND
DECLARATION OF THE END OF THE INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION WITH MALAYSIA.

3.30 PM, 11TH AUGUST, 2021

RSVP: Mr Brian Selby E: oneoneecho111@gmail.com Ph: 08 8387 1672

Mr Don Cameron E: wildcanyon@adam.com.au Ph: 08 8264 2851



3.30 PM, WEDNESDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 2021

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

CANBERRA ACT

COMMEMORATION SERVICE FOR THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CEASE FIRE AND DECLARATION OF
THE END OF THE INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION WAR
ON 11 AUGUST 1966

DRESS: DAY DRESS, BUSINESS DRESS

DECORATIONS, AWARDS AND MEDALS

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QUEENSLAND BRANCH

List of venues/meeting/dates for the 2021season.

The venue for most of the outings will be the Wynnum R.S.L. located in Tingal Road on the 4th Tuesday of the month, Starting times 1100.

January 1/1//21 Fees Due

February 23rd

March 23rd.

April 25th Anzac Day luncheon at Merthyr Bowls Club New Farm T.B.A..

April 27th

May 25th

June 22nd.

July 27th.

August 24th. Luncheon/meeting and A.G.M.

August T.BA. Malaya and Borneo Vets Commemoration Day

September 28th.

October 26th.

November 11th. Remembrance Day Wynnum R.S.L.

November 23rd.

December 4th Xmas party.1030 for 1100.T.B.A.

Some dates may be subject to change. Signed and dated Allen Edwards 1/1/2021



Queensland



Contact

Allen Edwards (07) 3396 6705

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NEW SOUTH WALES / A.C.T BRANCH

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL PROPOSED EXPANSION

The Australian War Memorial (AWM) recently released an online booklet entitled *Our Continuing Story* information booklet. You can access this information by entering the following into your search engine,

<https://www.awm.gov.au/ourcontinuingstory>

If this does not work go to the AWM website and search for *Our Continuing Story*.

This information outlines the Australian War Memorial's proposed plans for the expansion of the exhibition galleries to share the untold stories of 100,000 Australians who have served our country in war, conflict, peacekeeping, humanitarian and disaster-relief operations over the past 30 years.

The project received approval through the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* process on 10 December 2020 and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works referral on 22 February 2021. It now moves to the final stages of approval with the National Capital Authority and the nine-year program of work enters the construction procurement phase.

The AWM asked that we share this booklet among our networks, so that all interested parties can gain a comprehensive understanding of the project and its important role in telling stories of Australia's contemporary service.

As the heart of national commemoration, the Memorial must reflect our living history – for every veteran and for every Australian. The Development Project offers this opportunity while remaining true to the vision of the Memorial's founder Charles Bean, to ensure the sacrifices of Australians are not forgotten.

If you have any queries regarding the Gallery Development public consultation and engagement process, or the project in general, please contact the Development Project team via email at development@awm.gov.au. A limited number of printed publications of *Our Continuing Story* are also available on request to the AWM.



N.S.W / A.C.T



Contact

Ian Davenport (02) 6258 8988