



The Listening Post

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INC

PATRON MAJ GEN J C HUGHES AO DSO MC

Summer Issue 2015 - Inside this edition

President's Address



As we move towards the end of 2015 and start to think of all the festive activities we will be involved in it is time to reflect on what has been a tremendously rewarding year for our association.

We are growing in numbers and starting to bring into the Association new members from involvement in Malaysia since the end of the Indonesian Confrontation.

We need to do this to ensure the association continues into the future as veterans from The Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation grow older and are not able to be as active as in the past.

If we reflect for a moment, why does our Association exist, how it came to be, what is the purpose of it?

Well, the association is the figure head of memories and actions of Veterans who decided they would like to keep those memories alive share them with fellow Veterans and educate the public about their service.

So in 1995 the NMBVAA was formed.

We have members in all states and territories and have links with like minded groups throughout the world.

But it is more than this, we have given the public knowledge that was not there before as no Government has seen fit to really explain, educate the public on where the Veterans served, why and what they achieved.

We ask ourselves WHY, it is most likely just politics, lets not upset the neighbors perhaps, I do not know, what I do know is speaking with people from Malaysia and surrounding countries they are grateful we were there and helped them gain the freedom and prosperity they enjoy today.

We now include the flying of their flag in all our services and especially on Anzac Day one can see the faces in crowd from Malaysia and the pride they display.

We now have many memorials dedicated to the conflicts and are working towards having a major one in Canberra.

Throughout the year a good many events have occurred, too many to mention here, so please log onto our web site for information on many of them.

Of course special mention must be made of August 31, Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day; this is now a permanent fixture on our calendar and is growing in significance both within the veteran community and the general public.

To enhance this in November in with Remembrance Day the conflicts were featured on the Posters produced by Veterans affairs, this will give us a publicity boost within the community.

September at the AGM I was elected again to be your National President, an honour and privilege I do not take lightly.

Along with Vice President Doug Pendergast and other members of the National Committee we will continue to work in your interest and endeavor to promote our association at every opportunity.

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, families get together, we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas but let us not forget those who may not be as fortunate, on their own or just need a hand.

Take time to do this it is so rewarding. Keep your stories coming in and from me have a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to writing to you again in 2016.

Regards

Owen Marshall

Register your interest
to receive this newsletter

NOW

See State Contact
details listed

National Malaya Borneo Veterans Day

31 August 2015 at The Shrine of Remembrance Eternal Flame



Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day at The Shrine of Remembrance our Veterans march toward the Eternal Flame with Flag Bearers from Thomas Carr College accompanied by Mr. Chandra Yonzon, Honorary Consul General of Nepal to Victoria to commence the ceremony.



Special guest and Master of Ceremonies Mr. Peter Smith OAM, addressing VIPs Veterans and families at the Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day, 2015.



Members of Thomas Carr College Band and Choir with Shrine in Background.

Our day was generously supported by Thomas Carr College whom provided Flag Bearers, Choir and Band, our perennial Piper, Mr. Iain Townsley and Bugler Mr. David Rattigan also provided their services for our tribute day.



National Malaya Borneo Veterans Day

31 August 2015 at The Shrine of Remembrance Eternal Flame

Our Melbourne Sub-branch members and their families gathered together for our annual service.

Official guests included:

Master of Ceremonies Mr. Peter Smith OAM; The Shrine Life Governor, Lieutenant Colonel David Ford CVC AM GM; Mr. John Geary, Deputy Commissioner Victoria, DVA; Major George Logan, Vice President of the Returned Services League (Victorian) Branch Inc.; Hon John Eren, Minister for Veterans Affairs, representing the Government of Victoria; Cr Ken Ong representing

The Lord Mayor of Melbourne; The Nepal Consul General Chandra Yonzon; The Fiji Honourary Consul of Victoria, Mr. Reginald Hodgson; Mr. Robert Winther, Veterans Liaison Officer, Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital; Legatee Mr. Ian Harrison representing the Chairman of Legacy; Dr. Andrew Watson the Principal of Thomas Carr College and Mr. Chris Thodey, General Manager Mercedes Benz

Last but not least Mr. Alan Day our oldest member of NMBVAA representing the veterans whom made the supreme sacrifice in Borneo.

VICTORIA



CONTACTS

Victoria - Melbourne

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Gippsland

Ray Wilson (03) 5135 6742

Bendigo

Peter Dodd (03) 5443 4803



Wreath laying photos in front of Eternal Flame with Shrine Guards at Attention



Remembrance Day Service at the Tim Neville Reserve, Boronia, Victoria



Remembrance Day Service at the Tim Neville Reserve, Boronia on the 8th November 2015.

The service was conducted by the Boronia RSL supported by the Knox Council.

The Memorial at the Tim Neville Reserve was refurbished earlier in the Year and was attended by NMBVAA Representatives at its opening ceremony.

An approach to the Council Historian ENSURED "The Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation " were mentioned on Commemorative Boards.

We are especially proud of the little boy who lead the Veterans in the march to the Cenotaph wearing his Grandads Uniform.



Medal Mounting and Ribbon Bar Service

Tom Lentini whom lives in Werribee, Victoria recently retired after more than 30 years in the industry.

Tom continues to demonstrate support for Veterans and ADF personnel for his service "free of charge" for his cost of labour for medal mounting.

All you have to do is supply your medals and ribbons - this is a considerable cost saving.

Please contact Tom direct on (03) 9741 5269 to discuss your needs.



WARNING ORDER

**August 2016 marks the 50th anniversary of
The cease fire and declaration of the end of
The Indonesian confrontation with Malaysia**

Plans are now being developed to conduct a 50th Anniversary Tour to Kuching, Sarawak with the intention of marking this significant Anniversary by unveiling a Memorial to all Australian Armed Forces personnel who paid the supreme sacrifice and who served during this undeclared war, regardless of the Area of Operations of deployment.

It is intended that attempts will be made to contact, and invite, the NOK and families of the Australian casualties wherever possible. It is believed that this significant Anniversary is in keeping with the spirit of the Centenary of ANZAC.

A bronze Memorial plaque and black granite plinth will be unveiled on 26 August, 2016, in the War Memorial Gardens at Kuching, Sarawak.

Members of the surviving Sarawak Malaysian Rangers and Iban Trackers Association and Malaysian Army members, Sarawak dignitaries and Malaysian government representatives will be in attendance.

Comprehensive Itinerary, accommodation and International travel details will be available as details are confirmed. A draft document will be published to allow consideration of the tour.

Tour dates are; 24 August to 1 September 2016.

Please advise your family and those who you served with.....

Ubique

Brian Selby

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

2016 Kuching Sarawak Itinerary

From Home Ports to Kuching via Kuala Lumpur with Malaysian Airlines (MAS) – Wednesday 24 August 2016

Adelaide	1430 hrs - 2350 hrs	MH138 and MH2534
Brisbane	2320 hrs - 1000 hrs	MH 134 and MH2564
Melbourne	0805 hrs - 2115 hrs	MH 128 and MH2564
Perth	0125 hrs - 1000 hrs	MH 126 and MH2504
Sydney	0725 hrs - 1745 hrs	MH 142 and MH2528

Based on current pricing, Economy return air fares may be AUD \$850-\$950 pp

From Kuching to Home Ports via Kuala Lumpur with Malaysian Airlines (MAS) – Tuesday 1 September 2016

Adelaide	MH2529 and MH 139
Brisbane	MH2547 and MH135
Melbourne	MH2517 and MH149
Perth	MH 2521 and MH127
Sydney	MH 2517 and MH143

NMBVAA Memorial Unveiling

The NMBVAA Memorial will be unveiled on Friday 26 August 2016 in the Kuching War Memorial Gardens at 0930 hours

Free Time

There will be ample free time for sightseeing and shopping during the week. An informal lunch and farewell and farewell dinner will also be arranged to include Kuching friends. It is suggested that we have lunch at a local Kuching Restaurant that is not western style and a more formal dinner at one of the Hotel chains.

Kuching Accommodation

The choices available range from Budget to International Chains. Rates are per suite per night and most include breakfast in the price. Some suggestions will be advised with rates and proximity to Kuching CBD.

Rates range from AUD\$85.00 - AUD\$150 per night for 3,4 and 5 star.

Members may wish to travel before and after the above scheduled dates to visit Kota Kinabalu. Balikpapan and other places in Sabah, Sarawak and the Peninsular.

Contact Brian Selby SA President for more details or questions regarding the Visit on oneoneecho111@gmail.com or phone: 08 8264 2858

2016 Kuching Sarawak Tour Information



50th Anniversary Tour Kuching, Sarawak

Hotel Accommodation Rates

Hotel charges are per suite, per night and include breakfast.

PULLMAN HOTEL

Superior Room RM300.00

Contact: Miss Rose E: H6332-5L7@accor.com

HILTON KUCHING

RM268.00

Contact: Ms Karrie Hoo E: karrie.hoo@hilton.com

MERDEKA PALACE

RM195.00

Contact: Mr Assad Hasseri arshad@merdekapalace.com

RIVERSIDE MAJESTIC

Superior Twin RM198.00

Contact: Ms Pauline Chong pauline@centraloffice.my

Members are advised to refer to Ms Henrietta Saran from the Sarawak Tourism Board when making bookings at any of these hotels.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



**IN MEMORY OF
THE AUSTRALIAN ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL
WHO PAID THE SUPREME SACRIFICE
DURING THE INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION
1962 – 1966**

111 LAA BTY RAA

B. ALGAR S. W. DANKS

3 RAR

L. R. DOWNES D. M. MILLANE

V. P. VELLA R. J. WEILAND

4 RAR

J. W. JONES L. M. O'CARROLL

R. C. PATCH V. H. RICHARDS

P. J. ROBINSON P. J. J. WEST

LEST WE FORGET

SASR

K. A. HUDSON R. C. MONCRIEFF

RA SIGNALS

K. C. JOHNSON P. H. DENEHEY

RA ENGINEERS

R. N. BRIDGLAND A. J. COLOHAN

M. C. HUTHINSON G. F. MILLS

RAAF

V. J. COWAN

KAMI JANGAN LUPAKAN

Sarawak War Memorial Gardens

Selamat tengahari

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr Lim Kian Hock has sent me the Borneo Post article regarding the Australian SAS Memorial in the Sarawak War Memorial Gardens, Kuching. As advised earlier, a group of former SAS veterans and NOK lead by the former Australian G-G, Maj Gen Michael Jeffries AO AC CVO MC including the NMBVAA Inc national patron Maj Gen Jim Hughes AO DSO MC, unveiled the Memorial on 4 August, 2015.

The refurbishment of the gardens by the Sarawak government is extensive. The space next to the SAS Memorial is where we will be placing our Memorial on 29 August, 2016. Banyak bagusla.

Ubique — Brian Selby

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
& NORTHERN
TERRITORY



CONTACT

Briann Selby 0416 118 843

Australian SAS Memorial in the Sarawak War Memorial Gardens, Kuching



From third left) Abang Wahab, Hughes, Jeffrey and Stephen are seen during a photo call with the memorial plaque.



Contingent members place floral tributes at the memorial.

Plaque commemorating soldiers unveiled

By Johnson K Saai
reporters@theborneopost.com

KUCHING: A memorial plaque commemorating three Australian soldiers, who died during their tour of duty in Sarawak in the mid-60s, was unveiled at the Heroes Monument here yesterday.

Second Special Air Service (SAS) Squadron Borneo 1966 commander Major Jim Hughes (retired) and Australian SAS delegation leader Major General Michael Jeffrey (retired) performed the unveiling. L/Cpl Paul Denehy (1st SAS Squadron), Lt Kenneth A Hudson and Pvt Robert C Moncrieff paid the ultimate sacrifice in the

defence of Malaysia.

Denehy was killed by a rogue elephant in 1965 while on patrol.

He died an agonising death in the jungle, suffering unimaginable pain from his goring wounds over several days.

His body was recovered and he was buried at the Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore, where he

still rests.

Hudson and Moncrieff died after they were swept away at night on March 21, 1966, whilst crossing a flooded river during a mission.

They were declared as missing in action for many years, but their remains were eventually recovered in 2010 and repatriated to Australia to their families.

The unveiling was the highlight of a week-long visit for a large contingent of former Australian Army Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) officers and soldiers as well as family members, who will be here until Friday.

Apart from the unveiling, there was the roll of honour, laying of wreaths and floral tributes,

Soldiers' Prayer, playing of the Last Post and Ode of Dedication.

Among those present to witness the historical event were Kuching North Datuk Bandar Datuk Abang Abdul Wahab Abang Julai and First Malaysian Infantry Division General Officer in-Command (GOC) Major General Datuk Stephen Munday.

“Sleep well you bonny lads”

Dedicated to those left behind

Sleep well you Bonnie lads, wherever you may be.
 Buried in a foreign land or in the seep blue sea.
 Sleep well you Bonnie Lads, you stayed forever young;
 You died so others lived their lives, free from bomb and gun.
 You left the shores of your lands, young lads still in your teems;
 You hadn't started living life; you hadn't filled your dreams.
 Britons, Commonwealth, Gurkhas, Police, you all served side by side;
 Foreign ground marked with your blood where you fought and died.
 In far off jungles green you fought for Country, King and Queen,
 And for a Foreign people you hadn't known or seen.
 We ask now was it worth it? Of course it was you see,
 You helped to right a wrong and set a people free.
 So in this Holy House of God, we Honour you with pride.
 “Sleep in peace; God rest your souls”, this prayer goes out world wide.
 And when the Day of Judgement comes, meet us with a smile.
 We'll take your hands, fall in line, and go the final mile
 So look up to the Plaque and hold your Standards high;
 They represent you and me, and those who had to die.
 “Sleep well you Bonnie Lads”

TASMANIA



CONTACT

Mike Priest (03) 6228 5034

Non-Liability Health Care

Non-liability health care (NLHC) allows former and current ADF personnel, depending on their eligibility, to receive treatment for the following conditions:

- Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm)
- Pulmonary Tuberculosis
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Depressive Disorder
- Anxiety Disorder
- Alcohol Use Disorder; and
- Substance Use Disorder.

There is no need to establish that these conditions were caused by your service. The specific conditions for which you may be eligible to receive treatment depend on the period in which you served or, in some cases, the nature of your service (e.g. service on operational deployments). More information on eligibility for NLHC can be found in Factsheet HSV109 Non-Liability Health Care.

To apply for NLHC you should fill out application form D9213 Application for Health Care for Certain Mental Health Conditions or D9215 Application for Health Care for Cancer (Malignant Neoplasm) and Tuberculosis and return it to DVA using the directions provided on the form. You may need to provide proof of identity, and your service records will be examined to check your service eligibility. A diagnosis by an appropriately qualified health professional is also required as part of the application process. This diagnosis must confirm that you have one of the specified conditions for which you are entitled to claim (depending on which eligibility group you belong to). Diagnosis of cancer (malignant neoplasm) or pulmonary tuberculosis can be made by your treating medical practitioner. For mental health conditions, a diagnosis can be made by a psychiatrist, a vocationally registered general practitioner (GP) or a clinical psychologist.

A range of treatments may be available to you.

If you are found to be eligible you will be issued with a DVA Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White Card). More information on the treatment available can be found in Factsheet HSV61 DVA Health Card - For Specific Conditions (White).

Non-liability health care entitlements are entirely separate to the process of claiming compensation. NLHC treatment is provided regardless of the cause of your condition. This means that if you claim compensation for a condition for which you are also eligible to receive treatment under non-liability health care and the compensation claim is not accepted, you may continue to be eligible for non-liability health care.

To see if you are eligible please call DVA on 133254 (metro callers) or 1800 555 254 (regional callers). Our staff will discuss your eligibility based on the type and period of your service.

Move Over Dorothea Mackeller

When the shearing sheds are silent and the stock camps fallen quiet
When the gidgee coals no longer glow across the outback night

And the bush is forced to hang a sign, 'gone broke and won't be back'
And spirits fear to find a way beyond the beaten track

When harvesters stand derelict upon the wind swept plains
And brave hearts pin their hopes no more on chance of loving rains

When a hundred outback settlements are ghost towns overnight
When we've lost the drive and heart we had to once more see us right

When 'Pioneer' means a stereo and 'Digger' some backhoe
And the 'Outback' is behind the house. there's nowhere else to go

And 'Anzac' is a biscuit brand and probably foreign owned
And education really means brainwashed and neatly cloned

When you have to bake a loaf of bread to make a decent crust
And our heritage once enshrined in gold is crumbling to dust

And old folk pay their camping fees on land for which they fought
And fishing is a great escape; that is until you're caught

When you see our kids with yankee caps and resentment in their eyes
And the soaring crime and hopeless hearts is no longer a surprise

When the name of RM Williams is a yuppie clothing brand
Not a product of our heritage that grew off the land

When offering a hand makes people think you'll amputate
And two dogs meeting in the street is what you call a 'Mate'

When 'Political Correctness' has replaced all common sense
When you're forced to see it their way, there's no sitting on the fence

Yes one day you might find yourself an outcast in this land
Perhaps your heart will tell you then, 'I should have made a stand'

Just go and ask the farmers that should remove all doubt
Then join the swelling ranks who say, 'Don't sell Australia out'.

QUEENSLAND



CONTACT

Allen Edwards (07) 3396 6705

President	Allen Edwards	07 3396 6705
Secretary	Laraine Edwards	07 3396 6705
Vice President	David Brewer	
Assistant Secretary	Betty Brewer	
Treasurer	Laraine Edwards	
Memberships	Allen Edwards	
Memorabilia	Laraine Edwards	
Communications Officer	Peter Lucas	0413 354 479
Pensions & Welfare	Ron Virgen OAM	07 3267 0249
Editor	Dell Shears RFD	0475 521 415
Correspondence	The Secretary	
	P.O. Box 86, Wynnum, QLD, 4178	



*The President and Committee would like to invite members, associate members to our
Secret Santa Xmas party on the 12th of December.*

*As it is a Secret Santa Party each person will need to bring along a small present to
ensure that every one gets a present.*

Time: 1130 for 1200.

Place: Redlands Sporting Club, Anson Road, Wellington Point
Phone 3207 1133. (Buffet World)

Cost: \$17.00. We may be able to reimburse some of the cost for members and
associate members on the day.

Annual fees can be paid on the day. Please have the correct money, \$20.00 for
members and \$10.00 for associate members.

Please submit names to Allen and Laraine on 3396 6705, Mobile 040843159 or Email
robertedwards14@bigpond.com by 7/12/2015

See you there,

The Listening Post

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EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR 2016

VICTORIAN BRANCH

FEBRUARY

2nd General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

MARCH

1st General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

APRIL

5th General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

16th Sunday Service at Watton Street
Werribee: 1350HRS
Afterwards at Werribee RSL

21st Memorial Service at Repat Hospital
Heidelberg: 1030HRS

25th ANZAC Day March - Melbourne
Afterwards Reunion at Batman Hotel

MAY

3rd General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

9th Thomas Carr Memorial Service
Tarneit

JUNE

7th General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

JULY

5th General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

16th Mid Year BBQ at Bunnings

AUGUST

2nd General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

31st Veterans Day at Shrine
Afterwards Reunion at Batman Hotel
Annual trip to Malaysia

SEPTEMBER

6th General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

OCTOBER

4th General Meeting - Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

Nostalgia lunch

NOVEMBER

1st Knox City WW1
Commemoration Service

8th Springvale Memorial Service
Springvale

11th Remembrance Day - Shrine
Melbourne: 1100HRS

19th Year End BBQ at Bunnings

DECEMBER

6th Xmas Fair at Batman Hotel
Melbourne: 1030HRS

S.A./N.T BRANCH

FEBRUARY

19th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

MARCH

18th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

APRIL

18th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

25th ANZAC Day March Adelaide
Commences with a Dawn Service at
Hilton RSL.

MAY

20th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

JUNE

17th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

JULY

15th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

AUGUST

19th SA & NT AGM / Branch Meeting
Naval, Military & Air Force Club,
Adelaide 1100HRS
Followed by lunch

SARAWAK TOUR

23rd August – 1st September, 2016

SEPTEMBER

16th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

TBC Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day

OCTOBER

21st Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

NOVEMBER

11th Remembrance Day Celebrations

18th Branch Meeting - Naval, Military
& Air Force Club, Adelaide 1100HRS

DECEMBER

The traditional Christmas lunch for
members, families and friends.

Throughout the year there are several
invitations received from kindred ESOs
which include the annual Korea
Memorial service, the A&TSI Memorial
service and the annual RAR SA Dinner.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

FEBRUARY

23rd Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

MARCH

22nd Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

APRIL

25th ANZAC Day March Brisbane
Anzac Day Luncheon at New Farm
Bowls Club
26th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

MAY

24th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

JUNE

28th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

JULY

26th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

AUGUST

23rd Queensland AGM / Branch Meeting
- Wynnum RSL, Wynnum: 1100HRS
Followed by lunch
31st Malaya & Borneo Veterans' Day
Commemoration Day

SEPTEMBER

27th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

OCTOBER

25th Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

NOVEMBER

11th Remembrance Day
22nd Branch Meeting - Wynnum RSL
Tingal Road, Wynnum: 1100HRS

DECEMBER

11th Xmas Party

Leon Pullen

Lifetime of Country & Community Service

02/02/1930 - 24/07/2015



Leon Edward Russell Pullen was born in Adelaide on the 2nd of February 1930 to Bill and Elfrieda Pullen (nee Russell). It was deep depression times, but his family was determined to give Leon a good basic education. Early Primary at Pulteney Grammar, then Black Forest Primary and Unley High School.

Leon described himself as “most unsettled” as a teenager - some would say a problem child. Leon, his Mother and Brother John were living with his Grand-parents at Clarence Park, as his Father was serving in the 2nd AIF and was captured in Crete during the withdrawal from Greece, and was a Prisoner in Germany. His Mother worked in munitions factories at Hendon and Penfield.

One day Leon was given a bike, so he promptly ran away and rode as far as Mt Barker. It became dark, cold and scary, so he turned himself in at the Mt Barker Police Station; his Mother paid five pounds - more than a weeks-wages to retrieve him in a taxi. He was definitely in trouble!. On another occasion he was sent on a short errand to the corner shop with ten shillings to collect some groceries. He got lost and ran away to sea on a

BHP vessel plying between Whyalla and Newcastle - remember there could be mines in the shipping lanes. He was put to work as a Trimmer, feeding coal down a chute to the engine room.

On arriving home much wiser some weeks later, in an Auro-Anson Airplane to Parafield with his first wages in his pocket, he returned the ten shillings to his Mother. Leon had enough of the sea, and joined the Royal Australian Air-Force in 1948.

He married his first wife Shirley June Rohan in 1949. From that union two sons were born, Russell and Linden. Taking his discharge from the RAAF in Brisbane in 1950, Leon re-enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in 1953. He did his recruit training at 5 Recruit Training Company Brisbane, then on to the School of Artillery. Leon later topped the Junior NCO's course, and was posted back to Brisbane as a Junior Instructor for the first National Service training program. He was then posted to 1 Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery, as a Sgt in 1957.

In 1958 while on a Warrant Officer's course, his wife Shirley sadly suffered a ruptured aneurism and died of a cerebral haemorrhage. Leon took a compassionate posting to Adelaide so he and his children could receive help from his Parents, who did everything they could with limited means, to provide a sense of stability and purpose in the care of the boys.

Once the boys were settled with their Grand-Parents, Leon was posted to his first War Service in Malaya with his Regiment in 1959. He returned in 1961 and was posted to 13 Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery at Keswick SA.

In 1963 he met Loris and in his own words “The love of his life”. Loris had a brief earlier marriage and a baby boy named Randolph. In 1965 Leon and Loris were married at Warradale Lutheran Church by Pastor Colin Henschke, followed by a weekend honeymoon - with visits from the children. Meanwhile duty called.

The Nation was concerned about the Indonesian Confrontation and the Communist infiltration of a small mostly unheard of country to our north, called South Vietnam. One month later Leon was posted as Company Sergeant Major D-company, 2 Recruit Training Battalion Puckapunyal. To prepare for the new National Service intake beginning in July 1965, the blended Pullen family moved into married quarters at Seymour, and into the routine of having a Husband and Father in the Services.

Leon and Loris longed for a daughter, and by the miracle of adoption Andrea, a very special 20 day old baby girl became the fourth child in the Pullen family in 1967. She was spoilt and considered an angel from heaven by all the family.

In 1968 Leon was called back to his Regiment in preparation for embarkation to Vietnam. He had an allergic reaction to the inoculations, and a false start, but when his Regiment was involved in the Battle of Coral in Vietnam, he was rushed there as a reinforcement. He served with 1 Field Regiment, and then as Battery Sergeant Major HQ Battery with 12 Field Regiment in Vietnam. After his return to Australia and more training courses, Leon was commissioned as Lieutenant, and soon promoted to Captain.

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FEATURE STORY (CONTINUED)

He was posted as Range Control Officer Holsworthy small arms and artillery range, which at that time consisted of 54,000 acres and was the biggest small arms range complex in Australia.

In 1972 Leon was posted as Commander 23 Cadet Battalion Ballarat Victoria, and Loris and family again joined him. A Miner's cottage on a small property at Scarsdale, 12 miles from Ballarat became home. The Whitlam Government came to power, reduced the size of the Army, offering incentives to retire, and so Leon retired from the Army on 1st April 1974 and the family returned to Adelaide.

Leon loved his food. The Soldier became a Restaurateur in July 1974, and the Premier of SA officially opened "The Courtyard Restaurant" at Marden where Leon charmed the public and held court with business and Political leaders for the next 4 years. Leon was a parking attendant as a fill in for a while. Now anyone who drove with Leon knows he was not the person to leave the Mercedes or Jaguar with, but he would park them door handle to door handle with no bother.

The next restaurant was at Greenock named "Die Heimat". On moving to Greenock Leon immersed himself into the local community and soon found himself chairman of the Greenock Park Committee, and started the very successful "Highland Band Competition". On moving to Tanunda, Leon ran a B&B "Norma's Place" for several years before moving to Bethany on 5 acres, with his prize flock of geese - Leon loved birds. He initiated a Youth training scheme for unemployed young men to learn a work ethic and self-esteem, and obtained a grant to restore the former Tanunda Railway Station (now Triple BFM) that had been vandalised. Two of his Trainees went on to find permanent work.

Leon was never restrained by committees. They either worked with him or he worked without him. Either way there was always a successful outcome.

Leon would persist until successful. He became assistant Treasurer of St John's Lutheran Church Tanunda in the early nineties, then Chairman from 1993 - 2000. Leon Joined the Tanunda RSL Sub-Branch in 1964, and continued that membership through. He was Vice-President in 2002- 2005. President in 1997-1999, again in 2001, and from 2006-2009. He was presented with Life Membership of the RSL in 2014 in recognition of his commitment to the RSL and the wider community.

Leon was elected to the Barossa Council in 1997 and remained on Council until 2003, reviving the tradition of prayer before the commencement of Council. Grass did not grow under his feet. Leon threw himself into Council committee work. He formed and chaired the Tanunda Recreation Park Committee, and was Chairman for many years of the Tanunda Recreation and Leisure Centre committee (now the Rex). He was on the Hall committee, Disability Access committee and many more. All benefitted from his fund-raising and cooking skills. He had a commercial gas stove on wheels that he would cart about in the old white van and wheel up the road, producing hamburgers, pies, sausages, raising many thousands of dollars for the community.

In 2004 Leon re-vitalised the tradition of the Tanunda Band Competition. He organised "The Freedom of the Towns of Barossa, with 292 Squadron RAAF, and marched 200 service personnel and bands up the main street of Tanunda, with the Governor General, Major General Michael Jefferies taking the salute. Yet he was just as happy to meet with school children, to pass on the Spirit of Anzac history, prior to Anzac day each year. Leon was proud to meet the Queen and have lunch with her in 2002. He was a member of the Barossa Regional Economic Development for 3 years and then a Board member of the Barossa Wine and Tourist Association for 6 years. Being concerned about the condition of the Tanunda Show-hall, and with no money in the maintenance

budget, Leon organised a fund raising concert in the Show-hall, filling it to capacity with paying guests including Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, then Governor of SA, and entertaining them with bands and professional artists. After deducting the expenses, a handsome profit had been made for Hall repairs.

Leon travelled widely with Loris in later years, beginning with Europe, United Kingdom and Ireland in 2000. They travelled across the United States of America and Lower Canada in 2005, some of the way in a huge mobile home. They travelled to New Zealand in 2009, cruised to Vanuatu in 2012, and enjoyed the European River cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest in 2013. One of Leon's favourite trips was flying over Lake Eyre when it was last full of water.

Leon was particularly proud of his wife Loris's achievements as a kitchen designer and her many awards, both State and National. In June Leon was diagnosed with stomach cancer, and spent three weeks in Calvary hospital, then two weeks in Tanunda hospital, coming home daily to attend to the tasks he set himself for the day, and instructions for others on what to do when he was gone. He asked his friend and neighbour Michael Sawyer to prepare a roast dinner for family and close friends, supplying the meat with instructions on how to cook it - knowing he would be there only in spirit.

On coming to terms with his illness Leon said "I have lived a full life and I can be thankful for that. I hope the world is a better place for me having been here." Two days before his death, he insisted on being driven to Gawler where he selected a twin heart gold locket for Loris's birthday a few days away, knowing he would not be there, he gave it to her immediately.

The next day he said goodbye to all he could, and passed away peacefully at 5.10 pm on the afternoon of July 24th 2015 aged 85 years.

MONEYMATTERS

The Rule of 72

One sometimes hears the comment, in relation to successful people, when their success in business, sport, or accumulation of assets is mentioned, as to "how lucky those people are". I disagree, I believe the following quote is a far more accurate description of how they achieved their success. This quote is attributed to various people, such as Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Goldwyn and Thomas Jefferson, and describes what successful people could say about themselves ... "I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."

In the October 2014 Edition of Camaraderie, I referred to the "pay yourself first" principle, which is the most reliable method of steadily building up a nest egg, which can be utilized to begin serious investments.

This brings me to the "Rule of 72"

Fra Luca Pacioli (1447 – 1517) is referred to as the "father of accounting and book-keeping", and he is said to have introduced the Rule of 72.

It is also said that Albert Einstein considered it even a greater discovery than $E=MC^2$. In fact, he referred to it as the "the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it ... he who doesn't ... pays it."

This rule enables you to calculate how long it will take to double your money, or debt, and the effect of inflation on your buying power. (Please note, that the financial examples DO NOT take into account tax implications on the calculated figure.)

In brief, the Rule of 72 allows you to calculate a good approximation as to how long it will take for your money to double at a particular compound interest rate. To do this, you divide 72 by the interest rate involved. The resulting number is the number of years it will take for the amount to double, given that particular fixed interest rate. So, as an example, at 2% your money will double in 36 years, at 6% your money will double in 12 years, etc.

The formula is useful for financial estimates, e.g.

- at 4% interest, your money will double in 18 years;
- if you want to double your money in 8 years, you need an interest rate of 9%

- if you buy a house, and property values increase by 3% p.a., the value of your home doubles in 24 years

The formula can also be used to calculate debt, e.g.

- if you have a debt of \$30,000, with a 5% interest rate, and you don't make any payments on it, the amount will double to \$60,000 in 14.4 years

The formula can also be used to calculate inflation, e.g.

- if inflation rates move from 2% pa to 3% pa, your money will lose half its value in 24 years instead of 36 years

The above examples raise a number of considerations that I will refer to in future articles .. such as mortgages and credit card debt.

However, the main message is that if you would like to build a "nest egg", you need to start as soon as you can. I suggest that if you know any young people, that you share the principle of the Rule of 72 with them. They have TIME on their side. If you can teach the young people that you know about the importance of saving, you will be giving them a gift they can use for life. (Perhaps the young people you know have already learnt of the Rule of 72, in Maths class)

Give your money the opportunity to work "I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."

So when to begin? Today is a good time to start.

USEFUL WEB SITES

www.moneysmart.gov.au – Calculators and tips from ASIC and the Australian Government, to help you make better financial decisions.

www.adfconsumer.gov.au – I suggest you subscribe to the free Monthly Newsletter

Name Badge orders

At our meeting yesterday Owen has organised a Name Badge with magnetic attachment, which we hope to sell these to all members Nationally for \$20.00. Interested members should contact

Ron Lee, National Merchandising Officer-
PO Box 1446 Werribee Plaza 3030 or
email rapl3677@hotmail.com for orders
by giving their name they wish to have
on the badge and arrangement for payment.

Proposed overall badge size: 75 x 25mm



Memorable Quotes...

I believe that the entire effort of modern society should be concentrated on the endeavour to outlaw war as a method of the solution of problems between nations.

— *Douglas MacArthur*

“The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.”

— *Burton Hillis*

Love begins by taking care of the closest ones - the ones at home.

— *Mother Teresa*

Human greatness does not lie in wealth or power, but in character and goodness. People are just people, and all people have faults and shortcomings, but all of us are born with a basic goodness.

— *Anne Frank*

Always remember that you are absolutely unique.
Just like everyone else.

— *Margaret Mead*

Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.

— *Jim Carrey*

The phone my sister has (she's six)



The phone I had when I was six



The phone my dad had when he was six



Next Generation



STATE CONTACTS

National - HQ

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Victoria - Melbourne

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Gippsland

Ray Wilson (03) 5135 6742

Bendigo

Peter Dodd (03) 5443 4803

**South Australia /
Northern Territory**

Briann Selby 0416 118 843

Queensland

Allen Edwards (07) 3396 6705

NSW/ACT

Ian Davenport (02) 6258 8988

Tasmania

Mike Priest (03) 6228 5034

Western Australia

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623