



The Listening Post

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA INC

Summer Issue 2016 - Inside this edition

President's Address



It is hard to believe but another year is rapidly coming to an end and we think of Christmas,

2016 has been a great year for our veteran's association, member's numbers are increasing and we now have a significant presence in Western Australia, a situation we have not had for several years.

We have now approached Rifle Company Butterworth ex serving & Serving personal and offered them the opportunity to join our association and I am pleased to say that several have already joined and we are very pleased about that as they are most certainly one of us, we expect many more will join in the future. Welcome to you all.

This brings younger members into the fold which is what we must do for the future.

We now need to drive harder to keep this forward movement going to enable us to do more things for our members and the community at large, not just veterans activities but schools and other worthwhile causes,

During 2016 we saw the efforts of our South Australian Branch put in place a memorial to those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Indonesion confrontation.

This was a significant event and for evermore people can see this memorial and reflect on what it means.

We are achieving a much higher awareness of our association by becoming involved whenever we can in events like Remembrance Day.

I was honored to be invited to represent the association as a member of the official party in Melbourne this year; it was a very moving occasion for me.

It gave me the opportunity to meet senior people from all works of life and spread the word about us.

Merchandise

Whilst some states do have merchandise it is a role held by Ron Lee on a national level. In the New year we will produce a pictorial list of items held by National so get behind this and support your association by making a purchase.

Enough from me at this busy time so I will say Merry Christmas to you and yours and please remember to seek out someone you know who could do with some added friendship or a helping hand.

May your Christmas be a fine one.
All the best until next time.
Regards

Owen Marshall
National President
NMBVAA Inc,

Bumper Sticker



Register your interest
to receive this newsletter

NOW

See State Contact
details listed

Please contact Ron Lees direct on (03) 9741 5269 to discuss orders.

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VICTORIAN BRANCH

Victorian Branch Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day Commemorative Service in front of the Eternal Flame at the Shire of Remembrance 31 August 2016



Veteran's March; Piper & Shrine Taking Post: John Lynch saying The Ode; Thomas Carr College Choir sing the hymn

"Be Thous My Visiosn"; Eric Estlin speaking about his Malay Emergency Experience.



Members of the Thomas Carr College Choir, 2016 singing at the Verterans Day.

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VICTORIAN BRANCH

Victorian Branch Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day VIP & Wreaths for dedication



Our oldest veteran Alan Day (Darwin Defender) assisted by Ben Thurlow;



Members of the Thomas Carr College Band, 2016 playing at the Veterans Day.



Bruce Lovett with Alan Day, members marching on Veterans Day, 2016.



VIP,s and Wreats for Dedication.



Veterans wives attending the march this year: Karen Thurlow, Maree Pendergast and Valai Wilson (left to right).



Fly over by RAAF Museum Point Cook led by Squadron Leader Glen Coy, CSC.



Lawrie Wilson with Honorary Consul of Fiji (Vic) Mr. Reginald Hodgson



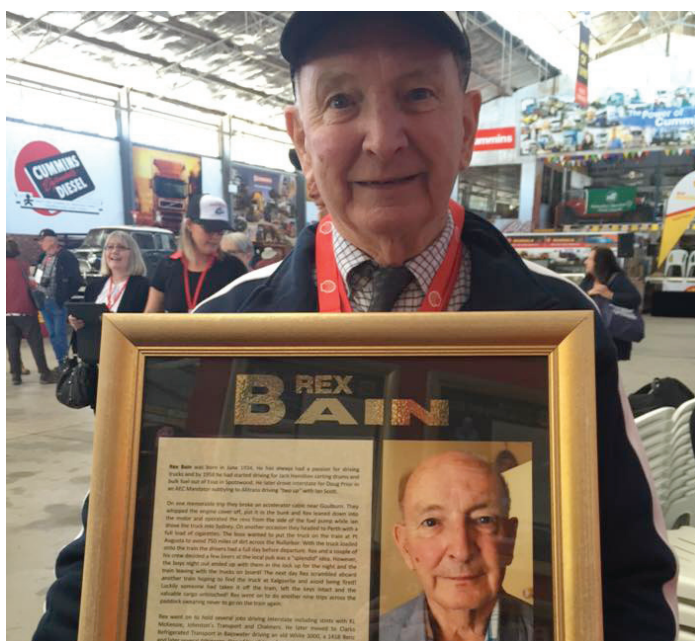
John O'Regan and Reggie Lee, members marching on Veterans Day, 2016.



Veterans fall out!.

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Victorian Veterans

Rex Bain, one of our Victorian Veterans was recently inducted into the Shell Rimula Wall of Fame at a 2016 reunion in Alice Springs.

His driving experience dating back to 1958 covered most of Australia including many eventful trips across the Nullabor Plain. Rex was a very innovative driver; on a trip into Sydney Markets his accelerator cable broke, undaunted Rex used a hand throttle (common in older trucks) however the knob broke off the throttle so it was into the tool box for a set of pliers which he used to control his truck on a busy Sunday afternoon to reach the Market on time. Congratulations! Rex.

FAR EAST STRATEGIC RESERVE WAR MEMORIAL

The Far East Strategic Reserve Navy Association



The Malaysian Emergency and Indonesian Confrontation, 1948 - 1971

British Commonwealth Armed Service casualties numbered 1,961 during the Emergency and 425 from the Confrontation, which included 83 Australians. Servicemen wounded in action were considerable, and thousands have since died from medical legacies of their service in Malaysia & Borneo. Their sacrifice deserves recognition in the form of a National Memorial.

The National Malaysia & Borneo Veterans Association Australia



The Far East Strategic Reserve (FESR) War Memorial Foundation Inc. is a tri-service organization which has been formed to raise funds to construct a National Memorial in the Sculpture Gardens of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra to commemorate the Victorian service (discharged by Australian Defence Force personnel) in defence of Malaysia during the Malaysian Emergency and Malaysia during Indonesian Confrontation, from 1948 to 1971.

We invite you and your friends to contribute whatever you can, any amount would be appreciated.

The Royal Australian Air Force Association



Your support is currently requested to assist in this most worthwhile and commendable endeavor, the construction of a:

FESR WAR MEMORIAL 1948 - 1971

Donations may be sent to:

**THE FESR WAR MEMORIAL FUND
PO BOX 1038 HAWTHORN
BC VIC 3122**

The Malaysian Emergency was the only war the west has won against Communism.....(1955 - 1960) and Indonesian Confrontation...(1963 - 1966)

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VICTORIAN BRANCH

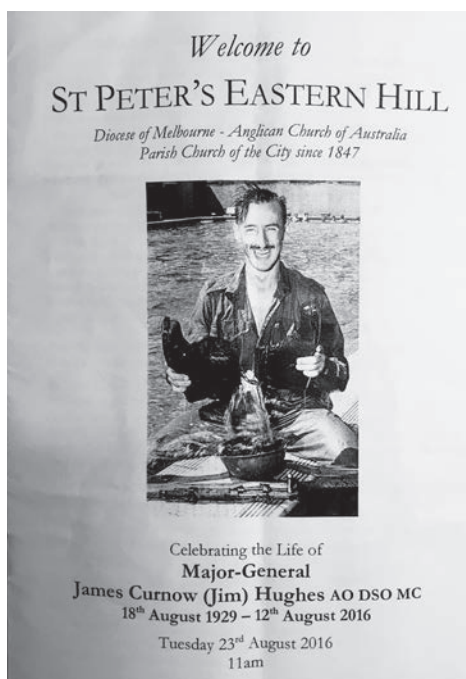
Major General James Hughes

— AO DSO MC

18/08/1929 - 12/08/2016

We were all saddened by the loss of our Patron Major General Jim Hughes, Jim was a strong supporter of our association amongst other positions he held with other Veteran organizations.

Many veterans from several associations were present at his funeral in East Melbourne. Several people spoke about Jim aside from his two sons and it showed how much respect we all had for him. As the service ended and Jim took his last journey the pathway was lined by Veterans and friends saying our final farewell. Sadly missed but never forgotten.



S.A & N.T BRANCH

4RAR Reunion

Selamat tengahari

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The attached letter and media articles are from the 4RAR sponsored tour

to Kuching which was conducted to coincide with ANZAC Day...the next commemoration that I know of, is the 50th Anniversary of the Cease Fire and Declaration of the End of the Indonesian Confrontation from 24 August til

1 September, and the people of Sarawak are very pleased to have the era commemorated by former Australian armed forces members making the trip back. Terima kasih dan banyak bagus... Ubique — Brian Selby



Malaysian Army Recce Sqn Ferret Scout Cars Thai Border area Dec 1965

3RAR and 111 Bty RAA patrol returning to Grik



77 Sqn RAAF Butterworth RAAF Base Kedah



5 Sqn RAAF Butterworth RAAF Base Kedah

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S.A & N.T BRANCH

South Australia Branch NMBVAA – A journey down memory lane



BRIAN Selby (3rd left) presenting Lt. Col. Dunsing (2nd right) with token donations from MBVA witnessed by Don Cameron (left) and Datuk Philip Ting (right).



LIM presenting a WWII book to MBVA Vice President Cameron.

A journey down memory lane for veterans



LIM at the Flora Tribute Batu Lintang WWII Borneo Monument.

It was a special time for veterans and family members of the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) Australia who flew in to Kuching recently to gather for the historic 50th Anniversary Reunion and Commemoration. Led by MBVA President, Brian Selby, those in attendance had the opportunity to remember their perished comrades and their local supporting armed forces, Police, Border Scouts and Sarawak Administrators involved in the defence against Confrontation and the birth of Malaysia.

Following the formal commemoration ceremony at WWII Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching, a memorable 50th anniversary reunion dinner was held at China House at the old Courthouse. During the evening, gifts were exchanged while the MBVA chipped in personal donations towards the Malaysian Veterans Sarawak Association fund.

During their trip to Kuching, MBVA members also visited the forward security locations of the Confrontation, where they were deployed between 1964-1965 in the Bau/Lundu border areas of Stass, Sarabak and more.

Their visit saw them meeting students and teachers of three primary schools from Stass, Sarabak and Suba Buan, which MBVA 'adopted'. It was a joyous occasion organised by the Bau District Education Department and Sarawak Tourism Federation (STF). During the meeting, MBVA members presented the schools with their token donations, Australian flags and books and expressed hope to have a student exchange programme for the Australian and Sarawak students for these areas.

Other places of the MBVA members visited were Batu Lintang WWII Memorial Square and Mini Museum, where they held a flora tribute to all the soldiers, Prisoners of War (POW), and the local communities who lost their lives for peace and the unity and progress in Sarawak. They were surprised by the many changes and development in Sarawak and the rural areas and promised STF and the Sarawak people they will revisit with their descendants.

THE MBVA Memorial Plaque 2016 at the Sarawak WWII Heroes Memorial Park.



PLACING the MBVA Commemoration document into the Batu Lintang WWII Memorial Anzac Capsule.

Dear Steve Ellis,

We are glad that you are able to join us together with the happy leaders of 4RAR on site inspection (WWII Heroes Graves Memorial Park) on our supporting preparation and the Sarawak Club lunch on 23/4/2016 prior to the commemoration of 25/4/2016.

This hopefully provide us with good experience on he past success of all the Australian and British commemoration including the WWII Commandos do in Bario Highland. All these contributed towards the strengthening of the bridge of friendship and Commonwealth Brotherhood between Commonwealth and Sarawak.

We have learned the bitterness of the Indonesian Confrontation 50 years behind us. This we put our hearts together to celebrate the culture of peace and Borneo Reunion. We are but an instrument.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NORTHERN TERRITORY



CONTACT

Brian Selby 0416 118 843



MEMBERS of the Malaya Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) having a group photograph after the ceremony. PHOTOS: RAMIDI SUBARI

MBVA memorial plaque unveiled

BY YUSUF SHUKRI

KUCHING: The first Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) Memorial plaque in Borneo was unveiled in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary Borneo Reunion at the Memorial Park, Jalan Taman Budaya here yesterday.

The event was held to remember the selfless devotion to duties and life threatening sacrifices of members of the Commonwealth Armed Forces with many from Australia, United Kingdom and New Zealand who gave a very strong military support for the return of peace in Sarawak and the birth of Malaysia.

"For the peace we have today, many had lost their lives to defend democracy and peace. Hence, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the people of Sarawak to record our heartfelt gratitude for this valuable contribution of the Commonwealth brotherhood and pay tribute to our Australians and MBVA heroes, who lost their lives here in Borneo for peace," said Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Datu Ik Pahon Joyik in his text of speech read by the Honorary Secretary General of Sarawak Tourism Federation (STF), Audry Wan Ullok.

Ik added that the commemoration has built meaningful collaboration between MBVA and the state where strategic alliance between the state's armed forces



LIEUTENANT Colonel Jim Ryan unveiling the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) Memorial plaque, witnessed by Brian Selby (centre) and Don Cameron.

and STF has materialised through the newly installed flag structure in the park.

"The structure was constructed by the 1st Malaysia Infantry Division and there is no doubt that this development has also enhanced our enduring tribute in our reunion and commemoration today.

"I also sincerely hope that the MBVA memorable plaque will

be an eye opener to our young generation about the essence of peace which comes with responsibilities and paid for by heroes who have sacrificed themselves and that the plaque will continue to be a symbol of MBVA's pride in Borneo," said Ik.

Earlier, President of MBVA, Brian Selby gave a speech on the historical events of the two post World War II (WW2) con-

flicts - which were the Malayan Emergency in 1948 and the Indonesian Confrontation in June, 1962.

He said that in Sabah and Sarawak, the Australians, New Zealand Gurkhas and British troops were engaged against the 'hit and run' tactics of the Indonesian intruders where unarmed villages were attacked, police officers, village chiefs and



BRIG General Jamaludin Tambi placing a wreath at the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) Memorial.



AUDRY Wan Ullok placing a wreath at the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association (MBVA) Memorial.

civilian administrative officers were murdered.

"This undeclared war is unique to other post WW2 conflicts that Australia was engaged in as it was a total victory with not even an inch of territory was lost to the intruders and there are no demarcation lines drawn on the map.

"Even so, you can only find a scant reference to these undeclared wars that lasted for 16 years

as public knowledge is non-existent. Whenever references are published or discussed in some forums about post WW2 conflicts, it is rarely if ever, included," said Brian.

Later during the ceremony, the unveiling of the MBVA Memorial plaque was done by an Australian Instructor of Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College, Lieutenant Colonel Jim Ryan.



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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australia Branch NMBVAA – Social Club Members Luncheon

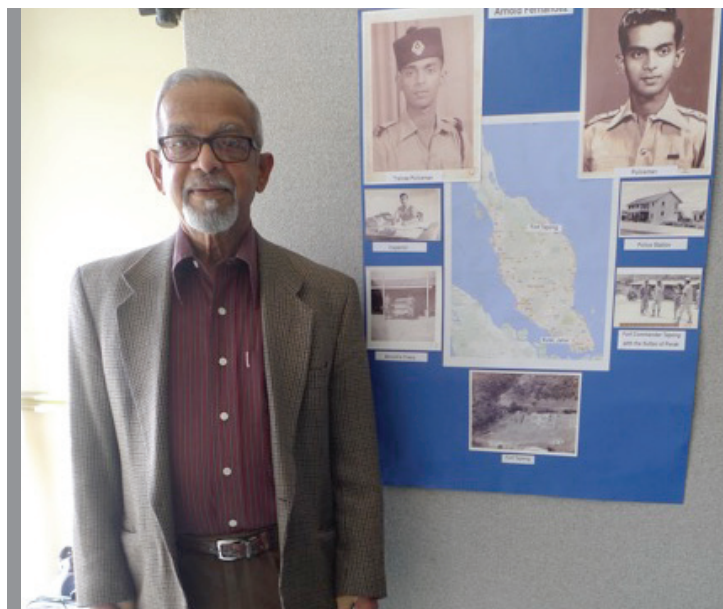
NMBVAA Social Group Lunch got together for their 2nd organised NMBVAA Social Group Lunch, held 11 May at RAAF Club Bull Creek WA.

As per our previous get together it was a great success with all participants enjoying the time to get together and catchup.

On this occasion we arranged for a fellow NMBVAA member to attend and speak to the group (photographed standing at the head of the head of the table, Mr Peter Jones whom served as OC of Combined Anti Aircraft (Search Light) Unit during his service in the Malayan Emergency 1951-1954.

He gave a very interesting talk about his time in the Emergency in Singapore and Malaya and employment for 17 years as a civilian post emergency in Malaysia.

The next luncheon with another guest speaker is scheduled for sometime in mid August”.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA



CONTACT

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

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RIFLE COMPANY BUTTERWORTH – RECOGNITION DURING THE SECOND MALAYSIAN EMERGENCY

A research group, representing Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB) veterans of the period known as the Insurgency War or Second Malaysian Emergency (SME) which ran from 17 June 1968 to 2 December 1989, is advocating the correction of what many consider to be the inadequate level of recognition for that service.

The first Australian service at Butterworth Air Base (BAB) was principally that of RAAF air operations from 1950 until aircraft were withdrawn in 1988. From that date, reducing RAAF forces remained in other roles, supporting the Royal Malaysian Air Force. These deployments included warlike service during the Malayan Emergency and Konfrontasi (with Indonesia), and then support to South Vietnam (primarily medevac duties and evacuation support). Other commitments under the 1971 Five Power Defence Agreement (FPDA) included support to the external defence of Malaysia.

Army served at BAB in air defence, garrisoning or close protection of strategic assets roles. Navy air assets also staged through on surveillance missions over the Indian Ocean. Today, only Army remains at BAB, managing the rotation of what is still termed the RCB. Since late December 1989, RCBs have engaged only in training. But up to that point, the real role of the RCB was quite different.

Most Service personnel have received a level of recognition for service at BAB, however one unfortunate failure is successive Australian governments' failure to recognise warlike service during the SME. The Australian government, advised principally by the Nature of Service Branch, Department of Defence continues to refuse to accept there was an SME at all, despite Malaysia's official history recording over 1,000 Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) personnel killed in action. The MAF were on active service and were awarded the Pinjat Jasa Malaysia Medal (PJM) as was the case for the Malayan Emergency and Konfrontasi when both Malayan and allied troops were so recognised.

There is a reason for this Australian position – a deception plan and refusal to correct the wrong perpetuated shortly after the change of government in 1972. The new Prime Minister undertook to withdraw Australia's combat forces from South East Asia but found himself faced with a major predicament with respect to BAB.

After Konfrontasi, the RAAF retained sizable combat power at BAB. Almost two-thirds of the RAAF's fighters and a range of support aircraft were based there or were dependant on the BAB facilities. The last aircraft were withdrawn in 1988. Ground staff remained there for many years in support of RAAF aircraft staging through, and the Royal Malaysian Air Force's (RMAF) operation of BAB.

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VICTORIAN BRANCH

Open Air War Museum constructed by the Bendigo RSL



The Open Air Museum is open from 10am daily or by appointment. See a chronological and educational history of all conflicts that Australians have been involved in as a Nation from pre-World War I through to current day Afghanistan and Peacekeeping Operations. Entry is Free. Please share the Win News story on your Facebook page and website.

TASMANIA BRANCH

Tasmania Christmas Party & New Year Party

2017 Starts off with a
'FREE BBQ for
all NMBVAA Members'.

The date is still not decided. It is decided at the November meeting and you can make contact after that for confirmation of date & time. Our meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each month at the Glenorchy RSL at 11am.

We have a get together lunch, throughout the year the venue and date decided at the meeting or again my contact and I can pass on the date. Our almoner is Margaret Hughes phone (03) 6249 8812.

Kind Regards Mike and Anita

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.



TASMANIA



CONTACT

Mike Priest (03) 6228 5034

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STATE CONTACTS

National - HQ

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

Victoria - Melbourne

Owen Marshall (03) 5428 3623

South Australia /
Northern Territory
Brian 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