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THE OBSERVATION POST

The official publication of the
National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc
South Australia & Northern Territory Branch

National Patron: General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC(Mil) CVO MC (ret'd)
SA/NT Branch Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia



‘MALAYSIAN NIGHT’ IN TAWA

Kia ora! The New Zealand Malayan Veterans Association recently announced that they would be holding a fund-raising dinner in conjunction with the NZ Malaysian Society. Our President and his wife Crisel took the opportunity for a long-overdue holiday in New Zealand to attend this ‘Iban Princess Evening’ in Tawa north of Wellington on the North Island, on Saturday 30 July.

Highlights of the night were cultural performances, the chance to sample the ‘Iban Princess’ beer, and the Ode of Remembrance at the end of the night.

Pictured above: Bill Russell, Vice-President of the NZ Malayan Veterans Association, with Paul Rosenzweig at the RSA Hall in Tawa, Saturday 30 July.





NOTICES

RENEWALS

Adrian Walford
Jeff Hiscock
Louisa Hiscock

RAP

Allan Davies

COMMITTEE

Paul Rosenzweig OAM
President
Public Affairs Officer

Don Cameron
Vice-President
Ceremonial Officer

Paul Bayliss

Jenny Cameron
Treasurer

Vicki Crannaford
Di Davies

Beverley Dubois
Minutes Secretary

Chris Selby

CO-OPTED MEMBERS
Mal White
Merchandise Officer

THANK YOU

We thank Tony Zappia MP
and the staff of his Makin
Electorate Office for their
generous assistance with
our printing needs.

BRANCH UPDATES

Our Branch President Paul Rosenzweig and Vice-President Don Cameron were interviewed recently by Helen Meyer for the Service Voices program on Radio Adelaide, 101.5 FM. You can find the podcast here:

<https://radioadelaide.org.au/program/service-voices/2022-06-27/>

We strongly recommend that all members consider taking the opportunity to be interviewed in this manner. All interviews are pre-recorded, with substantial editing if required to deliver a professional end result.

With all holidays having been put 'on hold' for the last couple of years, Paul and Crisel Rosenzweig took the opportunity to take a driving tour through the North Island of New Zealand, finishing up in the northern suburbs of Wellington to join the Malayan Veterans Association for their Malaysian Night.

A reminder that the new 'Thailand Paver' will be laid in the Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk in a commemorative ceremony to be held on Victory in the Pacific Day (VP Day) on 15 August. The Ex-Service Organisation Consortium has been asked by the state Government to conduct this ceremony. All are welcome to attend.

We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Dinner on 6 August, and our 2022 AGM on 19 August with lunch and an interesting guest speaker.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Dinner: Saturday 6 August at 6pm, Himalayan Kitchen

Date of interest: Thursday 11 August: End of Confrontation (1960)

Ceremony: Monday 15 August: ESO Consortium dedication of the 'Thailand Paver', Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk

Ceremony: Sunday 21 August: Vietnam Veterans' Service, Vietnam War Memorial, Torrens Parade Ground

SA/NT Branch AGM: 1100h Friday 19 August, Avoca Hotel
With a Guest Speaker and lunch (own expense)

Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service of commemoration – to be held at 1100h on Friday 26 August in the West Torrens Memorial Gardens, Hilton followed by a reunion and lunch at Hilton RSL

Date of interest: Wednesday 31 August: Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day

Date of interest: Sunday 11 September: Batu Lintang liberation (1945)

September meeting: 1100 Friday 19 August 2022, Avoca Hotel
Followed by lunch

October meeting: 1100h Friday 21 October 2022, Avoca Hotel
Followed by lunch



Visit our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/NMBVAAelaide/>



Service Voices offers news, perspectives and memories from the veteran, volunteer and Defence communities through oral history, giving a voice to a sector of our community not available elsewhere on air. Service Voices is also broadcast Australia-wide every week by the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia's Community Radio Network.

<https://radioadelaide.org.au/program/service-voices/>

Paul and Don talked about how the Branch honours those who lost their lives – noting that 50 Australians from the Malayan wars still remain buried overseas.

The Branch also looks to the future through its engagement with Air Force Cadets in their various commemorative services – our next generation of Defence personnel and our future veterans.

Pictured right: Vice-President Don Cameron in the Radio Adelaide studio with the award-winning Helen Meyer, inaugural recipient of the History Council of South Australia's Oral History Excellence Award.

Don reflected on his military service on the Malay Peninsula and in a fortified company patrol based in Sarawak near the border, and modern efforts to support schools in the areas where Australian forces operated in 1965 and 1966.

If you would like to share your story on air, you can contact Paul or Don for guidance and contact details for Helen.

On Service Voices

PAUL ROSENZWEIG OAM + DON CAMERON: NMBVAA SA/NT

Don and Paul talk of how the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Assoc of Aust SA/NT rallied following the tragic death of its President Brian Selby, and how they're continuing the important work retaining close ties with the people of the Malaya and Borneo provinces that Aussies defended during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation.

Paul and Don call on Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans and families of the era to join them in attending upcoming services commemorating the era, including joining Aussies, New Zealanders, and other British and Commonwealth Veterans in Sarawak in 2023.

The program finishes up with a Timorese patriotic folk song "O Hele le", a Timorese folk song from Timor-Leste (formerly known as East Timor), sung in Tetum.

It is a patriotic song, one of East Timor's songs of resistance, about the perseverance of the Timorese people, calling on the Timorese people to unite. It refers to "streams flowing together to become a river".



SERVICE VOICES

WITH HELEN MEYER, FIONA WHITE, AND NICKY PAGE.

6PM MON 27 JUN 2022: MALAYA/BORNEO VETERANS



Paul & Don: NMBVAA SA/NT Don Cameron & Paul Rosenzweig OAM talk of how the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Assoc of Aust SA/NT rallied following the tragic death of its President Brian Selby, and how they're continuing the important work retaining close ties with the people of the Malaya and Borneo provinces that Aussies defended during the Malaya Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation. Paul and Don call on Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans and families of the era to join them in attending upcoming services commemora

▼ MORE

Direct link: <https://radioadelaide.org.au/program/service-voices/2022-06-27/>



ESO Consortium

On Thursday 7 July, Paul Rosenzweig and other association leaders from the Ex-Service Organisation Consortium met with the new SA Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Honourable Geoff Brock MP (right of image). The Minister is fully aware of the range of issues the Consortium is currently addressing.

The matter of the Queensland RSL Art Union Lottery is being addressed by RSL SA, and is going to arbitration. Despite what they might say at the stalls around Adelaide's shopping centres, absolutely no proceeds go to supporting RSL or advocacy services in SA.



Public Schools Club

On Friday 8 July, the Branch Committee held a meeting at the Public Schools Club in Sandford House on East Terrace in Adelaide. The Committee strongly recommends this venue for future meetings and Branch events.

Operated by the Club on East Terrace is the East Terrace Café, a tranquil garden café overlooking the Victoria Parkland. The café is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 0730h until 1230h.

See more here:

[East Terrace Café](#)

6/22 Branch Meeting

Members and guests who attended the SA/NT Branch meeting at the Avoca Hotel on Friday 15 July (left to right):

Beverley Dubois, Mal White, John Bayliss (brother to Paul), Helen Meyer, Paul Bayliss, Chris Selby, Louisa Hiscock, Jeff Hiscock, Ray Hartigan OAM, Wendy Organ, Don Cameron, Ansel Mathews, Bill Voyce, Jenny Cameron, Adrian Walford.





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Meet the Minister

On Thursday 14 July, Vice-President Don Cameron and a few SA/NT Branch members joined some 50 others from the veteran community at the first 'Meet the Minister' event held at Anzac House on Torrens Parade Ground.

The SA Minister for Veterans' Affairs provided an update on various matters concerning South Australian veterans and their families.

You can find the Minister's profile here:

<https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/the-team/geoff-brock-mp>



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 15 August, 'Thailand Paver' Dedication

As part of the South Australian commemoration of Victory in the Pacific Day on 15 August, the Ex-Service Organisation Consortium will be hosting a commemorative ceremony at the Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk on Kintore Avenue in Adelaide at which the new 'Thailand Paver' will be laid.

All SA/NT Branch members are invited to attend this important ceremony.

Sunday 21 August, Vietnam Veterans' Commemorative Service

This service will be conducted by a group of veteran organisations in partnership with the SA Vietnamese community at the Vietnam War Memorial adjacent to Torrens Parade Ground, commencing at 11 am.

The service will recognise Australian, New Zealand and Republic of Vietnam Service personnel who fought in the Vietnam War, and particularly the 521 Australians, 37 New Zealanders and as many as 250,000 Service personnel from the Republic of Vietnam who died in the war. It will be followed by a light lunch in the Drill Hall.

Thursday 1 September, DVA Consultative Forum 2022

On 1 September, President Paul Rosenzweig and Vice-President Don Cameron will attend the 2022 SA Deputy Commissioner's Consultative Forum. This will be hosted by Janice Silby, Assistant Secretary Income Support Branch and Deputy Commissioner SA.

Meanwhile a newsletter from the Community Support Adviser-SA, from DVA's Mental and Social Health Programs, has been forwarded to members. There are plenty of programs on offer, so please look this over and make contact if any of them seem applicable to you.

Sunday 4 September, Dardanelles Cenotaph Commemoration

We have been invited by the President of the Legacy Club of South Australia & Broken Hill and the President of the Australian War Widows (SA) Inc to attend the Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles Cenotaph Commemorative Service being held at the Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk in Adelaide on Sunday 4 September.





Annual Dinner, 6 August 2022

A reminder that you and your partner / family / friends are invited to join us at the SA & NT Branch Annual Dinner for 2022.

We will be gathering at the Himalayan Kitchen in Melbourne Street, North Adelaide on Saturday 6 August for a banquet meal of Nepalese and Tibetan delights. Pay on the night, buy your own drinks, and there will be a raffle with some interesting prizes to choose from.

You can see the banquet menu here:

[Himalayan Kitchen Banquet Menu](#)

If you haven't already responded, please let Jenny Cameron know urgently the number who will be attending. Mal White will have plenty of quality NMBVAA merchandise available to purchase.

Funds raised by the raffle will go towards our sponsorship of the three Sarawak schools; any additional donation you may wish to contribute would also be greatly appreciated.

SA & NT Branch Annual Dinner 2022

You are invited to join us at the Himalayan Kitchen in North Adelaide for our 2022 Annual Dinner. There is ample parking just around the corner in Dunn Street.

We will be offered a traditional Nepalese / Tibetan banquet starting with entrees including Pakora (Onion Fritters), Momo (Tibetan Treasures), Chicken Sekewa and Bereco Roti (Spring Rolls). You can see the full menu here:

<https://thehimalayankitchen.com/banquette-menu/>

Some interesting raffle prizes will be on offer.

After-dinner entertainment may or may not include the Kuching War Cry and the traditional passing of the Golden Kukri.

MERCHANDISE

Our Malaya-Borneo scarf has proved to be very popular, and our first two batches have very quickly sold out. We will order more if required.

They are very high quality, and good value at \$33 each, plus postage if you need it mailed to you.

We now also have stubby coolers available (see design above), in the colours of the *Pingat Jasa Malaysia*, available for just \$10 each.

These and some other items will be available for purchase at the Annual Dinner and AGM.

Please contact Mal White: malwhite@mail.com



Our Patron

The SA/NT Branch is very pleased to have Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, as our Patron.

The Governor now has a Facebook page. We are following the page, and Her Excellency is following our organisation to stay updated on our activities. Find the page here:

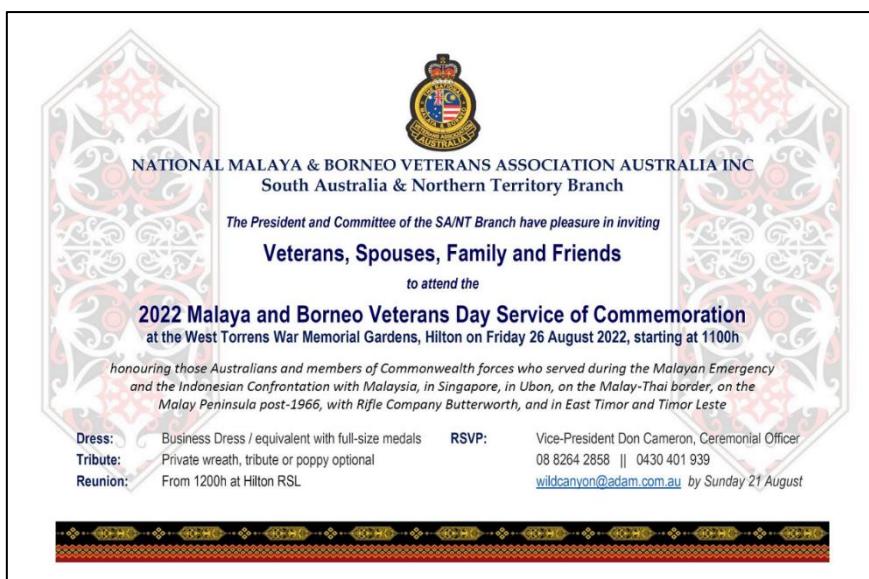
<https://www.facebook.com/Governor-of-South-Australia-107788038636920/>

Government House has also just released these official portrait shots of Her Excellency and Mr Rod Bunten.



Friday 26 August, Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day ceremony

We look forward to welcoming our Branch Patron, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC at this year's Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service on Friday 26 August. We thank the City of West Torrens for the substantial support they provide, and No 604 Squadron AAFC for providing the Catafalque Party. The ceremony will be followed by a reunion at the Hilton RSL.





No 604 Squadron, AAFC

One key aspect of our approach to commemoration is to 'Look to the future'. Through the commemorative services we have conducted in Australia and Sarawak we have established a strong bond with the Air Force Cadets of No 604 Squadron (Hampstead Barracks).

Congratulations to four Cadets who have been awarded the Silver Award of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award this year. The Award takes commitment, perseverance and focus. Congratulations to CFSGT Athanasios Bolimos, CCPL Isobel Graham, CCPL Juliana Buerano and LCDT Marcus Dhillon!



Cadet Corporal Juliana Buerano was presented with the Silver Award on Tuesday 6 April 2022.



Leading Cadet Marcus Dhillon was presented with the Silver Award on Tuesday 6 April 2022.



Cadet Flight Sergeant Athanasios Bolimos was presented with the Silver Award on 22 June 2022.



Cadet Corporal Isobel Graham was presented with the Silver Award on 22 June 2022.



Members of No 604 Squadron, with this year's intake of new recruits.



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Malaysian Night in Tawa

On Saturday 30 July the Malayan Veterans Association and the NZ Malaysian Society held a fund-raising 'Iban Princess Evening' in Tawa, north of Wellington.

Those who attended the 2019 Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day ceremony in Kuching will remember Bill Russell, Vice-President of the NZ Malayan Veterans Association.

Bill designed the promotional poster (see image in the July newsletter) and also the dinner placemats (pictured right).

One of the highlights of the night was the locally-produced 'Iban Princess' beer.



The guest of honour was the Malaysian High Commissioner to New Zealand, the Cook Islands and the Independent State of Samoa, Her Excellency Nur Izzah Wong Mee Choo (pictured left).

Also in attendance from the High Commission in Wellington was the Malaysian Defence Advisor, Lieutenant-Colonel Razlan Razali.

A total of 120 people attended the night, including many Malaya-Borneo and Vietnam War veterans and members of the Malaysian community.





Auckland Cenotaph

The Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira is located in Auckland Domain in New Zealand's largest city, Auckland. It was constructed through subscriptions raised by Aucklanders in remembrance of their war dead from World War 1.

In front of the museum building stands the consecrated Court of Honour and the impressive Auckland Cenotaph – based on the design of the original Cenotaph at Whitehall in London. The Museum and Cenotaph were officially opened on 28 November 1929, and an Anzac Day ceremony was first held at the Cenotaph on 25 April 1930.



These are special places of remembrance for families and returned Service personnel who want to honour their loved ones and fallen comrades.

Auckland Domain Pukekawa and the lower slopes of the historic knoll Pukekaroa are sites of significance for the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, and the Auckland Regiment in particular – dating from the time of the South African War.

New Zealand Troops assembled on this site before departing for the Transvaal (Boer War).

Then in 1914 Auckland and Northland soldiers again camped here before embarking for Egypt and Gallipoli.

MALAYAN EMERGENCY Roll of Honour – August

Honouring the sacrifice of the 45 Australians who died on operational service during the general period of the Malayan Emergency, 16 June 1948 to 31 July 1960.

A22152 Pilot III (airman pilot) Gordon John McDonald, No 38 Squadron, RAAF, attached to No 110 Squadron, RAF: 31 August 1950

3/2983 Private Henry Maxwell Jephson, 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment: 18 August 1956

2/8649 Bombardier Donald Keith Sutton, Battery Headquarters, 105 Field Battery, RAA: 2 August 1957

2/12680 Private Brian Howard Ferrell, 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment: 23 August 1960

Lest we Forget

CONFRONTATION Roll of Honour – August

Honouring the sacrifice of the 26 Australians who died during the general period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, 24 December 1962 to 11 August 1966.

37746 Private Dennis Michael Millane, 'B' Company, 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment: 27 August 1965

5713692 Sapper Geoffrey Francis Mills, 22 Construction Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers: 9 August 1966

Lest we Forget

