



# THE OBSERVATION POST



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NMBVAA INC

SA & NT BRANCH..... [nmbvaa.org.au](http://nmbvaa.org.au)

**COURAGE MATESHIP PRIDE**



NATIONAL PATRON HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HON. SIR PETER COSGROVE AK MC  
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.  
SA NT PATRON THE HON. HIEU VAN LE AC GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.



## NOTICES

**VALE**  
**HOSPITAL**  
**SICK LIST**  
**Birthdays**

## 'TIS THE SEASON

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS 2018  
AND A SAFE, HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR FOR 2019 .....



South Australian  
Victoria Cross recipients



## Points of Interest...

- ◆ The REPAT SITREP
- ◆ AWM Visit
- ◆ WW1 ARMISTICE
- ◆ 2019 Calendar DRAFT
- ◆ National AGM
- ◆ Adelaide Actions
- ◆ Villers-Bretonneux
- ◆ The Somme



MERRY CHRISTMAS 2018, DAN SELAMAT TAHUN BARU 2019

## 1918 WW1 ARMISTICE

There are many commemoration functions planned around Australia leading up to, and following , the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice at 0600 hrs on 11 November, 1918.

RSL State HQ's are the sites for coordination of activities and in some states, the organising of dining functions specifically for surviving WW2 veterans who are able to attend these expressions of Thanks and Appreciation.



SI VIS PACEM PARA BELLUM



## 100 YEARS ON.....

**The Centenary of the Somme** has many archived details now available for viewing by the generations of people who may have had relatives involved in this series of battles that were commenced in 1916....

300,000 Australian soldiers were engaged on the Western Front in France and in Flanders....taking part in every major offensive from the beginning in 1916 till the Armistice in 1918.

46,000 died of which 18,000 have no known grave site. The battle areas today are perpetual sites of absolute sacred grounds....Fromelles...Bullecourt...Polygon Wood...Verdun...the Windmill...Amiens...the Hindenburg Line...Mont St. Quentin...Villers-Bretonneux....Pozieres....Ypres...Peronne....Cambrai...



## WESTERN FRONT CHRISTMAS 1916



## ARMISTICE 1918



Armistice signed at 0600 hrs 11 November 1918

## SA &amp; NT Branch

## MEMBERSHIP

In addition to  
**Ordinary Membership**,  
our Branch includes..

## Associate Membership for

Family and friends over  
18 years of age.

**Social Membership** for  
those interested in  
joining and helping us,  
and also

**Junior Membership** for  
family and friends under  
18 years of age.

**Ordinary membership** is  
for ex-service personnel,  
and those currently serv-  
ing in the ADF, who have  
served in the prescribed  
areas during WW2, the  
1948-1960 Malayan  
Emergency, the 1962-  
1966 Indonesian Con-  
frontation, all service post  
1966 to the present day,

and

**RIFLE Coy**  
**Butterworth**

Annual fees are:

**\$20.00** Service,

Associate and Social.

Membership,  
due 1 January.

**\$5.00** Junior members. ..

Everyone is very welcome  
to join us and enjoy our  
functions.....*Ed.*

## ANNUAL FEES DUE

from 1 January

except for members

joining between

1 Oct and 31 Dec

Terima kasih...

**ADELAIDE ACTION**

**DON'T FORGET ME COBBER**

A formal luncheon function was held on 12 October as a fund raiser for the SA Virtual War Memorial which has the task of recording all conflicts that has had Australian armed forces involved, including their own stories...special guests included Dr Brendan Nelson AO, Andrew Blackman, "Dogs" Kearney OAM, Dr Laine Hinchcliffe and MAJGEN Stuart Smith AO DSC. William Magarey Room Adelaide Oval

**CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE**

RSL SA held a Centenary of Armistice breakfast on 1 Nov as part of the Remembrance Day programs honouring those who lost their lives in WW1... and those who survived with devastating effects.....



0700 hrs  
Adelaide Convention Centre

**NATIONAL AGM**

The national AGM was held on 18 September in Melbourne and the results are.....  
**President** : Owen Marshall  
**Vice Pres** : John Keenan  
**Secretary** : Ben Thurlow  
**Treasurer** : Ben Thurlow  
**Public Off** : Ian Davenport  
**Membership** : Ben Thurlow  
**Merchandise** : Ron Lee  
**Asst Merch** : Vacant  
**Auditor** : Mahoney Assoc.  
**Committee members** are all State Branch Presidents.....



**REPAT REACTIVATION**

**SITREP .....**

The first two steps of the 6 step plans to bring the Daws Rd Repatriation General Hospital back to a fully functioning hospital have been completed and Step 3 is now the evaluations after all the submissions have been coordinated, from SA NT Branch, VVA, WF and RSL SA.

As promised, the redevelopment of the site is very well placed in the order of priorities and an unexpected benefit will be the ability to take the strain off the newly opened Jamie Larkin Centre at Glenside which has now reached capacity; waiting times have blown out to 6 weeks plus if a veteran needs 24/7 mental health care initially.....

as we have previously stated, the closure of The Repat was a very poor decision by the previous Labor govt and has added to the delays at the Flinders Medical Centre...and elsewhere.

As we had co-proposed, the Heart, Eye, Urology and the Out Patient clinics will be reopened and updated as very important parts of the

REACTIVATION of THE REPAT... banyak bagusla.....

**RSL AVOCAS HOTEL**

The RSL SA Avoca Hotel Loyalty Card for members and interested patrons....show your card when you order meals and beverages and receive a very nice 15% discount.....

Terima kasih dan banyak bagusla Ben,,,



893 South Road, Clovelly Park SA

Ph: 08 8293 1183

**INVITATION**



**NOTICES**

*A couple of good reads.....*

**NOTHING SHORT of WAR....** by LTCOL Neil Smith AM describes the Australian Army in Borneo 1962–66. Mostly Unsung, PO Box 7020, GARDENVALE LPO, BRIGHTON VIC 3186....\$45.00

**EMERGENCY & CONFRONTATION**

by Peter Dennis and Jeffrey Grey describes Australian Military Operations in Malaya & Borneo 1950–66....\$70.00  
AWM Shop, GPO Box 345, CANBERRA ACT 2601

**DIARY INSERT**

**1100 hrs, SATURDAY, 6 APRIL, 2019**

we will be conducting a Memorial service at Enfield cemetery for SIG John Tassell who Died on Operational Service during the Indonesian Confrontation whilst detached to 208 Signals Squadron, Royal Signals.

**SA NT BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER**

**WILL BE CONFIRMED AS A DINING IN NIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**



**QUESTION**

If a regular **"REPAT LOTTERY"** was introduced, similar to the current major lottery prizes on offer in SA and interstate, would you purchase tickets as a matter of course ?

Members are requested to send any ideas and suggestions to the editor ASAP for passing on to the Committee.

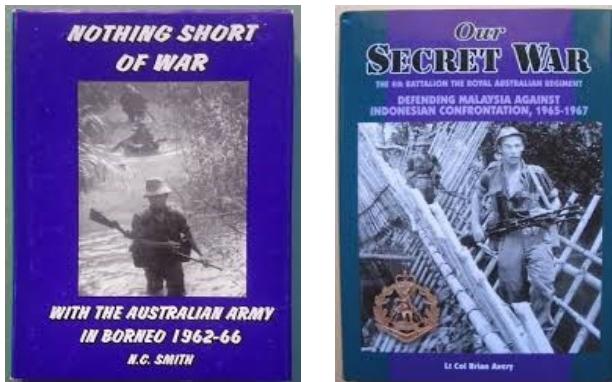
1965



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TO**

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All original pics and documents will  
be returned to the sender..... *Ed.*



**ASSOCIATION AIM**

**COMRADESHIP** for those who served in Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore, the Thai-Malay Border, Brunei, the MALAYAN EMERGENCY, the INDONESIAN CONFRONTATION, Deployments post 1966 and with the Rifle Company Butterworth.....

**To ASSIST** members in times of need.

**To REMEMBER** with Pride, Respect and Gratitude, those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty and to ensure those who fell are represented on ANZAC Day in Australia and Remembrance Day abroad.

**To PROMOTE** the Association and it's Aims.

**To STRENGTHEN TIES** with Malaysia and Singapore.

**THE NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO  
VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA**

**NOTES**



THIS SCHOOL BUILDING IS THE GIFT OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN OF VICTORIA AUSTRALIA TO THE CHILDREN OF VILLERS-BRETONNEUX AS A PROOF OF THEIR LOVE AND GOOD-WILL TOWARDS FRANCE. TWELVE HUNDRED AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS THE FATHERS AND BROTHERS OF THESE CHILDREN GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE HEROIC RECAPTURE OF THIS TOWN FROM THE INVADER ON 24TH APRIL 1918 AND ARE BURIED NEAR THIS SPOT. MAY THE MEMORY OF GREAT SACRIFICES IN A COMMON CAUSE KEEP FRANCE AND AUSTRALIA TOGETHER FOREVER IN BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND MILITARY EXCEM.

The people of Villers-Bretonneux have maintained a tangible link with Australia for 100 years...and conduct a formal ceremony every 24 April in commemoration of the battle, on that date in 1918, when the town was retaken.....



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Federal Member for Boothby  
for providing the printing  
facilities for the SA NT Branch  
Terima kasih....



**\*\*ANNUAL Subs\*\***

Due from 1 January

Please fwd \$20.00 to  
Jenny Cameron  
21 Gordon Ave  
St AGNES SA 5097

Terima kasih...